



# Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

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## **Business Committee Meeting Agenda**

Thursday, February 8th, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86836600675?pwd=MWJMUUnZWV05FK2p6REJaNjIESnhhQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 3660 0675      Passcode: 432130

One tap mobile: +16469313860,,86836600675#

Called to Order	Mandy Parchert
Roll Call	Louise Butherus
*Consent Agenda	Mandy Parchert
Excused Absences	
Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes	
Approval of Agenda	
Retrain & Retain Grant Interest Updates (Page 4)	Tyler Lanz
*Rapid Response Policy Modification (Page 6)	Miranda Swafford
Business Team Updates/Minutes (Page 26)	Tyler Lanz
Other Business	Mandy Parchert
Public Comment	Mandy Parchert
*Adjourn	Mandy Parchert

\*Items Requiring a Vote    \*\* Items Requiring a Roll Call vote

### **Accommodations**

Accommodations are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. If you need accommodation, please contact Mandy Tripp at [assistant@mississippivalleyworkforce.org](mailto:assistant@mississippivalleyworkforce.org) or at 1-844-967-5365 option 3.



# Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

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## **Business Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., via Zoom

**Members Present:** Mandy Parchert, Stephanie Torrance, Stacy Borgeson, Chris Caves, Kelley Brown, and Emily Benjamin (late)

**Members Absent:** Caitlin Bliesener (excused)

**CEO:** None.

**Staff Present:** Tyler Lanz, Strategic Partnership Specialist

**Guest:** Katelyn Orth, Jennifer Schuster, Scott Schneider (late), and Travis Robinson

### **CALLED TO ORDER**

Parchert called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

### **QUORUM**

There was a quorum to conduct business.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda included agenda approval, approval of Bliesener's excused absence, and previous meeting minutes. Brown made a motion to approve it, seconded by Torrance, and the motion carried.

### **RETRAIN & RETAIN GRANT INTEREST UPDATES**

Lanz advised that there has only been one interest form completed since the last meeting and the company was ineligible as they are not located in Iowa. They were provided information for their nearest workforce center to inquire about resources and similar programs. Parchert inquired whether additional outreach is needed to garner more interest in the grant, Lanz advised the grant has been shared on Iowa *WORKS* social media platforms, promoted by the business service teams, and that there have been connections made via emails from Chamber partners.

### **\*LOCAL PLAN QUESTIONS**

Lanz presented draft language for the Local Plan, which is required by WIOA and will be brought before the full board in February so that it can be posted for public comment and submitted to the state by April 1, 2024. Lanz discussed the state's goals and how local strategies will help to achieve them, especially related to employer engagement. Caves inquired about the methods to streamline business services through a single point of contact approach and discussed the integration of business services with the work-based learning intermediaries, chamber partners, and economic development partners who are also providing employer services in our local area. Lanz advised she will be working to make connections with all relevant stakeholders now that she has fully transitioned into the Strategic Partnership Specialist role. Borgeson made a motion to approve the draft language as written, seconded by Brown, and motion carried.

### **BUSINESS TEAM UPDATES**

Lanz reviewed the business services from December and advised that both the Burlington and Davenport teams achieved their Strategic Plan goals for New Business Contacts, Continued Employer Engagement, On-Site Workforce Events, and Quarterly Special Initiatives. Lanz discussed that the business teams are working together to develop a common definition of Off-Site Workforce Events to help measure that goal moving forward. Lanz highlighted several successful events that occurred in December, as well as two Rapid Response efforts.

### **JOB QUALITY ACADEMY UPDATE**

Lanz provided an update on the status of the Job Quality Academy surveys. As of January 4, 2024, 96 employee/jobseeker surveys have been completed and 25 employer surveys have been completed. Outreach efforts have included posting to social media and the board website, distribution of paper fliers, inclusion in newsletters, and shared via chamber and union partners. Borgeson inquired about an end date to the survey and Lanz advised there is not a specific end date at this time. Borgeson discussed opportunities to share the survey through news platforms such as the Clinton Herald. Lanz discussed that the employee/jobseeker survey has been translated into Spanish, but we are experiencing some technical difficulties. Once those have been resolved, the Spanish survey will be shared with the Greater Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and relevant stakeholders.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ADJOURN**

Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Caves, and Parchert adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

# Retrain and Retain Grant Interest Updates



<b>River Cities Engineering</b>	Initial meeting on 1/24, completing application on 2/6.
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# \*Rapid Response Policy Modification

Documents included:

Draft Policy

Action Requested:

Approve Policy Modification

Reason for Modification: To align more with the State Rapid Response Guide and to clarify how to handle situations when an official WARN is not received. The yellow highlights are additions and the red represents text to be removed.

## Rapid Response Policy

**Date Approved:** October 25, 2021

**Effective Date:** October 25, 2021

**Amended Date:** N/A

### Purpose

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1. This policy provides guidance to the Iowa *WORKS* Centers in the Mississippi valley Workforce Area (MVWA) in providing Rapid Response activities and services to employers and workers who have been affected by lay-offs, plant closures, and down-sizing.
2. Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Rapid Response activities are carried out in local areas by Local Workforce Development Boards working in conjunction with Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) and other stakeholders.
3. The purpose of Rapid Response is to promote economic recovery and vitality by developing an ongoing, comprehensive approach to identifying, planning for, or responding to layoffs and dislocations; in addition to preventing or minimizing their impacts on workers, businesses, and communities.

### Policy

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1. The Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board (MVWDB) works in partnership with IWD to provide quality Rapid Response activities. Rapid Response activities in MVWA are intended to shorten the time between worker dislocation and reemployment by developing local strategies.
2. A successful Rapid Response system includes:  
Information and direct reemployment services for workers.  
Solutions to address the needs of businesses in transition, provided across the business lifecycle (expansion and contraction), including business engagement and layoff aversion strategies.  
Facilitating connections, networks, and partners to provide assistance to dislocated workers and their families such as home heating assistance, legal aid, and financial advice.  
Strategic planning, data gathering, and analysis designed to anticipate, prepare for, and manage economic change.  
Develop layoff aversion strategies.

### When Rapid Response is Required

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1. Rapid Response services and activities, which encompass strategies necessary to plan for and respond to the needs of employers and affected workers, must be delivered as quickly as possible when one or more of the following circumstances occur:

- Announcement or notification of a permanent closure, regardless of number of workers.
- Announcement or notification of a mass layoff.
- A mass job dislocation resulting from a natural disaster or other disaster.
- Filing of a Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) petition.
- Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act notice has been filed.

## Local Rapid Response Teams

The Local Rapid Response Team (LRRT) is comprised of individuals that provide information, resources, and services to assist affected employers and workers. The LRRTL oversees planning implementation, and tracking/reporting of Rapid Response services, including Layoff Aversion at the local level. The LRRTL must include representation from the following partner programs to include, but is not limited to:

- WIOA Title I
- Wagner Peyser – Title III
- Local Trade Coordinators
- Business Engagement representative

Additional partner programs may be added to the team based on the unique circumstances of an event and specific needs of the impacted business and workers. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Department of Human Services
- Adult and Basic Education
- Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Business Services representative
- Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER)

A Local Rapid Response Team Lead (LRRTL) must be identified and responsibilities at a minimum, include:

- Engaging in regular two-way communication with the State Rapid Response Coordinator (SRRC) and local system partners.
- Coordinating business and job seeker services across partners; and
- Ensuring Rapid Response activities are reported accurately and timely in IowaWORKS and preparing accurate and timely reports for the LWDB.

## Required Rapid Response Activities

1. Rapid Response teams must conduct immediate and on-site contact with the employer, representatives of the affected workers, and the local community, including an assessment and plans to address the:



- Layoff plans and timeline of the employer.
  - Background and probable assistance need of the affected workers.
  - Reemployment prospects for work.
  - Available resources to meet the short and long-term assistance needs of the affected workers.
2. Staff must provide information and access to unemployment compensation benefits and programs (such as Short-Time compensation), comprehensive one-stop delivery system services, available career and training activities, as well as information on the Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) program, the GI Bill, and other resources.
  3. Necessary services and resources must be delivered, to include workshops and classes, use of worker transition centers, and job fairs to support reemployment efforts for affected workers. Emergency assistance adapted to the particular layoff or disaster must also be provided. Staff must also deliver services to worker groups for which a petition for TAA has been filed. If activities needed exceed the capacity of the local area, the MVWDB may apply for additional assistance from IWD when available.
  4. Partnership between local Iowa *WORKS* staff, MVWDB staff, and Chief Elected Officials (CEO) is required to ensure a coordinated response to the dislocation event and as needed, obtain access to economic development assistance.
  5. Partnerships must also be established with other appropriate federal, state, and local agencies and officials, employer associations, technical councils, other industry business councils, labor organizations and other public and private organizations, as applicable, in order to:
    - Conduct strategic planning activities to develop strategies for addressing dislocation events and ensuring timely access to a broad range of necessary assistance.
    - Develop mechanisms for gathering and exchanging information and data relating to potential dislocations, resources available, and the customization of layoff aversion or Rapid Response activities, to ensure the ability to provide Rapid Response services as early as possible.

### **Layoff Aversion Activities**

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1. Layoff aversion consists of strategies and activities to prevent or minimize the duration of unemployment resulting from layoffs. An effective layoff aversion system allows states and local areas to play an active role in shaping and maintaining a competitive, resilient local workforce. WIOA requires states and local areas to include layoff aversion as an integral component of Rapid Response.
2. A sound layoff aversion infrastructure should include early warning systems, and can include close communication with employer representatives, industry groups, organized labor, utilities, or local media; and/or assessment of labor market trends and economic data to assess the health of businesses.
3. Employers must be informed about their legal responsibilities to issue advance notification of layoffs and closures.

## Permissible Layoff Aversion Activities

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1. Rapid Response programs have the discretion to determine which strategies and activities are applicable in given situations. Activities may include:

Providing assistance to employers in managing reductions in force, which may include early identification of firms at risk of layoffs, assessment of the needs of and options for at-risk firms, and the delivery of services to address these needs.

Ongoing engagement, partnership, and relationship-building activities with businesses in the community, in order to create an environment for successful layoff aversion efforts and to enable the provision of assistance to dislocated workers in obtaining reemployment as soon as possible.

Funding feasibility studies to determine if a company's operations may be sustained through a buyout or other means to avoid or minimize layoffs.

Developing, funding, and managing incumbent worker training programs or other worker upskilling approaches as part of a layoff aversion strategy or activity.

Connecting companies to:

- i. Short-Time compensation or other programs designed to prevent layoffs or to reemploy dislocated workers quickly, available under Unemployment Insurance programs.
- ii. Employer loan programs for employee skill upgrading.
- iii. Other Federal, State, and local resources as necessary to address other business needs that cannot be funded with resources provided under WIOA.

Establishing linkages with economic development activities at the federal, state, and local levels, including Federal Department of Commerce programs and available State and local business retention and expansion activities.

Partnering or contracting with business-focused organizations to assess risk to companies, propose strategies to address those risks, implement services, and measure impacts of services delivered.

Conducting analyses of the suppliers of an affected company to assess their risks and vulnerabilities from a potential closing or shift in production of their major customer.

Engaging in proactive measures to identify opportunities for potential economic transition and training needs in growing industry sectors or expanding businesses.

Connecting business and workers to short-term, on-the-job, or customized training programs and registered apprenticeships before or after layoff to help facilitate rapid employment.

2. IWD or MVWDB may devise other activities or strategies intended to minimize the negative impacts of dislocation on workers, businesses, and communities.

The left-hand column of the table below outlines layoff aversion strategies as included in the Federal Regulations at [20 CFR 682.320](#). The column on the right provides examples of how these strategies might be executed or applied by the public workforce system.

Regulations	Examples Practical Application
<p>Providing assistance to employers in managing reductions in force, which may include early identification of firms at risk of layoffs, assessment of the needs of and options for at risk firms, and the delivery of services to address these needs.</p> <p>Partnering and contracting with business- focused organizations to assess risks to companies, propose strategies to address those risks, implement services, and measure impacts of services delivered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Help companies assess risk</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish an early warning system</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Customized services for companies deemed at risk</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Work sharing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Temporary furloughs</li> </ul>
<p>Ongoing engagement, partnership, and relationship building activities with businesses in the community, in order to create an environment for successful layoff aversion efforts and to enable the provision of assistance to dislocated workers in obtaining reemployment as soon as possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Build and maintain relationships with companies to facilitate communication</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Human resources solutions</li> </ul>
<p>Funding feasibility studies to determine if a company's operations may be sustained through a buyout or other means to avoid or minimize layoffs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Customized solutions and studies</li> </ul>
<p>Developing, funding, and managing incumbent worker training programs or other worker upskilling approaches as part of a layoff aversion strategy or activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide skills upgrade training to existing employees</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pay (or help to pay) for training on new equipment or product line</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate services of various entities (e.g. community college, economic development groups) involved with the company</li> </ul>
<p>Connecting businesses and workers to short term, on the job, or customized training programs and registered apprenticeships before or after layoff to help facilitate rapid re-employment.</p> <p>Connecting companies to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Short time compensation or other programs designed to prevent layoffs or to reemploy dislocated workers quickly, available under UI programs;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Employer loan programs for employee skill upgrading; and</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other Federal, State, and local resources as necessary to address other business needs that</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inform companies of programs available which could reduce or prevent layoff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Workshare</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Revolving loan funds</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Access to capital</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tax credits</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Financial management</li> </ul>

cannot be funded with Rapid Response funds	
Establishing linkages with economic development activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate services of various entities (e.g. community college, economic development groups) involved with the company
Conducting analyses of the supplies of an affected company to assess their risks and vulnerabilities from a potential closing or shift in production	<input type="checkbox"/> Business process improvements <input type="checkbox"/> Connect to organizations such as Manufacturing Extension

	Partnership (MEP) for support with risk assessment and solution development
Engaging in proactive measures to identify opportunities for potential economic transition and training needs in growing industry sectors or expanding business; and	<input type="checkbox"/> Incumbent worker training <input type="checkbox"/> Customized training

## Notification of Future Layoffs

In situations when Layoff Aversion strategies have been unsuccessful in assisting a business in retaining their workforce, and a public announcement has been made that the business will conduct layoffs or will close more than 180 days in the future from the time of the announcement, the following must be implemented:

- Quarterly check-ins must be conducted with the business up until 180 days prior to layoff, at which time more frequent contacts are expected to for further planning of service provision with the affected workers,
- All contacts must be documented in IowaWORKS under the Employer Profile with a case note; and
- Contact must include, but is not limited to, a plan for upcoming contacts, plan for services, and possible planning of a pre-Worker Information Meeting to offer Basic Career Services.

- Pre-Worker Information Meetings can be utilized to enroll individuals into appropriate programs, as necessary, and to provide Basic Career Services.

Pending the nature of the layoff or closure, the SRCC or the LRRT will conduct the quarterly contacts, as outlined above. Coordination between the SRCC and the LRRT is imperative to prepare for a seamless transition for workers.

For purposes of dislocated worker program eligibility, workers who are employed at a business which announces they are closing, are eligible for basic career services only until 180 days prior to the business closing, at which time they are then eligible for all other services.

### Layoff Notification

In Iowa there are two types of WARNs which a company may file. A LWDA may also receive notification of a Local Non-WARN event and all three are alerts to start the Rapid Response process: Federal, State, or Local Non-WARN. The process should only be started when official notification is received from an employer.

If employees visit the IowaWORKS Centers and provide information about a possible layoff, the information should be confirmed with the company before any information is distributed to other staff members or any service is entered in the IowaWORKS system. Merely sending an email or leaving a voicemail does not constitute providing a service and no service code should be entered. However, a case note should be entered that contact was attempted and by what mode of communication.

If an employer denies RR services a case note stating that they did not wish to receive services should be entered in the system. This should not be documented in the system as a service as they never received confirmation from the employer that the layoff had happened.

	Size of Company	# of employees impacted	Required notice to employees
<b>Federal</b>	100 or more	<b>Closing:</b> 50 or more will be affected during a 30 –day period. <b>Mass Layoff:</b> when 500 or more employees or 33% of workforce will permanently lose their job during a 30-day period.	60 days
<b>State</b>	25 - 99	A permanent or temporary shutdown of mass layoff of 25 or more employees for a period exceeding 6 months.	30 days

**Local Non-WARN**

Below 25

Below 25

N/A

## **Iowa Workforce Development Process for WARN**

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### 1. When IWD receives a WARN:

- IWD Program Coordinator will confirm receipt of WARN with business and inform them that the local IowaWORKS Rapid Response Team will be in contact.
- IWD Program Coordinator will enter WARN into IowaWORKS generating a Rapid Response Number.
- IWD Program Coordinator will send an email to the MVWDB, local leadership, and LRRTL.
- IWD Program Coordinator will update the WARN log.

## **Local IowaWORKS Process for WARN**

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1. The MVWDB LRRTL will be the responsibility of the Title I Adult/DW service provider in the two IowaWORKS Centers. The Title I service provider will notify the MVWDB of which staff person will serve as the LRRTL in each center. The LRRTL will be responsible for ensuring entering required data and information is entered into the IowaWORKS case management system.

### 2. When a WARN is received the following process should be followed:

- Local LRRTL will make contact with the business to make them aware of Rapid Response activities and set an Employer Meeting within 48 hours of receiving notice of the WARN email from the IWD Program Coordinator.

If collective bargaining/union is involved, they need to be advised of services being provided for soon-to- be dislocated workers. Determine if the company will reach out to stewards, or if they prefer the RCC will contact and provide the Worker Information Meeting update.

Notes of outreach and communication with the employer should be maintained in IowaWORKS. Document the initial contact with the business under the Employer Profile under Activities using service E-11 Provided Rapid Response/Downsizing Assistance and add a case note with details of Employer Meeting date/time.

- Document in IowaWORKS under the Business Profile with Service E-11 Provided Rapid Response/Business Downsizing Assistance.
- Send calendar invite to local Rapid Response Team, MVWDB, Trade Coordinator, Union Representative, and any other partner program that may be appropriate for Employer Meeting. Meetings should be held in-person when possible.

## **Local IowaWORKS Process for Non-WARN**

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1. Local LRRTL makes contact with company to make them aware of Rapid Response, gather information on dislocation, and set Employer Meeting.
2. LRRTL will notify the MVWDB who will contact the IWD Program Coordinator to enter the information in Iowa*WORKS* to generate the Rapid Response Number.
3. LRRTL will document in Iowa*WORKS* under the Business Profile with Service E-11 Provided Rapid Response/Business Downsizing Assistance.
4. LRRTL will enter information on Local Layoff Rapid Response (new form).
5. LRRTL will send calendar invite to local Rapid Response Team, MVWDB, Trade Coordinator, and any other partner program that may be appropriate for Employer Meeting.

### **Employer Meetings**

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1. Send the Iowa*WORKS* website to company contact to distribute to workers to register and complete the Dislocated Worker Survey. (Ideally the surveys will be completed prior to the WIM).
2. Gather information about the workforce and the potential needs.
  - Layoff Plans and schedule.
  - Background and possible assistance needed for workers.
  - Re-employment prospects.
  - Available resources through business.
  - TAA eligibility.
  - Planning and delivery of other services such as workshops or job fairs.
3. Explain WIOA services.
4. Set Worker Information Meeting (WIM) by determining the best approach to deliver necessary resources and services.

### **Employer Information Meeting**

The purpose of the Employer Information Meeting is to gather more detailed information about the pending layoff, demographics of the affected workforce and the types of services that the business and impacted workers will need. This information gathering typically happens through direct discussion with the employer. A Rapid Response Employer Questionnaire can be found in the Appendix of this policy as an outline for information to gather. The Employer Information Meeting is also an opportunity to introduce the employer to the Dislocated Worker Survey. The LRRTL requests a list of the impacted workers emails to send survey to or ask that the employer sends this survey to workers impacted by the pending layoff.

The survey includes questions regarding the workers' education, experience, work history and interest in services available through the public workforce system. The results of the Survey help the RLRRTL understand the needs of the impacted workers to appropriately design the Worker Information Meeting as well as plan

service delivery going forward. In fact, one of the key objectives of the Employer Information Meeting is a commitment from the employer to send out the Survey to appropriate workers.

The Employer Information Meeting is also a time to gather information on payout options to employees. Ask the employer for an unsigned template of the agreement workers are required to sign in order to get their payout/benefits. If the company can provide a document, it is forwarded to the IWD Legal team so they can issue interpretation. Companies will usually require an email request. The email can be worded as followed:

*It would be helpful to understand payout arrangements for workers to make sure we know how the pay will/could impact their unemployment insurance. We would request from the company, a copy of a template letter employees are expected to sign which communicates the stipulations/expectations to receive a payout after the last day of work. It doesn't have to be signed by any employee, only a copy of an agreement. The Iowa Workforce Development Unemployment legal team will then determine if the pay is considered deductible or nondeductible from their unemployment. This helps with consistency of communication when explaining the unemployment to workers at the meeting.*

No details of the downsizing or closure is shared with the media. It is the discretion of the company to do so. The Rapid Response Employer Information Meeting is confidential.

Attendees for the Employer Information Meeting should include from the LRRT the following individuals:

- LRRTL
- Title I Director or Designee
- IWD Operations Manager
- Trade Program Coordinator

Employer Information Meetings may happen in person, virtually, or via a telephone call. The LRRTL should send a calendar invite to all necessary attendees, including the employer and Union Representative (if applicable). The LRRTL will function as the lead in the meeting. A sample agenda for an Employer Information Meeting is contained in Appendix II.

Information gained via the Employer Information Meeting should inform the Rapid Response Service Delivery Plan which is included in the Appendix to this policy.



## Service Delivery

Using the Rapid Response Service Delivery Plan document in this policy to guide discussion between partners, the LRRTL ensures that a plan is delivered to meet the needs of the affected workers. Services for the affected workers are divided into two categories: standard and expanded.

Standard Services are provided at the Worker Information Meeting. Based on the needs of the affected workers, Expanded Services may also be provided at the Worker Information Meeting.

### Standard Services

#### Provision of information regarding:

- Unemployment Insurance
- Training Services
- Career Services
- Insurance and retirement
  - COBRA- USDOL Employment Benefit Security Administration
- Trade Adjustment Assistance
- Adult Education- based on need
- Vocational Rehabilitation- based on need
- Outline next steps for affected workers
  - Schedule appointment with Career Planner, etc.
  - Trade Navigator or Career Planner may set up Office Hours at company location

### Expanded Services

Expanded Services includes the Standard Services plus additional activities developed and/or organized specifically for the affected workers of a specific dislocation event. Expanded Services can be delivered at the same event as the Worker Information Meeting(s) or at a different date, time, and location.

Examples of Expanded Services include, but are not limited to:

- Job Fair (can be provided in multiple formats: in-person, virtual, drive-through)
- Workshops
  - Resume writing
  - Interview Skills
  - Money Management

Rapid Response services (Standard and Expanded) are one on-ramp or entry point for an affected worker to access the myriad of services available to dislocated workers in the Iowa*WORKS* system.

## Setting WIM

The Worker Information Meetings (WIM) must be tracked in IowaWORKS. The local LRRRTL will decide who on the team will document the WIM in IowaWORKS. The LRRRTL will oversee all necessary reporting in IowaWORKS is completed. Once the LRRRTL has determined the date and time of the WIM, the following steps must occur:

Event Category: Rapid Response.

RR Events: search for RR event number.

Location Type: On Site Event, Off Site Event, or Online Event.

### Register attendees for WIM

Result WIM within 48 hours of completing the WIM assigning those who attended with the 110- Attended a Rapid Response Worker Information Meeting service

## Worker Information Meetings (WIM)

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1. Rapid Response teams will work with the affected workers to provide important information and services that enhance re-employment opportunities, including but not limited to:
  - Career counseling and job search assistance.
  - Resume preparation and reemployment-focused workshops.
  - Unemployment insurance benefits.
  - Information about education and training opportunities.
  - TAA overview.
  - Information on the impact of layoffs on health coverage and other benefits.
  - Partner resources.
  - Gather any Dislocated Workers Survey's that were not completed.

*Equal Opportunity Programs/Employer – Auxiliary aids and services available upon request for individuals with disabilities*

**Categorization of Rapid Response Activities**  
**Title 20 CFR Section 682.330**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Required</b>	<b>Allowable</b>	<b>Prohibited</b>
Conducting planning meeting with employer	X		
Assessing layoff aversion potential	X		
Conducting orientation meeting with employees	X		
Providing TAA orientation	X		
Delivering/mailing Rapid Response informational materials	X		
Providing access to Iowa <i>WORKS</i> on-site, using company's or mobile facility	X		
Enabling participants to register with Iowa <i>WORKS</i> onsite	X		
Job fair or information expo focused on one or more dislocation events, at or not at the dislocation site	X		
Coordinating Labor-Management/Workforce Transition Committee	X		
Providing information about services available in the AJC and setting up systems to provide on-site access to information and services	X		
Providing training orientation on industry specific opportunities	X		
Providing resources for food, shelter, clothing, and other emergency assistance	X		
Conducting Business Engagement Activities	X		
Conducting Research on Business Activities	X		
Devising layoff aversion strategies with employer	X		
Providing layoff aversion technical assistance to employer	X		
Conducting business services workshops	X		
Training affected workers to upgrade skills for another position in company	X		
Attending Regional Roundtable		X	
Attending conferences		X	
Conducting interview technique workshops		X	
Conducting job search assistance and resume writing workshops		X	
Completing Unemployment Insurance applications			X
Job fair or information expo not related to a dislocation event			X

## Appendix II- Employer Information Meeting Sample Agenda

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### IowaWORKS/Employer X Information Gathering Meeting

iv. Month Day, Year

2. Introductions
  - a. Employer introduces representatives
  - b. Local Rapid Response Team introduces members and functions
3. Meeting purpose
  - a. Learn more about the employer, their situation and workforce to develop a strategy for providing services and support for both the company and their impacted workers
4. Brief Rapid Response overview
  - a. Program is federally funded and no cost to employer or dislocated worker
  - b. Services can be accessed up to 6 months prior to layoff
  - c. Types of services available to businesses and impacted workers
  - d. Benefits to employers and impacted workers:
    - i. On-site workshops designed to meet the employer's needs
    - ii. If employer is using outplacement firm, program can complement their services
    - iii. Encourage employees to continue to work until layoff date (reduce attrition)
5. Discovery discussion
  - a. Challenges and circumstances causing layoff
    - i. Is there any support that could help prevent the layoff?
  - b. Dates for layoffs, numbers of workers, their occupations, skill levels, etc.
  - c. Primary or secondary competitors (for potential rapid reemployment)
6. Transitioning Worker Success Survey
  - a. Purpose of survey
  - b. Timing and process for survey implementation
  - c. How the data collected will be used
7. Worker Information Meeting
  - a. Benefits
    - i. Early intervention to help employees be prepared for career transition before layoff
  - b. Timing and location
  - c. Provide sample agenda
8. Next steps

## Appendix IV- Rapid Response Service Delivery Plan

<b>Company Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Contact Person/ Information</b>	
<b>Description of company</b>	
<b>Trade petition filed or certified</b>	
<b>Layoff Details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Number of affected workers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Anticipated layoff date(s)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Types of positions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li> </ul>	
<b>Demographics of affected workforce</b>	
<b>Summary of transferable skills of affected workers</b>	
<b>Companies in the area needing similar skills</b>	
<b>Workforce Information Meeting(s)</b>	
<b>Date(s)</b>	
<b>Time(s)</b>	
<b>Location</b>	
<b>Partners to attend</b>	
<b>Standard or Expanded? If expanded, provide description.</b>	
<b>Is additional funding needed to provide Expanded Services? If yes, please describe.</b>	
<b>TAA next steps</b>	

**Appendix VI- Rapid Response Employer Questionnaire**

**Rapid Response Planning- Employer Questionnaire**

**Company Name:**

<b>Layoff Basics</b>	
<b>Primary Contact/Title</b>	
<b>Date/s of planned layoff:</b>	
<b>Number laid off on each date:</b>	
<b>Shifts/worker hours of impacted workers:</b>	
<b>If applicable, union name and union contact information:</b>	
<b>Number of union employees:</b> <b>Number of non-union employees:</b> <b>Number with bumping right:</b>	
<b>Reason for layoff or closing:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Business slowdown <input type="checkbox"/> Relocation <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign trade/completion <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Disaster <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy <input type="checkbox"/> Takeover <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidation <input type="checkbox"/> Buy out <input type="checkbox"/> Automation <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<b>Affiliated companies affected by layoff:</b>  (security, trucking, janitorial, cafeteria, etc.)	
<b>Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Funding</b>	

***IWD will pursue Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) funding from the Department of Labor (DOL), as much as possible, to assist the dislocated worker group. The cooperation in answering questions will help the workers***

***access additional benefits to help them transition. TAA Program Coordinators will gather more details from employers in conjunction with this survey.***

<p><b>Is the company headquarters in the US?</b></p> <p><b>Are there any international branches, subsidiaries, or parent companies located outside the US?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Are the positions being eliminated relocating elsewhere to be performed by other individuals? If so, where will they be located too, and do current employees have the option to apply for those positions?</b></p>	
<p><b>Are these layoffs necessary due to part or whole to decreases in sales due to global completion?</b></p>	
<p><b>Are the layoffs necessary due to part of whole to decreases in sales due to global competition?</b></p>	
<p><b>Influence to lines of service, distribution, supply/supply chain management contracts, and production; either directly or indirectly, due to foreign partnerships/business/trade:</b></p>	
<p><b>Transfers of business lines or production to another location, if applicable- specific area:</b></p>	
<p><b>Worker Demographics</b></p>	
<p><b>Counties/State that most employees live in:</b></p>	

<b>Total Number of employees:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workers affected:    Males    Females</li> <li>- Temporary:</li> <li>- On contract:</li> <li>- Retiring:</li> <li>- Transfers/relocate:</li> <li>- Absorbed by new company:</li> <li>- Still in school:</li> <li>- Confirmed other employment:</li> </ul>
<b>Language barriers: (will we need an interpreter for meetings, workshops, etc.)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Language:
<b>Physical/Mental Disabilities: (Technology accommodations needed)</b>	
<b>Average age of workforce:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Any over 50 that may find age a barrier?</li> <li>- How many, if any, do you anticipate will retire?</li> </ul>
<b>Average length of services:</b>	
<b>Minimum education level:</b>	
<b>General categories of occupations and skill level of workforce:</b>	
<b>Average Wage:</b>	
<b>Planned Benefits</b>	
<b>Existing company sponsored training programs, either on or off site:</b>	
<b>Severance pay contingencies and stipulations:</b>	



<b>Medical package:</b>	
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<b>Additional benefits offered by company: (bonus, vacation payout, etc.)</b>	
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<b>Outplacement- Name of organization</b>	
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<b>Worker Information Meetings:</b>	
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<b>Facilities on site for employee meetings:</b>	
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<b>Employees allowed to attend during work hours:</b>	
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<b>Number of meetings preferred to accommodate shifts:</b>	
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<b>Media Contact</b>	
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<b>Who is the corporate representative responsible to answer questions by the media?</b>	
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<b>What resources and services would assist the transitioning workforce prior to their layoff date?</b>	
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<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Job Fair</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Job Search</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Resume writing</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Money Management</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Interviewing Skills</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other:</b>

# Business Service Updates



# Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

## Business Service Report

<b>Business Services Monthly Report January 1 - 31, 2024</b>	<b>Burlington</b>	<b>Davenport</b>
<b>Number of Businesses Served</b>	261	223
<b>Number of New Business Contacts</b>	32	25
<b>Business Referrals Made</b>	0	0
<b>Assisted Employer with Accessing Untapped Labor Pools</b>	11	13
<b>Continued Employer Engagement</b>	35	25
<b>Employers view internal resumes</b>	92	126
<b>Notification to Employer of Potential Applicant</b>	0	0
<b>Notification to Employer of Resumes via Virtual Recruiter</b>	0	31
<b>Provided Candidate Pre-Screening</b>	0	0
<b>Provided Employer Information and Support Services</b>	72	32
<b>Provided Job Fair Services</b>	23	8
<b>Provided Job Order Follow-up/Assistance</b>	11	3
<b>Provided Rapid Response / Business Downsizing Assistance</b>	0	1
<b>Planned Layoff Response</b>	0	0
<b>Provided Strategic Planning/Economic Development Activities</b>	0	0
<b>Provided Training Services</b>	0	1
<b>Provided Workforce Recruitment Assistance</b>	36	6
<b>Referred Qualified Applicants</b>	0	5
<b>Registered Apprenticeship</b>		
<b>Registered Apprenticeship Intro Meeting</b>	1	0
<b>Handoff to Office of Apprenticeship</b>	0	1
<b>In-Depth Meeting</b>	0	0
<b>Program Registered</b>	0	1

## **Burlington**

- Hire Talent Tuesday was held off-site at the Quality Inn in Fort Madison and was attended by 23 employers and 98 job seekers!
- USDA held two hiring events at the Burlington center on 1/24 and 1/25, and provided training to the Burlington center staff about federal jobs and government resumes.

## **Davenport**

- Members from the Business Service Team toured SSAB in Muscatine on 1/11 and each had an opportunity to provide a brief overview of their services.
- “Leap Into Inclusion” Lunch & Learn event will be held at the Davenport center on 2/29 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Employers can register to attend at <https://forms.office.com/r/vCMZzC77JZ>

## **Other/Successes**

- We have our first approved SkillBridge in Davenport! Michelle’s Vocational Placement, LLC has been approved for job coaches.
- Tracie Timmerman, our Local Veteran’s Employment Representative, will also be presenting about SkillBridge at the Quarterly Advanced Manufacturing Sector Board meeting.
- Tyler attended a meeting with EICC, Grow Clinton, and HOBO Renewable Diesel about their planned expansion into Clinton.
- EconoVue Demo scheduled on March 8, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. with chambers and economic development partners. If you are interested in part
- 9 work-based learning placements started in January between Davenport and Burlington!

## **Rapid Response**

- One Rapid Response activity was entered for a business, but was entered by state level staff. We have not received any WARN notices in January at the local level.