



June 29, 2015

Testimonial: Raybern's Foods

In January 2015 Raybern's Foods announced the closure of two of its California facilities. The company was relocating to a larger and more modern facility in another state. Approximately 160 production and management workers would lose their jobs by the end of May.

The good news was, with 6 months advanced notice, we were able to plan and implement a smooth transition for our employees.

Because the facilities were in two different cities the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board (ACWIB) and the Oakland Private Industry Council (OPIC) partnered together and sprang into action to provide assistance that helped mitigate the impact of job loss. The ACWIB and OPIC brought in experts on unemployment insurance; resume writing; job skills training, COBRA, Affordable Care Act (ACA); pension benefits; and representatives from the One Stop Career Centers for job search assistance.

Most importantly, they recruited 9 different food production employers who had a demand for similar skills and held two job fairs on-site to introduce our talent pool to potential new employers. This was a tremendous boost for our employees. Potential employers were able to interview job seekers on the spot with little or no disruption to our production activities.

Importantly, these invaluable services were performed at no cost to us. Workers stayed on the job until close of business and then moved into new jobs with little or no down time. I cannot thank both agencies enough for all their hard work and effort in helping us through this difficult transition. Their professional staff led us step-by-step through the process making this a successful endeavor for Raybern's.