

# Developing a Stronger Collaboration with Non-Native Entities

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Presenter:

Yolanda Spencer

Program Manager

United Indians of All Tribes Foundation

Native Workforce Services Program

Funded through DOL Sec. 166 Employment and Training Administration  
U.S. Department of Labor

Have Questions or comment about NWSP? Email: [yspencer@unitedindians.org](mailto:yspencer@unitedindians.org)



# Our Agenda:

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Yolanda Spencer Bio

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United Indians of All Tribes Foundation  
background

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Overview of WIOA

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Native Workforce Services Program  
accomplishments

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Characteristics of our clients

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Strategy in collaborating with other  
organizations

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Partnerships

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Conclusion

# Yolanda Spencer:

(Yakama/Lummi) has been the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program Manager for United Indians of All Tribes Foundation in the Native Workforce Services Program in Seattle, WA.

Ms. Spencer developed and administered the program and have served over 400 plus Native Americans since 2011. She is a WIOA grantee in section 166 for the employment and training for the Indian and Native American needs in education and employment in Seattle. She has been working independently in past year that served over 100 clients in King County area and actively building partnerships and trainings to assist them in variety of employment and training.

Ms. Spencer participates on the WorkSource Seattle-King County Employer Outreach Partners Committee. She is also contracting with the Native American Reentry Services in supporting the incarcerated women at WCCW. She is a recovery coach for the White Bison Medicine Wheel and 12 step for men/women, traditional dancer that attends the Department of Corrections Pow Wow's across Washington State.

Ms. Spencer has her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with emphasis in management from Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. She also is certified in the MBTI (Myers-Briggs Type Indicator) that is designed to administer personality assessment tool. She is an avid Seattle sports fan for Seattle Mariners, Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Reign FC.



# United Indians of All Tribes Foundation

- United Indians of All Tribes Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation that was founded in Seattle, Washington in 1970.
- The Foundation began as a small group of Northwest Native Americans and their supporters, led by the late Bernie Whitebear, who engaged in an occupation at Fort Lawton to reclaim a land base for the urban Indians living in and around Seattle.



UNITED INDIANS  
OF ALL TRIBES FOUNDATION



## UIATF Programs:

### Family Services:

Preschool, Ina Maka Family Program, Foster Care and Homelessness Prevention

### Labateyah Youth Home

### Elders Program

### Native Workforce Services Program

# WIOA Overview

## W.I.O.A :

*Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act*, section 166 Indian and Native American Program is to support employment and training activities for federally enrolled Native American Indians, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian individuals.

- Assist and prepare individuals that are:

Unemployed

Underemployed

➤ Funded through the Department of Labor.

# Native Workforce Services Program Accomplishments

- NWSP have administered DOL grant since 2010
- Onsite visit in 2011 from the project officer to assist the program to design a better approach for client needs to find employment and training.
- NWSP established a mission and examined our service area
- Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis from Department of Labor made a visit Daybreak Star in 2012.
- Have served and enrolled over 300 plus Native Americans in the NWSP
- Have been establishing more partnerships outside the Native Circle to assist clients more efficiently.



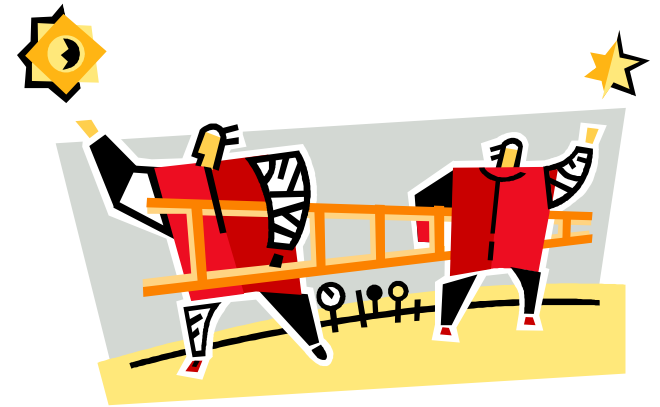


# Characteristics of our clients:

- Moved into King County from out of state or from their reservations within Washington.
- Our referrals come from:

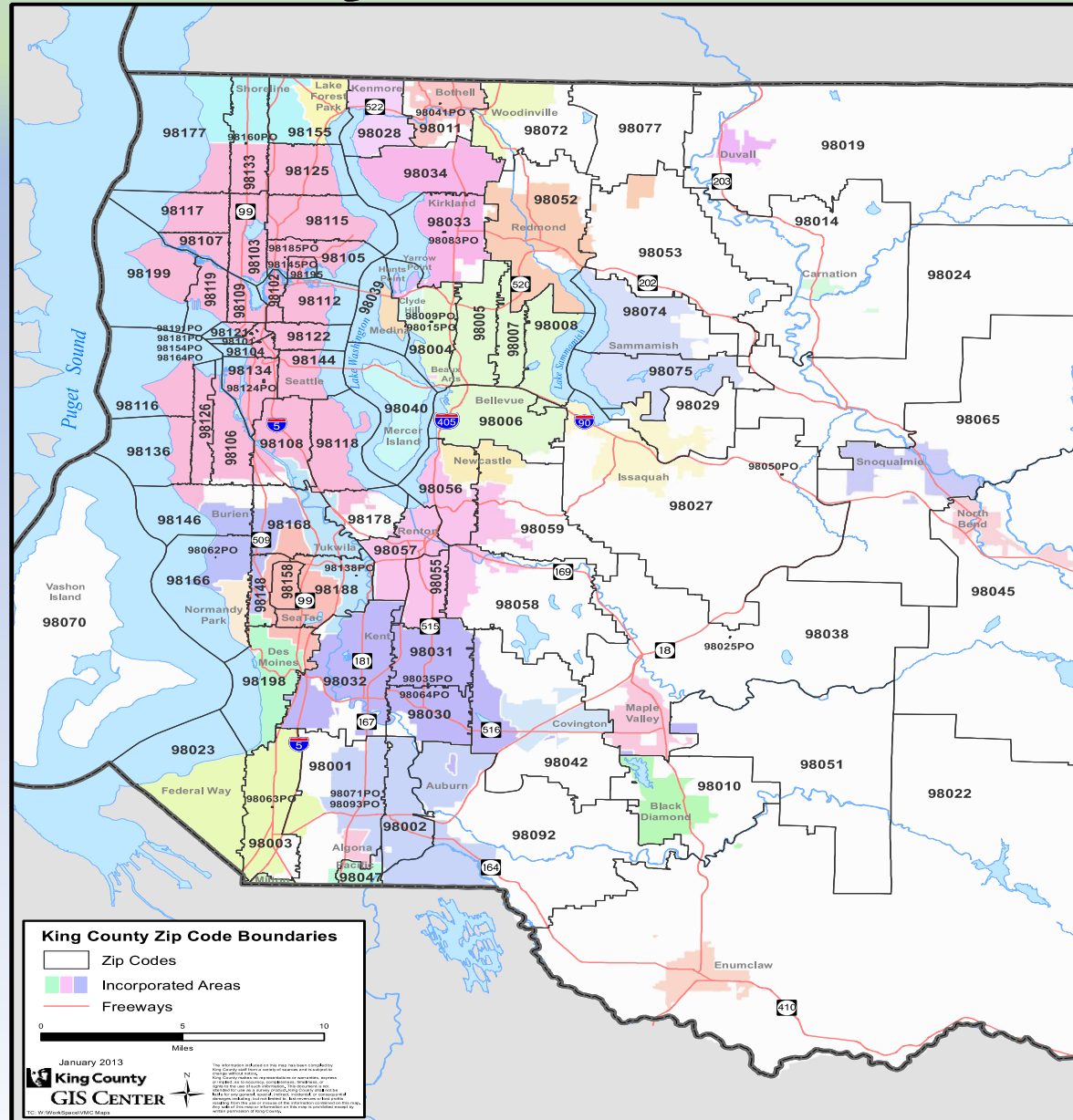
|                |                      |                        |                         |               |
|----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Human services | Tribal organizations | Educational institutes | Social service agencies | Word of mouth |
|----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|

- surviving on a limited income that doesn't cover all the basic needs to afford the cost of living, transportation, and healthcare in a growing population.
- Barriers on finding additional resources



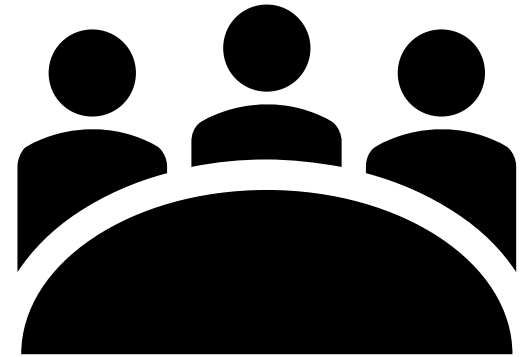


# King County Boundaries



# Strategies on collaborating with other organizations

- Explored employment trends within our county to better assist our clients.
- Did some outreaching to different non-profits to collaborate to fit our clients needs and what they would be eligible to receive.
- By collaborating with different workforce committees we are able to give more education/ employment options by the interest of client.
- Opened up new discussion that Natives in an urban area need more resources.



# 34 community and technical schools in Washington



# Partnerships:

- Established a strong working relationship that allows our organizations to work together
- Align our resources and help support any referrals among each other in King County.

**Dress for Success** – is a nonprofit organization located in downtown Seattle and the only one in the state that serves all women who are looking for dress attire for job interviews, work clothes and accessories.

**Farestart**- is a nonprofit organization as well that offers free culinary job training and placement program. It's a 16-week hands on culinary training in working professional kitchens.

- Other Partnerships: Just to name a few

| Hope Link                                      | Multi Service Center | WorkSource   |
|--|----------------------|--------------|
| Laborer's International Union of North America | Seattle Goodwill     | YWCA         |
| Seattle Parks Department                       | YMCA                 | airport jobs |



# Conclusion:



NWSP has obtained the support necessary to forge ahead by first examining:

1. Training activities leading to long term employment training
  2. Examining our clients individual education goals
  3. Pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs available at little or no cost to one who wants to take part in training.
- Networking to anyone and everyone within the non-profit circle Tribal and non-tribal