

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

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**Employment Development Department awards \$288,750 grant to help retrain laid-off workers in Butte and Nevada counties**

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Employment Development Department (EDD) announced it has awarded the Northern Rural Training and Employment Consortium (NoRTEC) \$288,750 in grant funds to help 50 recently laid-off workers in Butte and Nevada counties. The employees were laid off from Milestone Technologies, Inc. and Sears in Butte County, and Rideout Health in Nevada County.

The grant will help the displaced workers prepare for new jobs in the region’s industries that NoRTEC has identified as having the greatest potential for future career growth, including healthcare, advanced manufacturing, agriculture, information technology and tourism.

“These laid-off workers are going through challenging times,” said EDD Director Patrick W. Henning. “These funds will give them the opportunity to learn new skills and return to the workforce with greater job security.”

The grant, authorized as a result of these mass layoffs, provides funding for an array of critical services for the laid-off workers, including increased training, basic skills training, advanced education, job search assistance, and other relevant supportive services.

Funding for this grant is made available through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Governor’s discretionary funds and is under the administrative authority of the EDD and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

For more information about this project, please contact Terrienne Brown, Assistant Director of NoRTEC, at (530) 892-9600.

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