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IWT cont.

IWT funding can be used for a variety of training as long as the training is bringing a new skill to the business or individual. Teresea Olson recently took part in a new training through Body and Soul for Battlefield Acupuncture. Some examples of other trainings approved through the IWT would include hair dressers being certified to lash extensions and microblading, businesses being trained for website management/social media as well as businesses/employees being trained to use new equipment. If you are in doubt of whether you qualify call your local job service, contact EPEDC or there is information available at: <http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/employers/incumbent-worker-training-program>

Makoshika Wellness

Over the past year, EPEDC has been working with Makoshika Wellness, a local nonprofit, as they expand health and wellness services in Dawson County. EPEDC has written 5 separate grant applications to assist them with various projects. January 6th, 2020, was the official opening day set for Makoshika Wellness at their new facility. The facility will have a 24-hour key card access to members and offer a variety of group classes. One of the goals is to keep pricing reasonable for the community and re-assess after a few months. The hope is to also have portions of the Veteran's program up and running within a few months of opening. On Nov. 30th, 2019 Makoshika Wellness had a gala alongside Dawson County Domestic Violence that was a great success and well received by the community, they hope to continue to do this event annually. One of the creative ideas in the works is a triathlon in the summer of 2020, with biking, running and kayaking as the three legs of the event. Sara Plummer was hired as the part-time Director in December 2019. One of the long-term goals is a full-time Director along with a part-time Deputy Director.

New Community Development Specialist

On December 2nd, 2019, Dara Deines joined the EPEDC team as the new Community Development Specialist. Ms. Deines will be actively assisting EPEDC in accomplishing tasks and projects throughout the five-county district. The office for Ms. Deines will be located in the Chamber of Commerce building in Glendive.

She graduated from Dawson County High School in 2012. Later that year she moved to Moorhead, MN to pursue a degree in Communications at Concordia College. While there she participated in the nationally competitive Speech and Debate, allowing her to hone her public speaking abilities. She graduated from Concordia College in 2016 with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and a minor in Political Science. After graduating she moved back to Eastern MT, Miles City, to be closer to family as well as start her first job out of college. While living in Miles City she has worked in the tele-communication field, child and family services and social media marketing positions.

She is thrilled to be back in Eastern MT and specifically her hometown of Glendive. As a Community Development Specialist, she is looking forward to assisting and watching the different communities grow and thrive. She strongly believes that being involved in the community is one of the best ways to impact and influence meaningful change.

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Incumbent Worker Training (IWT)

When looking for new training opportunities one of the many things employers factor in, is cost. For small businesses it can be difficult to find the funding to go to needed or wanted trainings to benefit not only themselves and business, but also the services provided to the community. The Incumbent Worker Training Program has funding available for current employees who need to learn new skills. The program will match up to \$2,000 in funding, if approved.

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

— Dan Millman

Contact Information

Please submit comments or questions to:

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Next Board Meeting:

April 22, 2020

9:30 AM

The EPEDC serves the following participating counties and municipalities:
Carter County, Dawson County, Fallon County, Prairie County, and Wibaux County,
as well as the City of Baker, the Town of Elkalaka, the City of Glendive, the Town of Plevna,
the Town of Richey, the Town of Terry, and the Town of Wibaux.



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