Season’s Greetings everyone! My name is Moon Vargas. I was recently hired as STEP’s new Vocational Specialist at the Del Norte Workforce Center. I am a longtime resident of Del Norte County. My family relocated to Crescent City from Fresno, CA when I was very young. Being local to the area, I'm excited to be involved in non-profit work, to be able to better the community I come from. I am a compassionate person who seeks to understand those around me, and advocate for those in need. I have spent the last four years working as an EMT and pursuing a transfer degree in psychology. I hope to one day become a Marriage and Family Therapist. Throughout the schooling I have had, I've gained a greater understanding for the population we serve. I feel it is important to understand perspectives of people with different socioeconomic status from one another. Currently, I am overseeing the 2019 NDWG Storm program in Del Norte County and I am excited to learn, grow and prove myself as a valuable member of the STEP team.
2019 NDWG STORM PROJECT BEGINS

Del Norte Workforce Center staff prepare for the 2019 NDWG Storm Project. October marked the beginning of the 2019 Storm Program. Worksites from the prior Storm Project were contacted and ready to help put people back to work. Staff swiftly began recruitment of long-term unemployed and dislocated workers, doing intake paperwork and setting up interviews with potential worksites. For the 2019 program, the following worksites are participating: Cal Trans, County of Del Norte, Del Norte Fairgrounds and City of Crescent City. During this quarter, 26 individuals have been enrolled and placed at one of the above mentioned worksites. Not only does this grant help with the clean up and repair of storm damage, it also puts people back to work, which in turns makes our community better!

Storm participants at the City of Crescent City
National Parks has partnered with the Del Norte Workforce Center to host an informational workshop on how to apply for positions on USAJobs.gov. The National Parks Service (NPS) is constantly striving to recruit locals for job openings in Del Norte County. The USAJobs application process, is quite different from what most job seekers are used to, and in order to make it to the next step of the process, an applicant must know the nuances involved. Brittney McGuire with the National Parks Service has been wonderful explaining these nuances. Brittney also sat down with WFC staff to also share tips on how we can better prepare job seekers to obtain employment with NPS and other federal agencies.

US CENSUS RECRUITMENT

US Census Bureau hosted a recruiting informational session at the Del Norte Workforce Center in October, to assist job seekers with the application process. The US Census is recruiting 2.7 million people across the country to assist with the 2020 Census count! Once a week during November through January, a US Census rep will be available at the Workforce Center to answer questions regarding the available positions and the application process. It’s wonderful to be able to partner in order to help our job seekers navigate the application process for these great positions!