

WHALEWORKS

PUBLICATION SERIES

VOLUME I

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & CAREER READINESS

Skills, Experience, Mentorship, and Pathways to Employment

PUBLICATION 005

Opportunity - Innovation - Community - Belonging

Publication Overview

Preparing Youth for Meaningful Careers Through Real-World Experience

Mission

Program Curriculum

- Career Exploration & Goal Setting
- Resume & Cover Letter Writing
- Interview Preparation
- Customer Service Excellence
- Hospitality & Tourism Careers
- Workplace Communication
- Leadership & Team Building
- Financial Literacy & Budgeting
- Time Management & Professionalism
- Entrepreneurship Pathways
- Volunteer Service & Community Leadership

Career Pathways

Students explore careers in hospitality, tourism, business ownership, nonprofit leadership, information technology, creative media, skilled trades, customer service management, retail operations, and community development. Local employers and community partners provide mentorship and career exposure.

Three-Phase Funding Strategy

Phase I - Workforce Launch (\$25,000)

Curriculum development, instructor support, career workshops, workforce materials, student uniforms, transportation assistance, and internships serving 50-75 youth annually.

Phase II - Expansion (\$80,000)

Paid internship opportunities, expanded employer partnerships, workforce certifications, career fairs, mentorship stipends, and year-round programming serving up to 250 youth annually.

Phase III - Regional Workforce Center (\$300,000)

Permanent workforce development center featuring career classrooms, interview suites, technology training labs, hospitality simulation areas, entrepreneurship training, and regional employer partnerships.

Staffing, Partnerships & Outcomes

Staff: Executive Director, Workforce Development Coordinator, Career Coaches, Volunteer Mentors, Local Business Leaders, Community Partners. Key Partnerships: Whale of a Cone, Ocosta School District, Grays Harbor employers, community colleges, workforce agencies, and local nonprofits. Expected Outcomes: Increased employment readiness, stronger leadership skills, higher internship

participation, expanded career awareness, improved financial literacy, stronger employer partnerships, and increased opportunities for youth throughout Grays Harbor County.