



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact:  
Sandra Powell (401) 462-8803  
Dislocated Worker Unit

## **\$625,000 Grant Awarded to Assist Displaced Workers**

CRANSTON – The Department of Labor and Training has been awarded a National Emergency Grant (NEG) of \$625,000 from the U.S. Department of Labor to support Rhode Islanders who will lose their jobs because of layoffs or company closings. Director Adelita S. Orefice said, “This grant represents significant support for Rhode Island. These funds will go a long way toward helping us to get people back to work.”

National Emergency Grants are discretionary funds, which are used for the retraining and reemployment of dislocated workers. Nearly 660 workers from four companies have already lost or will lose their jobs by August 2004, including Cranston Logistics LLC and Swarovski North America in Cranston, Boston Financial Corporation in Providence, and Sun Life Financial in Lincoln. It is anticipated that 150 of these workers will make use of the services available at the Department of Labor and Training’s netWORKri Career Centers, including job search assistance, skills assessment, training, and employment counseling. The Department was awarded a combined \$420,000 in NEGs for our customers in 2003.

There are six netWORKri Career Centers across the state ready to assist any job seeker, whether the goal is a first job, a better job, or a career change. Customers can access a resource library, personal computers, the Internet, fax and copy machines at no charge to help in their job search or participate in peer support groups and networking sessions. For more information, call 1-888-616-JOBS.

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*The Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training offers a wide array of employment and training services to both the general public and to individuals with unusual barriers to employment. DLT is ready to assist any job seeker, whether the goal is a first job, a better job, or a career change. Rhode Island’s work force is protected through the enforcement of labor laws, prevailing wage rates, and work place health and safety standards. Temporary income support is available to unemployed, sick, or injured workers and a comprehensive rehabilitation program is available to those injured on the job.*

*DLT is dedicated to the growth and competitiveness of Rhode Island industry, administering a variety of training grants, tax credits, and apprenticeship programs to help employers. Economic indicators and labor market information are available for long-range planning. The Agency engages in active outreach, helping large and small employers retain their best workers or retrain their existing work force. At no cost to the employer, DLT will also screen job applicants, post job vacancies, and help businesses institute cost-sharing programs that can avert layoffs.*

*For more information on the innovative programs and services available to all Rhode Islanders at the Department of Labor and Training, please call (401) 462-8000 or visit the web site at [www.dlt.ri.gov](http://www.dlt.ri.gov).*

*Equal Opportunity Employer  
Auxiliary aids and services are available up on request to individuals with disabilities  
TDD (401) 462-8006*

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Marketing/Communications • 1511 Pontiac Avenue • Cranston, RI 02920  
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Governor Donald L. Carcieri  Director Adelita S. Orefice