

Press Release

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Northwest Center Employment Services Expands into Idaho

Seattle, WA – February 22, 2021 – Today, <u>Northwest Center Employment Services</u> (NWC ES) announced an expansion that allows the organization to offer inclusive employment resources to residents and businesses in a number of regions in Idaho, including Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Bonner, and Boundary counties.

NWC ES is part of a variety of resources for people with disabilities provided by Northwest Center, a Seattle-based organization that promotes the growth, development, and independence of people with disabilities through programs of therapy, education, and work opportunity. NWC ES serves both youth and adult populations at every stage in their careers and also provides free consultations to help businesses to find workplace solutions.

"Northwest Center is proud and excited to expand our Employment Services into the state of Idaho," says Ryan Newell, Regional Director, NWC ES. "With Idaho's ever-growing economy and abundance of opportunity, we are able to expand our mission and help bridge the unemployment gap for people with disabilities. We are eager to serve."

NWC ES has more than 60 years of experience providing people with disabilities and their employers services including:

- Preparation for employment including discovery of talents, goals, and interests
- Person-centered planning
- Job assessments
- Application assistance including building resumes and writing cover letters
- Job development
- On-the-job coaching and job retention support

To learn more about NWC ES offerings in Spokane, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Bonner, and Boundary, please contact Ryan Newell at RNewell@NWCenter.org or (509) 928-1588.

Northwest Center Employment Services are also available in:

- Omak, WA: (509) 826-2417 or <u>LRoot@NWCenter.org</u>
- Seattle, WA: (206) 378-6362 or LFisher@NWCenter.org

Partner funding sources for these services will include the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Foundational Community Supports, and more. NWC ES also anticipates being

able to support individuals in Idaho through additional partnerships with local health and welfare organizations that will be named at a later date.

ABOUT NORTHWEST CENTER

Northwest Center (NWC) is one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive organizations serving the community with disability inclusion programs and services that advance equal opportunities for people of all abilities. NWC was founded in 1965 by Seattle parents who refused to give up when their kids with disabilities were rejected from schools, and who went on to pass legislation guaranteeing an education to kids with disabilities. Today, Northwest Center provides Early Intervention and inclusive Early Learning for children from birth to school age, Employment Services to adults with disabilities in counties across Washington state, and is rapidly expanding inclusive early learning by training other organizations how to include kids with disabilities. NWC also owns businesses that provide best-in-class services while employing an inclusive workforce. For more information, visit www.nwcenter.org.

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