

## **Mashpee-Wampanoag Indian Tribal Council, Inc.**

The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Tribal Council, Inc., formerly known as the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, is one of two federally recognized tribes of Wampanoag people in Massachusetts. Recognized in 2007, they are headquartered in Mashpee on Cape Cod. In 2014 the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe consists of more than 2600 enrolled members.

Ms. Yvonne Tobey is the WIOA Director and although it is a small program, consistently operates a successful program. The grantee has been timely in submitting financial and program reports and has no deficiencies relevant to audits, excess cash on hand or programmatic issues.

Ms. Yvonne Tobey became the Director of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Workforce Investment Act department in 2010 and it was her first employment opportunity with the Tribe. She has participated in many of the regional and one-on-one training sessions, and with all the support, Yvonne felt ready to go back to Mashpee and implement what she learned. She tries hard to keep on top of things so that she can provide quality services.

Over the years, she also developed relationships with the local Workforce Investment board, private employers, and several Unions. In anticipation of the Tribe receiving land into trust, and the impending Tribally-owned casino (and resulting construction jobs), Ms. Tobey found two agencies that provided free OSHA 10 certification (open to all Tribal members). The OSHA 10 certification made it possible for them to work on federal construction projects as well as with private construction and landscaping companies.

In April of 2016, Mashpee broke ground on the First Light Casino. Eight WIOA clients were accepted into the Local 385 Laborers Union. Two of the eight were employed at the site immediately. The remaining six Tribal members attended 3 – 4 weeks of additional training and upon completion were immediately employed at non-tribal sites. Today all eight WIOA clients are employed at our casino site with hourly rates of between 18.00 and 30.00 per hour.

Congratulations to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's workforce program on a job well done!