



PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
Hawthorne, CA 90250
Contact: 310-970-7700

**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Receives
\$800,000 Grant to Provide COVID-19 Employment Recovery
Services Throughout the Region**

HAWTHORNE – The California Employment Development Department (EDD) has awarded the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) an \$800,000 grant to provide employment recovery services, including job training and placement for workers displaced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic over the next 24 months.

A minimum of 145 affected workers, who are unlikely to return to their previous occupations, will receive services. Those individuals will be placed into jobs with new employers aligning with their transferable skills.

Customized hiring fairs with employers will be coordinated as rapid reemployment is critical for most of them. SBWIB will encourage and coordinate job recruitments and on-line/virtual hiring events.

Since March, there have been a growing number of large employers filing a layoff notice with the SBWIB in the South Bay region. Those companies facing mass job dislocation and closures has impacted over 21,000 workers in the area and includes many industry sectors such as manufacturing, transportation, and entertainment. Many other small businesses and those referred to as non-essential have been forced to close due to the recent Stay Home Order.

“We have extensive experience in administering national dislocated worker and emergency programs,” said SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel. “Our capabilities and knowledge of how to service this targeted population is demonstrated by our successful management of these projects in the past and I am hopeful we will be able to re-employ all of these people quickly,” he added.

SBWIB serves 11 South Bay communities through its four South Bay One-Stop Business and Career Centers in Inglewood, Gardena, Carson and Torrance. Visit www.sbwib.org for a complete listing of no cost services available to businesses and job seekers.

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