

Prosperity 1000

I would like to take this opportunity to say it is an honor for me to engage in the political process with all of you. **Work systems Inc.** has asked me to share my story today, to support local workforce development initiative **Prosperity 1000**, which would provide funding for *career coaching, occupational training and job placement*. This would profoundly help *Oregon job seekers experiencing poverty* just like myself.

My name is Dawn Swan and I would like to share how *WSI has impacted my life*.

- Because of my SE Works *career coach* Cindy Pollard's unfailing belief in me and the support I was able to receive...
- *Occupational training* through the Connect to Work Experience at SE Works, with the help of Corey Breakfield.
- I was successfully placed at Bridges to Change as a Recovery Mentor. Upon my internship completion, I was hired to work with the Sheriffs Program at Washington County Corrections through Bridges to Change.

During this process, I have overcome many barriers:

I am the first Mentor to achieve *job placement* at BTC and have established a pathway for future Mentor internships. I have had the opportunity to work closely with the Washington County Jail Programs Team which includes a SE Works Prerelease employment navigator, Bret Schroder.

Our mission at BTC is to strengthen individuals and families, affected by addictions, poverty and homelessness, by doing this I am able to serve the community I love. I truly believe in order to create a healthy domain in our society its starts with the people and the environment.

Because I am breaking the chains of poverty in my own life among many other things. I will be able to watch, my daughter be the 1st to graduate college, not only on my side of the family, but her fathers as well.

My message here today is... for us to strengthen the economic development through community partnerships, we all play a part in healing our society.

Thank you for your time

