



“ Seattle Jobs Initiative and the Microsoft tutors are amazing. They’re helping me learn the skills I need to start a new career. ”

—Rosa Rivera

Elevating America's Workforce

In Washington and the nation, economic renewal depends on strengthening workforce skills.

Seattle Jobs Initiative provides training to help adults qualify for living-wage jobs that will support them and their families. Monday through Friday, students arrive early and attend class all day. Then on Saturdays, many return for individual tutoring from software developers who helped create the technologies that students are learning to use.

For years, Microsoft and its employee volunteers have been working with other businesses and community-based partners to expand job opportunities through information technology education and training.

Now, with joblessness on the rise, we're escalating our efforts. Microsoft is teaming with Gov. Chris Gregoire and with other state and local governments to launch Microsoft Elevate America: a new offering of no-cost and low-cost resources designed to help 2 million people acquire the technology skills and certifications needed in today's changing economy.

We believe that Washington and the nation can and will return to prosperity and unmatched global competitiveness—if we all work together.

A series of messages on matters of importance to our region. Learn more at microsoft.com/washingtonstate.

Microsoft volunteers Raymond Fowkes (left) and Josh Pollock with Rosa Rivera, Seattle Jobs Initiative student.

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