



Fact Sheet

About:

Since 1983 the Center for Economic Vitality (CEV) has enabled Western Washington University's College of Business and Economics to give back to the community and has helped to shape the economic future of Whatcom County one business at a time. In the last 10 years the CEV has helped over 5,000 businesses expand, stabilize and start-up.

In a nutshell, the CEV provides free, confidential business development counseling to businesses in Whatcom County, export assistance and economic gardening research services throughout Washington state. These services are offered at no-cost to recipients due to the financial generosity of our funding partners. We also undertake client-driven special projects for municipalities and governmental agencies on a fee-for-service basis.

Tom Dorr has been the director since September 1996.

Economic development impacts in Whatcom County and the state of Washington:

In the state of Washington since July 1, 2007 – Dec. 31, 2010

Impacts:

- Jobs saved and created with research and advising support: 847
- New investments generated with research and advising support: \$25,501,288

Outputs:

- Number of business supported: 1,298
- Number hours saved economic development providers: 12,934

In Whatcom County since 1996 – Dec. 31, 2010

Impacts:

- Jobs saved and created with research and advising support: 4,945
- *New investment created: \$181,504,733

*New investments include new loans and owner investments

Outputs:

- Number of clients counseled: 5,948
- Number of counseling and business research hours: 46,553

Clients:

- Businesses in Whatcom County for the business development counseling
- Small Business Development Centers and rural Economic Development Councils in Washington state for the economic gardening research services
- Chambers of commerce in Washington state for export services

The services are offered at no cost to recipients thanks to the financial generosity of our funding partners.

Website: cevforbusiness.com

Contact Info:

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