



N E W S R E L E A S E

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**State grant for \$1,656,735 to retrain laid off farm  
workers  
in Central Valley Counties**

**SACRAMENTO** - A \$1,656,735 grant from the state Employment Development Department (EDD) will assist in retraining 255 jobless farm workers with no prospects for other seasonal work in promising new careers.

The agricultural industry was hit extremely hard by the recession and its probabilities for a speedy recovery are slower than other industries. This funding will equip these workers with the tools needed to quickly move forward with their lives and into a broader array of job possibilities in a region impacted by high unemployment and poverty.

The grant was awarded to La Cooperativa Campesina de California to provide employment and retraining services to migrant and seasonal farm workers residing throughout the Central Valley. Training in the green efficient and renewable energy sector will develop and raise the affected workers' occupational skills to compete for new and future job opportunities.

Funding for the program is drawn from the Governor's 25 percent portion of Dislocated Worker Funds, Title I of the Workforce Investment Act, and is under the administrative authority of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency's EDD.

For more information about this project, please contact Marco Lizarraga, La Cooperativa Campesina de California, at (916) 388-2220.

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