

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

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**EDD awards \$1.14 million to help reemploy 429 laid-off workers in Tulare County**

**TULARE** – The California Employment Development Department (EDD) today awarded \$1.14 million to the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County to help re-employ 429 laid-off workers. The funds will be used to provide job training and other support services to help the affected workers find jobs in in-demand occupations.

“When local businesses close and workers lose their jobs, we fund the job services that help people get back to work,” said Employment Development Department Director Patrick W. Henning. “These funds will help prepare laid-off workers to find new employment in in-demand jobs.”

The Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County will use the grant funding to provide the affected workers with employment training and support services necessary for reemployment before they exhaust their unemployment insurance benefits. Certified career coaches will meet with each of the workers individually to address any barriers to employment that may include limited English proficiency, lack of a high school diploma or lack of formal training that affects their ability to attain, retain or advance in their chosen career.

The assistance will be provided through two area America’s Job Centers of California, a site provided by the Tulare Chamber of Commerce and an affiliate site at the Proteus Service Center in Dinuba. At these four locations, job seekers will receive career counseling, help with updating their resumes and assistance in improving interview skills. Participants will receive education and training for occupations in fields such as advanced manufacturing, healthcare, business, logistics and renewable energy.

Tulare County’s unemployment rate was 8.7 percent in August 2018, more than twice the state’s 4.2 percent unemployment rate. Since November 2017, more than 1,300 employees have lost jobs due to the closures of large employers in the region including Tulare Regional Medical Center, Nypro, L.E. Cooke Company, TreeHouse Foods Inc., and ORS Nasco, as well as due to the closure of a number of small businesses.

(more)

Funding for this grant was provided through the discretionary funds made available to Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in accordance with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and administered by the Employment Development Department and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

For more information on the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County and its programs, contact Executive Director Adam Peck at [apec@tularewib.org](mailto:apec@tularewib.org) or (559) 713-5200.

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