

# *Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season!*



Hope you all are going to have a happy holiday season, celebrating good times with your employees and your families! We want to thank you for being a business partner with Washington County CareerForce.

Our partnership with local businesses helps our businesses find the right talent to fill their staffing needs, while supporting the workforce of Washington County. By working together, we provide a strong underpinning of social and economic well-being for the county and supporting the county's continued growth.

If you are interested in additional opportunities to address your workforce needs, serving on the Workforce Development Board would be worth considering, as we are a very action-oriented group of community members, seeking to keep Washington County having a positive future for everyone.

The Workforce Development Board has three primary focus areas, including the following:

**Business Engagement** – focusing on multiple challenges to address business needs in recruitment and retention, developing shorter talent development pipelines to have a ready and skilled workforce, and improving outreach to navigate generational and diverse populations, who are a significant part of our future workforce.

**Education Engagement** – focusing on supporting Career Pathways education, enabling teachers and students to understand all the post-high school education opportunities, and knowing what industries are thriving and growing in Washington County with great career opportunities.

**Community Engagement** – Focusing on ensuring that residents are aware of all resources to help them connect to the services they need to have stable families and working toward rewarding careers that provide family sustainable wages.

Chris Dressel, our board chair, who has served on other Workforce Development Boards, has stated that our approach is very engaging of the members and the ideas they all bring to the table to address our focus areas.

If you feel a passion for any of these areas, you would be a great addition to the work of the Workforce Development Board of Washington County. For more information, reach out to Rick Roy, Director of the Workforce Development Board – [rick.roy@co.washington.mn.us](mailto:rick.roy@co.washington.mn.us)