# One of the official logo's of Pierce College. Job & Career Connections Newsletter Spring Edition 1 – 2020

Your Job & Career Connectionssupports ALL students, alumni, staff & community members through a variety of direct and self-guided resources and services.

***We are serving individuals remotely and can be contacted by email or phone.*** Contact information can be found in our Staff Directory on the last page. ***In-person service is temporarily closed.***

***Find college updates due to COVID-19 on the Pierce College website,*** [*www.pierce.ctc.edu*](http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/)***.***

**FS (Fort Steilacoom)** Welcome Center, Cascade bldg. 3rd fl.

**PY (Puyallup)** Student Success Center, Gaspard Administration bldg., A106

## Pathways Week 2020 Postponed

Pathways Week that was scheduled for May 18th – 22nd will be postponed. A new date will be scheduled once it is safe for large gatherings.

We hope everyone is safe and healthy and look forward to when we can gather again as a group.

**Have You Recently Drawn Unemployment?**

**You May be Eligible for Worker Retraining…**

More and more individuals may find they are unemployed due to the circumstances facing our world today. Many may find they are eligible for unemployment and therefore may now be eligible for Worker Retraining. The Worker Retraining program at Pierce College is here to support students who are pursuing a Professional/Technical degree/certificate and meet one of the following:

* Currently receive or have received unemployment benefits in the past 48 months
* About to or have separated from the military in the past 48 months
* Are underemployed in an occupation considered “not in demand”
* Displaced homemaker
* Or meet other eligibility

Funding through the Worker Retraining program at Pierce College is bridge funding, typically for 1 quarter, to help students while they are working on applying for financial aid or other funding sources.

Do you have Employment Security paperwork that requires a college representative signature? Contact Worker Retraining. Common paperwork that students need to complete for Employment Security are a Training Benefit application or progress reports.

Are you looking for work? Pierce College Job & Career Connections is here to support you. We can help with a resume or cover letter review, interview tools, career exploration, and connecting you to on-line job posting sites such as MyInterfase at [www.myinterfase.com/pierce\_ctc/student](http://www.myinterfase.com/pierce_ctc/student) or WorkSource Washington at [www.worksourcewa.com](http://www.worksourcewa.com/), or connecting you with other community resources.

Our Worker Retraining staff are here to help! Contact Diana Baker or Denise Green with questions on Pierce College’s Worker Retraining Program. Staff Contact information can be found on the next page. We are currently working remotely and can be contacted by phone or by email.

## Shared Housing Services

Established in 1991, Shared Housing Services (SHS) is a 501c3 nonprofit, serving all of Pierce County through our Homesharing programs to fulfill our mission of “Connecting and fostering independence through innovative and affordable housing, because everyone needs a place to call home.”

SHS’ core programs, Adult Homesharing (AHS), Collegiate Homesharing (CHS), and Youth Host Home (YHH) assist hundreds of people to maintain or find safe, affordable housing each year. The AHS and CHS programs carefully match home providers who have a spare bedroom with home seekers needing affordable housing. Home providers offer accommodation to home seekers in exchange for an agreed upon level of rent. Both home providers and home seekers start the homesharing process by completing an application online at SHS’ website ([www.sharedhousingservices.org](http://www.sharedhousingservices.org/)). Once an application is submitted, each party will be contacted to complete a background check which costs $30.00 (this is the only charge for the programs). When the background check results are received, each applicant will meet with a SHS staff member to discuss specific needs, traits, and compatibilities that will make a homesharing situation comfortable and beneficial for all involved. If a home provider and home seeker have matching criteria, then a referral is provided so that the two parties can begin their own discussion to see if they are a good match. Once a match is made, an agreement is drafted between the home provider and home seeker detailing the terms of the homesharing situation.

For those thinking about becoming a home provider and opening a room(s) in your home such as empty nesters or seniors, homesharing is a great opportunity to receive help with household tasks, avoid isolationism, or for supplementing your income. Some home providers find homesharing is a great way to give back and help someone in the community needing a place to call home.

For those needing an affordable place to live, consider using SHS’ services for renting a room in someone’s home. Homesharing is a great resource for students, including international students, to find a safe, affordable place to live and study. SHS can help before individuals become homeless and going through Coordinated Entry is not required.

To find more information about homesharing and the services that SHS provides contact SHS directly either by phone at **253-272-1532** or by emailing Juleeann Fisher, Adult Homesharing Program Coordinator at [juleeannn@sharedhousingservices.org](mailto:juleeannn@sharedhousingservices.org) OR Joy Stanford, Community Outreach Specialist at [joy@sharedhousingservices.org](mailto:joy@sharedhousingservices.org).

**The 2020-2021 FAFSA IS HERE!**

We recommend completing the FAFSA early and for Pierce College, that means now for those attending Summer/Fall quarter. Contact Eleni Palmisano for assistance completing the FAFSA or WASFA! Contact information below.

## Workforce Staff Directory

***Diana Baker****, Job & Career Connections/Worker Retraining Manager* [*dbaker@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:dbaker@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-3641*

***Jamoral Bonner****, Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET)/WorkFirst Manager* [*jbonner@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:jbonner@pierce.ctc.edu)

*253-912-2342*

***Adriana Tsapralis****, Workforce Coordinator* [*atsapralis@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:atsapralis@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext. 5017*

***Annette Sawyer-Sisseck****, Business/Accounting Navigator* [*asawyer-sisseck@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:asawyer-sisseck@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-864-3362*

***Denise Green****, Workforce Coordinator* [*dgreen@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:dgreen@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-864-3385*

***Eleni Palmisano****, Metropolitan Development Council (MDC) Collocated Staff* [*epalmisano@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:epalmisano@pierce.ctc.edu)

*work cell 253-722-3429 or 253-964-6228*

***Jayna Pettersen****, Computer Information Systems/Computer Network Engineering (CIS/CNE) Navigator* [*jpettersen@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:jpettersen@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext. 8612*

***Mary Allason****, Social Service Mental Health Navigator* [*mallason@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:mallason@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext 5884*

***Mindy Mason****, Workforce Coordinator* [*mmason@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:mmason@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext. 5964*

***Roxanne Cassidy****, Puyallup Opportunity Grant/HEET Coordinator* [*rcassidy@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:rcassidy@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-840-8329*

***Workforce partner Carol Hill****, Ft. Steilacoom Opportunity Grant Coordinator* [*chill@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:chill@pierce.ctc.edu)

*253-964-6577*

*\*We are currently available remotely through email or by phone. We look forward to hearing from you.*

**Funding Eligibility:** [*www.startnextquarter.org/*](http://www.startnextquarter.org/)   
**Jobs & Internships:** [*www.myinterfase.com/pierce\_ctc/student*](http://www.myinterfase.com/pierce_ctc/student)

**Pierce College Job & Career Connections Facebook:** [*www.facebook.com/groups/1151589171538211/*](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1151589171538211/)