

N E W S R E L E A S E

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**\$4 million in state grants will help 1,000 veterans in 10 counties transition into high-demand jobs and careers**

**SACRAMENTO** – Ten California workforce agencies and organizations from San Diego to Sutter counties have been awarded state grants totaling \$4 million to assist more than 1,000 veterans with the transition from military life into high-wage jobs and civilian careers, according to the California Employment Development Department (EDD).

“This funding will build upon the valuable skills and experiences our veterans have gained from their service to this nation, and provide them with the tools necessary to transition from military life into high-wage civilian jobs,” said Pam Harris, Director of the California EDD. “California is dedicated to providing veterans with supportive services that will help them secure jobs in growing industries.”

Ten workforce agencies and organizations from San Diego to Sutter counties will receive \$400,000 each to offer targeted services that meet the unique needs and occupational goals of veterans, with an emphasis on those who are recently returning to civilian life. Veterans will receive education and work readiness training, job placement assistance, mental health and behavioral services, and referrals for housing, transportation, medical care and substance abuse services.

The programs will prepare veterans for careers in a variety of industries, including professional, scientific and technical services; health care; transportation; security; utility and energy sectors; information technology and construction.

Funding for these programs is drawn from federal Workforce Investment Act monies under the administrative authority of the California EDD. The EDD has representatives in many local One-Stop Career Centers across the state who specialize in assisting veterans in their search for employment.

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In partnership with the California Department of Veterans Affairs, EDD also hosts “Honor a Hero, Hire a Vet” job and resource fairs for veterans each year and is directing the workforce initiative on the Governor’s Interagency Council on Veterans. The Council is dedicated to identifying and prioritizing the needs of California veterans and improving how veterans’ services are coordinated across local, state and federal government.

The ten workforce agencies and organizations receiving grants include:

| <b>Awardees</b>                            | <b>County</b> | <b>Awards</b>      | <b>Contact</b>                          |
|--|---------------|--------------------|---|
| Community Career Development, Inc.         | Los Angeles   | \$400,000          | Gloria Moore<br>(213) 805-4273          |
| Foothill Workforce Investment Board        | Los Angeles   | \$400,000          | Dianne Russell-Carter<br>(626) 584-8393 |
| Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board | Fresno        | \$400,000          | Blake Konczal<br>(559) 490-7102         |
| LA Works                                   | Los Angeles   | \$400,000          | Kathryn Ford<br>(626) 960-3964          |
| Managed Career Solutions, Inc.             | Los Angeles   | \$400,000          | Philip Starr<br>(213) 355-5312          |
| North Central Counties Consortium          | Sutter        | \$400,000          | Nancy Crooks<br>(530) 822-7145          |
| North County Interfaith Council            | San Diego     | \$400,000          | Bernard Gabriel<br>(760) 489-6380       |
| Orange County Workforce Investment Board   | Orange        | \$400,000          | Andrew Munoz<br>(714) 480-6500          |
| Sacramento Employment and Training Agency  | Sacramento    | \$400,000          | William Walker<br>(916) 263-4639        |
| Swords to Plowshares                       | San Francisco | \$400,000          | Dave Lopez<br>(415) 252-4788            |
| <b>Total</b>                               |               | <b>\$4,000,000</b> |   |

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