

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release No.: 16-17

Date: June 13, 2016

\$1.4 million will provide employment assistance to people with disabilities

Funds will connect applicants and employers in seven California regions including: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, San Mateo, North Central, Sierra, Madera

SACRAMENTO: People with disabilities in seven California regions will get valuable career assistance and opportunities with the help of \$1.4 million in grants awarded by the California Employment Development Department today.

“Many people with disabilities have great desire, dedication, and skill sets to offer employers in California,” said EDD Director Patrick Henning, Jr. “But they face unique challenges in ensuring employers recognize the skills and talents they can bring to a job. The local programs supported by these grants provide the financial incentive and support to establish, nurture, and expand disability-friendly workplaces.”

The 2016 Disability Employment Accelerator funds will help eight workforce development agencies serving 12 counties to develop innovative ways to assist people with disabilities to secure in-demand jobs by creating partnerships and engaging businesses in high-growth industries. The local workforce development agencies will use these partnerships to implement “earn and learn” service strategies that include paid on-the-job training, transitional jobs, and work-experience opportunities. These “earn and learn” models provide businesses the flexibility to customize training to achieve specific goals while placing people with disabilities on career pathways that can provide economic independence.

The grant recipients will be responsible for designing, developing, implementing, and supporting projects that provide employment and re-employment strategies for people with disabilities.

The individual awards range from \$150,000 to \$185,715. The grants are made available by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act’s Governor’s discretionary funds under the administrative authority of the California EDD. They are awarded in coordination with the California Workforce Development Board and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

(more)

The eight Disability Employment Accelerator grant awardees are:

Awardee	County/Counties	Amount	Contacts
Golden Sierra Job Training Agency	Alpine, El Dorado, Placer	\$150,000	Darlene Galipo, Deputy Director 530-823-4635 ext. 247 galipo@goldensierra.com
NOVA Workforce Development	San Mateo	\$150,000	Luther Jackson, Program Manager 408-730-7832 ljackson@novaworks.org
Verdugo Workforce Development Board	Los Angeles	\$178,571	Judith Velasco, Executive Director 818-937-8031 jvelasco@glendaleca.gov
Workforce Development Board of Madera County	Madera	\$178,572	Elaine Craig, Executive Director 559-662-4589 ecraig@maderaworkforce.org
San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development	San Francisco	\$185,714	John Halpin, Director (415) 701-4856 John.halpin@sfgov.org
North Central Counties Consortium	Colusa, Glenn, Sutter, Yuba	\$185,714	Nancy Crooks, Executive Director (530) 822-7145 ncrooks@ncen.org
Sacramento Employment and Training Agency	Sacramento	\$185,714	Michelle O’Camb, Workforce Development Manager 916-263-3868 michelle.o’camb@seta.net
City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department	Los Angeles	\$185,715	Jaime Pacheco-Orozco, Acting Director 213-744-7137 Jaime.pacheco-orozco@lacity.org
Total		\$1,400,000	