



## **WorkSource will ReBoot 1,000 Careers in Technology and Advanced Manufacturing by 2018**

*Three metro area workforce boards implement an \$8.5 M U.S. Dept. of Labor grant, ReBoot NW, to deliver training and support to unemployed veterans and long-term unemployed workers*

**PORTLAND–VANCOUVER Metro Area (Feb. 9, 2016)** – Today, three metro area Workforce Development Boards representing the Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative (CWWC) announced the full launch of ReBoot Northwest (ReBoot NW), a training and jobs program for long-term unemployed and veterans seeking mid- to high-level careers in IT/Technology and Manufacturing.

ReBoot NW is our region’s response to the White House’s Ready to Work Initiative, which is premised on the idea that anyone who is ready to work should be able to find a job that fits their skills or access training to find a better job. All WorkSource centers in the region are now accepting applications for ReBoot NW.

Businesses are looking for qualified workers in IT/Tech and Manufacturing. “We have more than 40 industry partners supporting the ReBoot NW program,” said Casey Barnard, Worksystems’ ReBoot NW Senior Project Manager. “These businesses are sharing information about what they are looking for in job candidates and we are helping WorkSource clients to be better trained and prepared for their next career opportunity.” The ReBoot NW program is working to develop a strong supply of skilled and qualified workers for the IT/Tech and Manufacturing sectors.

The Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative operates WorkSource centers in Clackamas, Clark, Cowlitz, Multnomah, Wahkiakum and Washington counties. Each WorkSource center hosts a ReBoot NW career coach to help clients assess barriers to their desired job in IT/Tech or Manufacturing and build a customized training and employment plan to help “ReBoot” their career. ReBoot NW services are tailored to individual needs and include everything from resume and networking help, to training scholarships, internships and work experiences.

Many ReBoot NW clients see immediate benefit to their job search, just by working closely with a ReBoot NW career coach. Of the 259 job seekers who have enrolled in ReBoot NW to date, one fifth have found jobs through the program, and many are actively engaged in industry immersion boot camps and in-demand training from Javascript to Lean Six Sigma. “For those who qualify and dedicate time and effort to their job search, ReBoot NW can pay dividends,” said Barnard.

For more information, visit [www.ReBootNW.org](http://www.ReBootNW.org).

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ReBoot NW is administered locally by Worksystems (Multnomah and Washington counties), the Clackamas Workforce Partnership (Clackamas County) and the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties). Program services are delivered at WorkSource centers in the Portland Metro Area and in Southwest Washington.

### **Contacts**

**Multnomah & Washington Counties:** Casey Barnard, 503-478-7329, [cbarnard@worksystems.org](mailto:cbarnard@worksystems.org), Worksystems

**Clackamas County:** Jan Filgas, 503-657-1730, [jan.filgas@clackamasworkforce.org](mailto:jan.filgas@clackamasworkforce.org), Clackamas Workforce Partnership

**Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties:** Julia Maglione, 360-567-3176, [jmaglione@swwdc.org](mailto:jmaglione@swwdc.org), SW WA Workforce Development Council

## **ReBoot NW Participant Profiles**

**Note:** *Michael and Doss are two examples of the types of candidates and job search issues the ReBoot NW program is intended to help. Both are happy to provide their perspective on the program in order to help others become aware of the opportunity and benefit from it. Other clients may be available for interview. Please reach out to the appropriate county contact listed above.*

### **Local Veteran Benefits from Coaching and Technical Resources through ReBoot NW**

Michael Williams, like many others in his shoes, was discouraged and feeling defeated by the job search process. He had been living out of the country for several years and had to make some tough choices with his career. Being new to Portland, he did not have many contacts. As a veteran, he investigated special programs but had not found anything that held promise --- until he found ReBoot NW.

The ReBoot NW program, offered through his local WorkSource center, provided him with a personal coach who spent one-on-one time with him, providing support and guidance, and assessing his background, his skills and his job search process. The ReBoot NW coach discovered Michael was highly educated, had a background in the military, medical, and financial fields, and was a motivated learner.

Michael had begun to teach himself coding and computer programming. His ReBoot NW career coach recognized the need for additional technical training and started by connecting him with ReBoot NW's Career Link tech industry immersion course and connecting him with top tech companies in Portland. Through the process, Michael was awarded a full scholarship to attend PDX Code Guild's Full Stack Python Developer Bootcamp, and recently obtained a Certification of Completion with Distinction. Today, Michael has marketable skills, a strong resume and cover letter, a larger networking circle, and many job prospects.

### **"Overqualified" Job Candidate Secures New Position with Certification and Resume Revamping**

Chelladurai Devadoss ("Doss"), a highly-educated and qualified engineer had never had employment problems until losing his last position at a company where he had worked for 10 years. Having patents and awards under his belt, it didn't seem like he would need to worry about finding something new. But his experience level and an increasing work gap on his resume was getting in the way of securing a position.

One of the things that had changed since Doss last looked for work was the automation of most companies' Application Tracking Systems. His ReBoot NW career coach taught him how to re-tool and customize his resume for the positions he was seeking. She also helped him understand how specialized certifications would make him more competitive and help get his resume to the top of the applications pile.

Doss received the benefit of ReBoot NW's personalized coaching, career planning, Career Link industry immersion boot camp, and advanced resume workshops. Through ReBoot NW, Doss was awarded a scholarship and completed a training course in Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. He was hired soon afterward for a research and development position by a major manufacturer in Oregon.

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