

HRDI

Michigan



The HRDI Peer-to-Peer Program is designed to enhance the ability of dislocated workers to regain and retain employment. This will be done by maximizing participation levels in workforce development programs and services, assessing individual needs and addressing other underlying, and oftentimes complicated, problems which prevent the successful transition of a dislocated worker to a new job. HRDI will train Peer counselors generally on released time. The training will prepare Peers to help other workers cope with the emotional and social trauma of job loss and provide workers with accurate information about employment and training services provided by the MWA's; link them firmly to the dislocated worker program; and make referrals to the United Way Community Services and other local resources. These trained Peers bring their knowledge directly to the shop and office floors where affected workers have immediate access to the information.

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PEER NETWORKING

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Michigan State AFL-CIO Human Resources Development, Inc. (M-HRDI) is a private non-profit (501C3) corporation established and operated to provide employment and training services to unemployed Michigan residents. HRDI has successfully operated publicly funded employment and training projects in Michigan for over twenty years. HRDI's primary source of support is the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) which makes funds available through the State of Michigan and local Michigan Works agencies to provide job training, job placement and related services to displaced workers, economically disadvantaged youth and adults and welfare recipients.

Michigan HRDI contracts with these entities to provide direct services to eligible Michigan residents.

MICHIGAN

Michigan HRDI has one major statewide dislocated worker contract with the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth and local contracts with eight Michigan Works Agencies.

Under these contracts, HRDI provides employment and training services to dislocated workers, economically disadvantaged youth and adults, and welfare recipients. In some areas HRDI also manages and operates Michigan Works one-stop Service Centers.

Michigan HRDI has staff statewide. In addition to its direct service activities, Michigan HRDI works with state and local workforce agency staff and labor organizations to develop programs or to assist unions with services for their displaced workers in cases of lay-offs or facility or plant closures.

HRDI also provides information and technical assistance to the Workforce Development Board Labor Representatives upon request.

The HRDI Southwest Detroit Worker Center is a neighborhood resource center for all workers in Southwest Detroit. The staff and volunteers provide English as a second language class, four days a week and Spanish class, twice a week. Safety classes are provided weekly for workers. Staff assist workers to take advantage of the workforce development programs and services, assessing individual needs and addressing other underlying, and oftentimes complicated problems, which prevent them from finding employment. Additionally, staff provides services to workers who have become victims of employers who do not obey employment laws. Sometimes these problems can be handled in-house and workers are made whole for their losses. Other times staff engage legal services to assist the workers.

Southwest Detroit Worker Center