

Section VIII. RAPID-RESPONSE COORDINATION

Describe how the local board will coordinate workforce development activities carried out in the local area with **statewide rapid response activities**, as described in section 134(a)(2)(A) of the Act.ⁱⁱ

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Rapid Response Team assists both employers and workers involved in a closing or permanent mass layoff. Rapid Response provides on-site assistance during regular employer business working hours at no cost. Services provided by this team include:

- Unemployment Insurance
 - Explanation of benefits and eligibility requirements
 - Assistance in filing claims

- Reemployment Services
 - Referrals to available jobs
 - American Job Center Registration
 - Labor Market Information
 - Referral to Jersey Job Club
 - Resume Development

- Training Assistance
 - Introduction to state and federal retraining programs

Additional Customized Services can be provided in the following areas:

- Help with job solicitation campaigns
- Targeted Job Fair assistance
- Completion of Registration Forms
- Help in deciphering federal/state plant closing requirements.

Coordination with American Job Centers

Union County American Job Centers accompany the State to WARN services to employers, thereby providing more seamless worker transition into a public workforce system. In many cases, it has been the local American Job Center that has been contacted before Federal and State mandatory layoff notification.

The Business Services Specialists too are often aware of the local businesses who are experiencing potential layoffs and, consequently, advise, and connect with the Rapid Response team.