



1E Rapid Response Funding, Strategies & Examples

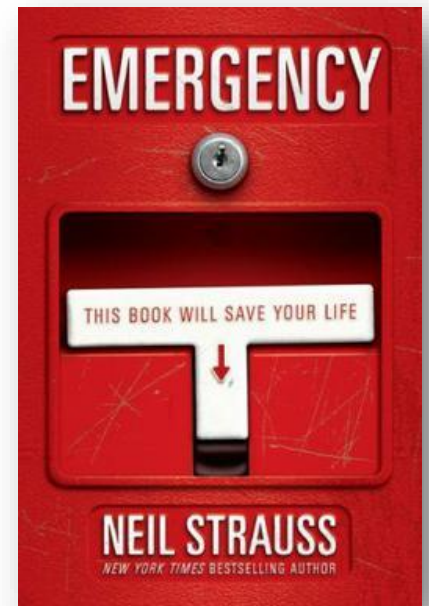
October 23, 2024

AGENDA

- Part I – 1E Rapid Response Grants
- Part II – Policy & Funding Notice
- Part III- National Dislocated Worker Grants
- Part IV – Strategies & Examples

RAPID RESPONSE – IE FUNDS

- Rapid Response promotes economic recovery by developing a comprehensive approach to identifying, planning for, or responding to layoffs and dislocations, and preventing or minimizing their impacts on workers, businesses, and communities.
- WIOA offers significant flexibility with regard to the use of Rapid Response funds.
- In order to conduct layoff aversion activities or to respond to dislocation events, Rapid Response providers may devise additional strategies or conduct activities to minimize the negative impacts of dislocation on workers, businesses, and communities and to ensure that workers impacted by layoffs are able to be reemployed as quickly as possible.





WIOA ePolicy – Rapid Response 1E

Chapter 6 Section 2

- DCEO-OET Policy [WIOA Rapid Response \(1E\) Grant Funds](#)
 - Program Eligibility
 - Application Submission Process
 - Grant Modification Requests
 - Grant Reporting Requirements
 - De-Obligation for Under-Expenditure of Funds
 - Grant Performance Measures



WIOA NOTICE 20-NOT-04

- The Department identified \$2-4 million in Statewide Rapid Response funds to support 1E projects. LWIBs are encouraged to work with regional partners to streamline the management of projects located in multiple workforce areas.
- The 1E grant application instructions and application are provided in WIOA Notice 20-NOT-04.
- LWIBs must utilize the funds to support dislocated workers, rapid response, and layoff aversion activities. Requests must be reasonable, necessary, and directly related to the purpose of the notice.

STRATEGIES

Strategies to Rapidly Connect Job Seekers to Work



- Increase Outreach Activities
- Increase Capacity for Online Services and Training
 - Training Program: Flexible Online Training Design
 - Supplies: Computers / Tablets / Devices
 - Services: Broadband Service
- Align Workforce Programs with Job Seekers' Immediate Needs
- Adjust Physical Service Delivery Options
- Adapt Work-Based Learning Opportunities

STRATEGIES

Strategies to Expand Supportive Services

- Train career planners to be “resource coordinators” that help customers navigate the identified supportive services that are available from all workforce and human service programs.
- Expand childcare options, especially for workers, by exploring flexibility in eligibility for public funds and WIOA supportive services.
- Expand transportation allowances for individuals seeking alternative transportation to work and training.

STRATEGIES

Strategies to Support Workers in Targeted Industries

- Implement pilot programs that help restore employment opportunities.
- Provide comprehensive assessments to identify transferable skills to connect job seekers with alternative career pathways.
- Offer supply chain management training.



Example:

Northern Stateline Automotive Industry

The idling of the Belvidere Assembly Plant (LWIA 3) has significantly impacted the local economy, affecting suppliers and other businesses.

Between December 2018 and February 2023, over 5,362 jobs were lost leading up to the plant's idling.

IE funding for LWIA 3 helped:

- Address workforce reductions in the automotive sector.
- Provide 8 pre-layoff workshops, 36+ Rapid Response workshops, and 6 **Trade Rapid Response workshops**.
- Facilitate 5+ targeted hiring events (w/ comparative wages) and education/resource fairs.
- Issue training accounts and work-based learning opportunities for upskilling.



STRATEGIES

Strategies to Support Employers

- Business Engagement to connect employers to their immediate needs including, but not limited to, OSHA and Public Health information, referrals to small business experts and workforce strategies.
- **Incumbent Worker Training projects to help upskill and retain the existing workforce.**
- Expand Apprenticeships and On-the-Job Training to place new workers in businesses.

STRATEGIES

Strategies to Support Employers (Cont'd)



- Convene with industry leaders in key sectors to identify the immediate needs, identify solutions from workforce education and economic development partners – industry sector partnership activities.
- Fund other Layoff Aversion Activities, as appropriate and allowable.



Example: Investment in Technology to Address Language Barriers

- 1E Rapid Response funds can be utilized to purchase handheld translation devices.
- These devices can be valuable tools in Rapid Response events, providing immediate support and reducing language barriers.
- Local Areas can procure these devices through their respective processes.



Example: Sector Recruitment Specialist (SRS)

- Temporary position funded by 1E grant.
- Ideally an individual from the dislocating business or industry.
- Develops knowledge on available programs and services that impacted workers can access to assist in their transition to new jobs.
- Collaborates with the Local Workforce Area and DCEO to customize local recruitment strategy and communication to impacted workers utilizing direct phone, email , text, social media contact.
- Value-added approach to increase engagement in dislocated worker program. Industry/employer knowledge of SRS will enhance relationship between the SRS and impacted worker.



Example: Dislocated Worker Transition Centers

- 1E Rapid Response funds can be utilized to establish and support transition centers
- Staffed by partner agency personnel from the American Job Center, including 1E Sector Recruitment Specialists
- Can be located on-site at dislocating employer and/or off-site
- Purpose is to provide timely, easily accessible, focused reemployment services to impacted workers – “mini-AJC”
- Transition Centers at Maytag (2006) and Mitsubishi (2015)

Transition Centers: Maytag & Mitsubishi

- Maytag, Herrin
 - 1,000 employees impacted
 - Transition centers on-site/off-site
 - Served 843 people
- Mitsubishi, Normal
 - 1,200 employees impacted
 - Transition centers on-site/off-site
 - Served 427 people



NDWG- QUEST Work Crews

New Arrival Perona: Maribel Sanchez



May 2022 - Maribel, a former lawyer and public defender, fled from Colombia and found asylum in Chicago. In 2023, Maribel and her family sought out TPS/EAD and other supportive services.

January 2024 - Maribel received her US work permit and began looking for work yet was having trouble securing a job interview.

February 2024 - Maribel met with a Career Pathway Navigator at the New Arrivals Resource Fair on February 14th. The Navigator introduced her and referred her to an American Job Center for work readiness services. Maribel interviewed in March for a NDWG QUEST funded staff position.

April 2024 - Maribel was hired to be part of the QUEST Team. She reconnected with the Navigator team and was onboarded as Community Outreach staff.

May 2024—Maribel engages with New Arrivals at legal processing workshops, AJCs, and community-wide events and provides resource follow-up with TPS/EAD recipients. Maribel is exploring a legal career pathway with the Immigrant Justice Leadership Academy provided by The Resurrection Project.

“It is great to experience the outreach work that I do and how this country encourages us to help each other out.” - Maribel Sanchez.



STRATEGY RESOURCES

Labor Market Information:

Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) clearinghouse of Labor Market Information.

https://www2.illinois.gov/ides/lmi/Pages/Data_Statistics.aspx

Illinois Employment Business System (IEBS) as an economic impact tool and resource to address layoff aversion.

<https://www.illinoisworknet.com/iebs>

Toolkits:

Layoff Aversion Intervention Activities

[WorkforceGPS - The Intervention Timeline](#)

Rapid Response Regulations: Layoff Aversion Strategies & Activities

[WorkforceGPS - Rapid Response Regulations Series #6: Layoff Aversion Strategies & Activities](#)

WIOA Rapid Response Allowable Activities GPS

[SearchWorkforceGPS - Rapid Response Regulations Series #8: Allowable Activities](#)

