



When business conditions necessitate layoffs, the Maine Department of Labor's Rapid Response program may be a useful service to your organization. Should the need arise to lay off personnel, please be aware of our availability to assist you through a difficult process.

Normally the Rapid Response program offers on-site informational sessions to workers facing job loss. Given the current recommendation of limiting public contact, we are available to hold call-in meetings, skype sessions and mail information to dislocated workers. The goal of these sessions is to ease the transition by presenting up to date information about a variety of state and local resources. Over the years, we've met with thousands of workers in virtually every segment of the workforce. Whenever layoffs involve union members, we coordinate our efforts with the Maine AFL-CIO.

During the Rapid Response presentation, we focus on three primary topics:

- Unemployment Compensation...how to file a claim, what to expect from the state, and what obligations the individual must fulfill.*
- CareerCenter Services...we discuss opportunities for reemployment and training for a new job.*
- Health Care/Insurance...what options are out there and how to access what's available.*

In addition, we offer workers a copy of Transitions Resource Guide to Restarting Your Career which is a 35, page guide to services available.

When layoffs are the result of trade issues, we can help company officials file a Trade Act petition as well as a briefing to affected workers on Trade Act benefits.

Layoffs are difficult for all involved. Experience suggests that the Maine Department of Labor's Rapid Response program should be included in any layoff planning.

Should the need arise I'm available to speak with you and your colleagues to discuss Rapid Response services or to facilitate a Rapid Response informational session.

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Maine CareerCenters provide equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.