

Shelly Forsberg

Shelly Forsberg was raised in the Northwest on a farm. With the skills she developed on the farm, her first job was in a traditionally male role as a sawmill off-bearer and forklift operator. With the closure of the mill, as a dislocated worker, she returned to school to complete her vocational degree. Through this process, she found her passion for Workforce Development.

Her contributions with Workforce Development began with the Jobs Council and the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). When the program restructured she joined the Department of Justice in a leadership role that allowed her to spearhead programs that continue to positively impact families today.

In 2000 Shelly returned to Workforce Development with the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), serving Oregon's Willamette Valley. With the end of Chemeketa Community College's contract for the program, she was pleased to join the newly Centralized Trade Act Unit (CTAU) as a Case Manager. The program was growing quickly and she had more than 250 participants at any given time; delivering individualized services and benefits. From her position as Case Manager, she moved to a leadership position where she developed the current Trade Act Petition Coordinator role. She worked as the State Petition Coordinator for several years before being assigned as the Unit Supervisor. Today, as the Oregon TAA Program Manager, she has seen her collective team double in size, with continued growth and success across the state.

She met her husband at the sawmill all those years ago, and they have been married 33 years. They enjoy their family of three children, and eight Grandchildren. She enjoys painting, kayaking, and travel. She is passionate about being a positive force in the world around her, finding ways to make a difference that will last beyond her years.