



Twenty on the Twenty

A 20-second (or so) monthly update about co-op development in the Pacific Northwest provided to you on or about the 20th of each month.

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Welcome Olympia Home Care Co-op

The **Capital Homecare Cooperative** became official this month with filing of Articles of Incorporation. This is the second Washington homecare cooperative to incorporate in the last 12 months with technical assistance from NWCDC.

Sarah DeStasio (left) has spearheaded the effort since last September. As she notes, the hope is that CHC will lift all caregivers, not just members, "As a caregiver I experienced long, exhausting hours, unsafe work environments and sometimes unsupportive management - and decided it was time to help change the industry for the better. I hope the presence of a worker-owned, democratically-run home care agency will help empower ALL caregivers and put pressure on other agencies to improve working conditions. This year, we will be continuing to build our membership and client base and make community connections that support our growth, now and in the future."



Capital Homecare Cooperative President Sarah DeStasio with Certificate of Incorporation

Worker Co-ops Meet in Austin, TX

worker coops from around the nation and beyond met for three packed days in Austin Texas last month and NWCDC was there! Staff members **Kristy Keeley** and **Deborah Craig** attended the event. Deborah and Cirde of Life's **Victoria Sprong** facilitated a workshop focused on Home Care co-ops and included discussions on recruiting to marketing to quality of care. According to Victoria, "It was so great to see the rising interest in Home Care co-ops. This conference was three days of pure inspiration for me!" Co-op members from the two other Washington Home Care Co-ops - Peninsula Homecare Co-op and newly incorporated Capital Home Care Co-op were also in attendance.



Members of Cooperation Jackson at the Worker Cooperative National Conference in Austin TX

