



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Organizations agree to collaborate on innovative programs to improve community health in Snohomish County

Everett, Washington September 11, 2019 – The NW Innovation Resource Center (NWIRC), Providence Health & Services Northwest ([Providence](#)), Everett Community College ([EvCC](#)) and Washington State University Everett ([WSU](#)), have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on innovations that will benefit and improve community health and general medical care in the region.

The parties anticipate that their collaboration will help foster a mindset of innovation in North Everett's higher education district by providing greater opportunity to the students of EvCC and WSU, along with other entrepreneurs, to participate in projects affiliated with or supported by Providence and NWIRC. TheLab@everett, established by NWIRC early this year, adds the facility and innovation leadership which together with the health care and education leadership in the district provide a powerful combination of resources.

The organizations aim to address community health issues in innovative ways that will create an environment conducive to fostering emerging businesses and provide substantial economic benefit to the region. The first project to be undertaken in Fall, 2019 will focus on how members of the community make decisions regarding their healthcare choices. Led by NWIRC, students of EvCC and WSU will be members of the design thinking teams addressing this innovation challenge.

"This innovative partnership brings together leading health and education organizations to work together for the good of our community," said Kim Williams, Chief Executive Officer, Providence Northwest Washington. "Providence has a long history of serving the community, and we're excited for the opportunity to combine resources and skills to have an even greater impact through this collaboration."

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About the NW Innovation Resource Center

The NW Innovation Resource Center is a nonprofit organization that assists entrepreneurs and inventors in northwest Washington in developing their individual business strategy and execution as they move from idea to success. They established TheLab@everett in 2019 as an added resource for innovation in

the region. For additional information about the NWIRC visit www.nwirc.com. For further details about TheLab visit www.nwinnovationlab.com.

About Providence

Providence in Northwest Washington delivers compassionate care from the beginning to the end of life, including primary and specialty care, hospital care, home care and hospice. Providence Regional Medical Center provides medical expertise in the areas of heart and vascular disease, cancer, neurosurgery, orthopedics, surgical services, emergency and trauma and a host of other medical areas. With teams of experts available close to home, local residents can receive the best medical treatments available, right in our own community.

About Everett Community College

Everett Community College educates more than 19,000 students every year at seven locations throughout Snohomish County, with most students and faculty at the main campus in north Everett. Students come to EvCC to affordably start their four-year degrees, earn certificates, train for a new job, experience hands-on training in professional and technical programs, learn English, develop basic skills, finish high school, train for a promotion, or to learn just for fun. For more information, visit EverettCC.edu.

About WSU Everett

Washington State University Everett provides industry-aligned undergraduate programs with an interdisciplinary focus to the Puget Sound region. The campus brings WSU's world-class academics to Everett in small class sizes with hands-on, project-based opportunities. WSU currently offers seven high-demand bachelor's degrees, including software, mechanical and electrical engineering, data analytics, strategic communication, hospitality business management and organic and sustainable agriculture.

When families choose WSU Everett, they can save about \$10K annually by living at home and foregoing the cost of room and board and save more by completing the first two years of general education requirements at any community college.