

LEAP

Labor Employment Action Project



Job retention, layoff, and plant closing assistance for unions and their members, provided by the New Jersey State AFL-CIO in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development.

NEW JERSEY STATE AFL-CIO COMMUNITY SERVICES

1389 Broad Street
Clifton, NJ 07013
(973) 614-0049
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Message from the New Jersey State AFL-CIO

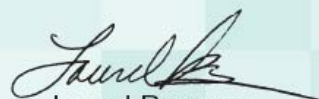


“The NJ State AFL-CIO is committed to maintaining and expanding union jobs in our state. There is nothing more difficult than to see our members lose jobs due to layoffs or plant closings.

The NJ State AFL-CIO in partnership with the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development has developed the innovative LEAP program to enable our affiliates and members to be pro-active when faced with the threat of layoffs or plant closings. Hundreds of union leaders and members statewide have participated in LEAP training, and thousands of union members have benefited from the assistance Peer Counselors provide.

All unions are encouraged to participate in the valuable education and training opportunities provided by LEAP, and to contact the NJ State AFL-CIO for any other assistance.


Charles Wowkanech
President


Laurel Brennan
Secretary-Treasurer

LEAP Training enables participants to:

1. Reinforce benefit of union membership;
2. Establish trust and reduce isolation;
3. Provide positive role models;
4. Reduce stress, build self-esteem, develop new coping strategies, and restore hope;
5. Provide information, advocacy and referrals to community services and the NJ State AFL-CIO Community Services Network;
6. Provide essential advocacy for members who are older, less educated or with health problems;
7. Maximize members' willingness to take advantage of available services.

To register for a LEAP Course, schedule LEAP services, or for information contact:

Nancy Miller, LEAP Coordinator
NJ State AFL-CIO CSA
1389 Broad Street
Clifton, NJ 07013
(973) 614-0049 or
nmiller@njaficio.org

* There is no charge for any LEAP service.

LEAP Course Outline

- Early warning signs of layoffs and plant closings;
- Job Retention Strategies and Services;
- Effective use of the New Jersey Labor & Workforce Development (LWD) Rapid Response Team;
- Worker Advocacy within the New Jersey LWD system of services: basic skills, resume assistance, job search, education and training programs;
- Resume preparation through dislocated worker skills assessment;
- Site visits to New Jersey's One-Stop Re-employment Career Centers;
- Dislocated worker policies, laws and benefits: Warn Act, Trade Adjustment Assistance, and New Jersey Family Care;
- Social and emotional support for laid-off workers through the New Jersey State AFL-CIO Community Services Network;
- Lifelong learning for all workers - Tuition Waivers, Adult Education, ESL, GED, College Credits for Apprenticeship, and the National Labor College.

* **Funds are available to reimburse LEAP training attendees for lost wages.**

Empathy is an Act of Solidarity...



“Our union’s LEAP Peer Counselors assisted the local in our response, and encouraged the members to participate in all the activities and services provided. As difficult as the plant closing was, members felt hopeful and were surprised at how much help was available for them.”

...Union Official on LEAP Experience

LEAP Services

1. Technical assistance & educational material;
2. Presentations & workshops;
3. LEAP Peer Counseling Courses; Courses are held several times a year. They are generic or can be tailored to the specific needs of a union or situation, as can the course location.
4. Referrals to appropriate non-profit, government, and private agencies and programs;