

WASHINGTON STATE HEALTH WORKFORCE STRATEGIES AND INITIATIVES RESOURCES GUIDE

Northwest Regional Primary Care Association

Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 membership-driven organization that serves community and migrant health centers (C/MHCs) in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington (federal Region X).

Founded in 1983, NWRPCA offers a range of programs and services to support and strengthen C/MHCs in the Northwest. We work to ensure equal access, regardless of one's financial or insurance status, to primary and preventive health care for all residents living in the region.

NWRPCA provides support to Region X C/MHCs through six distinct programs:

- [Business Intelligence for Region X \(BIX\)](#)
- [Community Health Improvement](#)
- [Education & Training](#)
- [Member Services](#)
- [Partnerships](#)
- [Workforce Development](#)

Webpage: <http://www.nwrpca.org/>

SEIU 1199 Multi-Employer Training Fund

The SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Multi-Employer Training and Education Fund is a non-profit, labor-management partnership between eight hospital employers and the largest healthcare union in Washington State. Established in 2008, the Training Fund was created to develop a statewide program for addressing the workforce needs of participating employers and to support the career, knowledge, and skill aspirations of SEIU Healthcare 1199NW members.

It is a ground-breaking enterprise designed to leverage the healthcare industry's greatest strengths – its people and its institutions – to collectively keep pace with this rapidly changing, ever expanding and highly complex industry.

Webpage: <http://healthcarefund.org/>

UW Center for Health Workforce Studies

The University of Washington Center for Health Workforce Studies (UW CHWS) was established in 1998 with funding from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

It is based in the Research Section of the Department of Family Medicine, part of the University of Washington School of Medicine. UW CHWS houses one of seven Health Workforce Research Centers (HWRCs) across the U.S. funded by the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis at HRSA.

Each HWRC focuses on a specific aspect of the health workforce. UW's HWRC is addressing the allied health workforce. Read the key findings from studies conducted between 2013 and 2016 across six health workforce research centers here.

Webpage: <https://depts.washington.edu/fammed/chws/>



WA Area Health Education Centers

• **Eastern Washington**

The Eastern Washington Area Health Education Center (EWAHEC) promotes health and wellness for underserved and at-risk populations through research, education, and community development.

Ojectives

- Work to establish a youth pipeline of health care professionals from rural communities
- Conduct a needs assessment of the continuing education needs of health care professionals working in rural health clinics
- Support recruitment and placement in the Rural/Underserved Opportunities Program

Webpage: <https://sites.ewu.edu/ewahec/>

• **Western Washington**

The Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho Area Health Education Center (WWAMI AHEC) Program Office of the University of Washington (UW) School of Medicine has collaborated closely since the mid-1980s with its AHEC Centers in Eastern and Western Washington, Wyoming, and Idaho and its affiliated Program Offices in Alaska and Montana. The WWAMI AHEC is an integral part of the larger WWAMI program, a 40+ year old medical education program serving five states (listed above), and shares resources with the WWAMI program to improve the quality and distribution of all health professionals in our mostly rural region.

WA Association of Community and Migrant Health Centers

The Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers (WACMHC) is a non-profit organization formed in 1985 to advocate on behalf of the low-income, uninsured, and underserved populations of Washington State served by community health centers (CHCs). These health centers serve low income, homeless, seasonal and migrant farmworkers, immigrants and refugees, tribal communities and other persons with limited access to health care.

WACMHC is one of 52 State and Regional Primary Care Associations which provide T/TA directly and through collaborative partnerships to support health centers in providing comprehensive, high quality primary health care and improving the health of individuals and communities, consistent with the goals of the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) National Quality Strategy. The Health Center Program currently funds nearly 1,400 health centers that operate more than 9,800 service delivery sites in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Pacific Basin. In 2015, health centers provided care to more than 24 million patients.

WACMHC provides programs and services to Washington's 27 community health centers, migrant health centers, and urban Indian health programs. These health centers serve over 1,000,000 Washington residents with preventive and primary healthcare and enabling serves at over 250 clinic sites across the state.

WA State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges — led by a nine-member governor-appointed board — advocates, coordinates and directs Washington state's system of 34 public community and technical colleges.

Webpage: <https://www.sbctc.edu/>

• **Allied Health Center of Excellence**

Centers of Excellence are flagship institutions that build and sustain Washington State's competitive advantage through statewide leadership

Each Center focuses on a targeted industry that drives the state's economy and is built upon a reputation for fast, flexible, quality education and training programs. A targeted industry is identified as one that is strategic to the economic growth of a region or state.

Centers are guided by industry representatives to lead collaborative and coordinated statewide education and training efforts to build a competitive workforce in a global economy.

Webpage: www.yvcc.edu/coe



Washington State Center for Nursing

Nursing leaders in Washington State have been working since the late 1990s to address the need for nurses, specialized education and skills.

The Nursing Summit in 2001 resulted in a Strategic Plan for Nursing to ensure that we have enough nurses to care for our citizens – the Washington State Strategic Plan for Nursing (WSSPN), which was adopted by the Washington Nursing Leadership Council (composed of CNEWS, NWONE, NCQAC, WLN, WSNA).

In response to this plan, the Washington Center for Nursing was created in 2003 as the statewide nursing workforce organization. Since then, WCN has worked on variety of nursing projects, including the Master Plan for Nursing Education and the organization of regional stakeholder meetings on the Nurse of the Future.



WCN partners with stakeholders within Washington and across the United States to make the best use of our human and financial resources in addressing nursing workforce issues.

Webpage: <http://www.wcnursing.org/>

WCN Video “ Be a Nurse” - [Here](#)

WCN Brochure - [Here](#)

Washington State Department of Health

The Department of Health protects and improves the health of people in Washington State.

[Department of Health at a Glance Infographic \(PDF\)](#)

Our programs and services help prevent illness and injury, promote healthy places to live and work, provide information to help people make good health decisions and ensure our state is prepared for emergencies. To accomplish all of these, we collaborate with many partners every day.

We help ensure a safer and healthier Washington by:

- Working to improve health through disease and injury prevention, immunization, and newborn screening
- Providing health and safety information, education and training so people can make healthy choices
- Promoting a health and wellness system where we live, learn, work, play and worship
- Addressing environmental health hazards associated with drinking water, food, air quality and pesticide exposure
- Protecting you and your family by licensing healthcare professionals, investigating disease outbreaks and preparing for emergencies
- [Rural/Urban Underserved Workforce](#)
 - Direct recruitment
 - Health Professional Shortage Area Designations
 - J-1 Visa Waiver Physicians
 - State and federal loan repayment programs

Workforce Development Councils

Washington's 12 Workforce Development Councils direct WIA / WIOA Title I-B activities provide employer outreach, and oversee the state's WorkSource employment centers. Each council develops a [local strategic plan](#) assessing local employment to coordinate workforce activities throughout their area.

These plans:

1. Define workforce development services that are in place.
2. Address identified skills gaps experienced by area employers.
3. Tailor strategies to meet the needs of local economies.
4. Create a meaningful vision for the entire workforce development system so customers are served efficiently with satisfactory results.

Partnerships With:

- [Health Workforce for the Future](#)
- [I-CATCH GRANT](#)



Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board

The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board is a Governor-appointed partnership of nine voting members from business, labor, and government. Non-voting members also participate.

The Workforce Board:

- Advises the Governor and Legislature on workforce development policy.
- Ensures the state's workforce services and programs work together.
- Evaluates the performance of Washington's key workforce programs.

Why We Exist

In 1991, the Legislature set about eliminating the four state boards that supervised the state's tangled training system. The Workforce Board replaced these boards and created a coordinated and more accountable workforce system.

The strategic plan, Talent and Prosperity for All, details the state's opportunities and workforce objectives while our performance reports enforce strict accountability measures that go beyond federal requirements, ensuring the state's education and training programs receive an objective evaluation, meet Washington's high performance goals, and offer a return on investment for taxpayers.

- [Health Workforce Council](#)
- [Sentinel Network](#)