



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

**News Release**

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GOVERNOR

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**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACTIVATES  
RAPID RESPONSE TEAM TO ASSIST FURLOUGHED HAWAI'I  
SUPERFERRY WORKERS**

HONOLULU - The Hawai'i Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) announced that it has activated its Rapid Response Team to assist the 249 Hawai'i Superferry employees who were furloughed today. The Rapid Response Team is composed of staff from the DLIR's Workforce Development Division and the Unemployment Insurance Division. Officials from the DLIR will be contacting the Hawai'i Superferry's management to determine where and when the Rapid Response Team will meet with the furloughed workers. The affected employees are from O'ahu, Maui, and Kaua'i.

The Rapid Response team will provide an array of services for these dislocated workers, including skills assessment, individual counseling, career planning, employment development, occupational skills training, on-the-job training, entrepreneurial training, job-readiness training and adult education. Participants may also be provided training in high-demand industries to include health care, construction and commercial truck driving. Project participants may also

receive out-of-area job search assistance, relocation assistance and other related supportive services. Support services may include childcare, transportation assistance and job related certifications, uniforms and equipment.

"The Administration is working diligently to ensure that these workers are given every possible opportunity to find meaningful employment and to have the ability to provide for themselves and their families during this uncertain time," said Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

DLIR activated similar Rapid Response Teams to assist with employees who were laid off by Del Monte on O'ahu and Maui Land and Pineapple on Maui.

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Enclosure (1)

## ENCLOSURE

Services provided by the DLIR's Rapid Response team include the following:

- A. Skills assessment
- B. Individual counseling
- C. Career planning
- D. Employment development
- E. Occupational skills training
- F. On-the-job training
- G. Entrepreneurial training
- H. Job-readiness training and adult education.

Those that qualify may also be provided training in high-demand industries to include health care, construction and commercial truck driving. Project participants may also receive out-of-area job search assistance, relocation assistance and other related supportive services. Support services may include childcare, transportation assistance and job related certifications, uniforms and equipment.