

An update on co-op activity in the Pacific Northwest !



Co-op Developments

A short monthly update about co-op development in the Pacific Northwest provided to you on or about the 20th of each month. **Please share with your network!**

Support Co-op Development in the PNW: Donate Today!

Two More PNW Businesses Convert to Worker Co-ops!



January 2020 began with two new worker cooperatives in Washington!

In Port Townsend, [Marine Survey & Associates](#) successfully transitioned to worker ownership. The previous owner continues as a co-owner of the co-op to help transfer her institutional knowledge of the industry to her co-owners. They are the third operational worker co-op in Port Townsend joining PT Shipwrights and Peninsula Homecare.

In Olympia, [Burial Grounds Collective](#) not only took over ownership from the seller of Burial Grounds Cafe, they also signed a lease and moved the cafe to a new location in downtown Olympia. Currently, the co-op is setting up its new space (which it will share with two other complimentary businesses). One of their members appeared with NWCDC on a KAOS-FM radio show [Parallel University](#) to talk about their project and the role of co-ops in our community. Click the link to listen in!



Washington's 4th Homecare Co-op Licensed!

[Ridgeline Homecare Co-op](#) of Port Angeles



Ridgeline Administrator Jane Maynard with NWCDC Executive Director Diane Gasaway after receiving RHC Homecare License.

was licensed by the Department of Health this month and they are ready to start serving the elders and people with disabilities in Clallam County. Administrator, **Jane Maynard**, has begun hiring staff and advertising the co-ops services. She says, "The response has been overwhelming!" Board President, **Lily Athair**, reflecting on the process of licensing said, "It was a lot of work, a lot of meetings, but I believe our co-operative will bring value to our community." [If you are interested in supporting this co-op they are accepting donations to build a fund for extra training for caregivers.](#) RHC is the fourth operating homecare cooperative in Washington.

Welcome to ZeroDark, Washington's First Limited Co-op Assn

ZeroDark, a cloud-based storage and file sharing service, incorporated in Washington under the new Limited Cooperative Association. The co-op will allow its user-owners to own their data and their use of the system. This will help members avoid the data-mining and selling of information about them and their habits. The project is spearheaded by [cypherpunk Vinnie Moscaritolo](#) and experienced open source developer [Robbie Hanson](#). Look forward to updates on their progress.

SDGG Makes 2020 a Busy Year!

The USDA awarded a Socially Disadvantaged Group Grant to NWCDC for 2020 with a number of exciting projects!

- **La Union hace La Fuerza**--will work with the mostly, Spanish speaking ROCs in Moses Lake, which has the highest concentration of ROCs in the State to leverage their buying power and communities with all training materials in Spanish.
- **ROC Northwest Bilingual Professional Guides**--NWCDC will research applicable laws; compile, design, and translate guides; distribute guides to communities and professional service providers with related training.
- **CoSound**--development of the south sound network of cooperatives.
- Develop and implement a homecare management training curriculum
- Develop and implement a homecare regional leadership training
- Provide homecare outreach and development in Yakima County with support from the Cooperative Development Fund.
- A Grays Harbor farmworker co-op and farm to table cafe
- Continued support for newly formed co-ops
- Analysis of how home care co-ops align operations with co-op values using the Co-op Index Tool

In addition, other projects include a Marketing Symposium, a Co-op Academy in Mt. Vernon, continued support for 16 ROCs, support for continuing co-op conversion projects, and ongoing outreach and education about the cooperative business model. The coming year promises a lot of energy and excitement in the co-op community of the Pacific Northwest!

THE LEGACY PROJECT

Learn about the different options of employee ownership and transitioning to an employee-owned business. Watch the full 7 part series on converting an existing business to an employee-owned cooperative on our web site at [The Legacy Video Series](#).

DONATE TODAY!

Help us provide technical assistance to co-ops!

You don't have to wait for the end of the year to support our programs! You can provide a **tax deductible** one-time donation or monthly sustaining gift to help fund the work of co-op development! **Any amount is welcome.**

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