



PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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California Employment Development Department Awards \$995,500 Grant to South Bay Workforce Investment Board to Aid COVID-19 Displaced Workers with Services and Training

HAWTHORNE – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) was awarded a \$995,500 from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) to provide immediate job placement and training assistance for up to 180 COVID-19 related displaced workers and laid-off workers in the South Bay region over the next year.

The grant funds will enable the SBWIB to provide a variety of career services to advance dislocated workers, and eligible veterans (i.e., recently separated and post-9/11 veterans) to transition rapidly into employment programs and reenter the workforce. Focus will be made to connect retraining and skill upgrading to high growth high demand occupations and sector initiatives in the South Bay and greater Los Angeles region.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel noted that having previously implemented several emergency and sector initiative career pathway programs prior to the pandemic to assist dislocated workers was a factor in the EDD award. “Our career pathways in Construction, Utilities & Public Infrastructure, Manufacturing, including Biotech, Transportation & Logistics, Healthcare, Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) are aligned regionally and helping people transition into well paying jobs,” he said.

Other support the SBWIB can offer is on-the-job training, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs using earn and learn models. Retraining and upskills training opportunities are proven methods for candidates to compete and return to the workplace.

SBWIB will observe safe and sanitary practices in the delivery of services to its clients at our South Bay Business and Career Centers serving South Bay communities while encouraging virtual workshops, conferencing and social distancing in partnership with EDD and onsite AJCC partners. For further information, telephone 310-970-7700 or visit www.sbwib.org and www.sbwib.org/covid-19-resources.

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