

N E W S R E L E A S E

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EDD awards \$375,000 in funding to assist laid-off workers and distressed businesses throughout Los Angeles County

SACRAMENTO – The California Employment Development Department (EDD) announced today it has awarded \$375,000 to the Los Angeles County’s Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) to assist recently laid-off workers, and engage and support 400 businesses struggling with potential layoffs.

“As California’s diverse economy evolves, EDD remains dedicated to helping regional workforces and employers maintain stability,” said Acting EDD Director Sharon Hilliard. “Laid-off workers will receive the assistance they need to quickly get back to work, and struggling businesses will receive support and workforce resources to help prevent future layoffs.”

The additional assistance funds will allow the county to provide Layoff Aversion and Rapid Response services to at-risk businesses in the Los Angeles area, develop customized business action plans for them, and assist them in accessing available state and federal resources including energy rebates and employer tax credits.

WDACS staff will also work with area employers to identify the skills needed for their workers to remain professionally competitive. WDACS will provide resources to current workers for supplemental training that will reduce business costs and regulatory burdens, thus streamlining business processes and saving jobs.

Laid-off workers will receive information about Unemployment Insurance benefits, assistance with preparing résumés, and job interview preparation. Educational opportunities will be offered through local community colleges and state-recognized apprenticeships. The funding will also provide workers access to transitional subsidized employment and on-the-job training, specifically serving the manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail, finance, and insurance industries.

Funding for this grant was provided through discretionary funds made available to Governor Gavin Newsom in accordance with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and administered by the EDD and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

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For more information about the WDACS and its programs, contact Director of Economic and Business Development Caroline Torosis, at 1-323-719-8839.

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