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## WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT RAPID RESPONSE GRANT MODIFICATION

**GRANT PERIOD:** July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2024

**PARTICIPANTS:** 50 DISLOCATED WORKERS + 75 BUSINESSES

**GRANT AWARD:** INCREASE OF \$144,537 FOR A TOTAL GRANT AWARD OF \$469,537

In April of 2023, The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) issued a notice of funding to Local Workforce Boards for the purpose of planning for and/or responding to layoffs and dislocations and preventing or minimizing their impacts on workers, businesses, and communities.

The dislocated workers include impacted workers from the following events: Southwire- Manufacturing; Novartis Gene Therapies, Inc- Bio Pharma- Manufacturing; Domakaba- Manufacturing; Aptar Group- Manufacturing; Stradis Medical, LLC- Bio Pharma0 Manufacturing; Likewise- Manufacturing; LTD Commodities- Business Professional Services; AKORN- Bio Pharma- Manufacturing

Workforce Development received \$325,000 to support dislocated workers transitioning to new careers with growth potential and higher earnings. Workforce Development has been actively engaged with recruitment efforts using the family-centered coaching design and working with dislocated workers focused on training and employment in the care economy, professional services, and IT. The grant supports on-the-job training, short-term and online training, and family-centered coaching. The aim is to connect candidates to quality jobs aligned with their career goals while considering family obligations and preferences.

Workforce Development has established an enhanced business engagement strategy in partnership and collaboration with Lake County Partners:

- Expand outreach to C-Suite decision-makers in the professional services industry.
- Convene and facilitate industry listening sessions, job fairs, and panelist forums.
- Implement a strategic communication plan to increase the reach to businesses including media distribution to local employers and industry.

To date, Workforce Development has served 30 dislocated workers in occupational training and 8 dislocated workers in on-the-job training opportunities. The additional funds will allow 16 additional dislocated workers to receive training and employment services.