

Emerging Professional Award Nomination

Rhyanne Berryman exemplifies the qualities of an emerging leader through her dedication to fostering economic growth, building meaningful relationships, and creating opportunities for businesses and communities to thrive. Her energy, vision, and collaborative spirit have already made a significant impact.

I first learned about Rhyanne through my mentorship with her director, Brant Mayo. After our initial meeting, Brant quickly recommended Rhyanne as someone I should connect with—and it was immediately clear why. From our first conversation, I was inspired by her enthusiasm for economic development and her ability to approach challenges with creativity and optimism. She always has an energetic attitude and a positive spirit.

Rhyanne's leadership style is rooted in genuine relationship-building. She makes a big impact in her role- listening actively, engaging thoughtfully, and working tirelessly to strengthen community ties. She facilitates the county's coalition for health, managing a group for several different organizations, ensuring they align for a common goal. Her ability to manage challenges with optimism and adaptability speaks to her resilience—traits that are essential for emerging leaders in economic development.

Her recent promotion to **Director of Business & Community Engagement** is a testament to her exceptional contributions and leadership potential. She makes waves in the economic development sphere, always showing up with poise and professionalism.

Beyond her professional achievements, Rhyanne embodies the qualities of a well-rounded leader. She is always a joy in the WEDA Emerging Leaders group- offering everyone in the group invitations to connect. She is a champion for younger professionals entering the economic development field. I am proud to call her a friend and I always look forward to my discussions with her.

The WEDA Emerging Professional Award recognizes individuals who demonstrate exceptional promise and leadership in economic development. Rhyanne Berryman is a shining example of these qualities. Her passion, professionalism, and commitment to community make her an outstanding candidate for this honor. As she continues to grow in her role and expand her impact, there is no doubt that Rhyanne will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of economic development in Washington.

I am proud to nominate my friend Rhyanne Berryman for the WEDA Emerging Professional Award. Her contributions, character, and vision embody the spirit of this recognition, and she is truly deserving of this honor.