

NEWS



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NOVA WORKFORCE BOARD RECEIVES \$5 MILLION GRANT TO SERVE DISLOCATED WORKERS IN SILICON VALLEY

Sunnyvale, Calif.— Governor Jerry Brown has awarded the NOVA Workforce Board a \$5 million grant to provide employment and training services to dislocated workers in Silicon Valley.

The job seekers who rely on NOVA for assistance are experiencing the worst employment situation in decades, even worse than the dot-com bust of 2002. In program year 2009–10, NOVA's CONNECT! Job Seeker Center received more than 98,000 customer visits, a 20% increase over the previous year and an 87% increase from two years ago.

The grant will enable NOVA to continue the program known as **STAR (Skills Testing • Assessment • Reemployment)**. The **STAR** program provides services for individuals who have been laid off from companies in northern Santa Clara County and need job search assistance to be competitive in the job market.

NOVA director, Kris Stadelman, is pleased the STAR program was chosen as the beneficiary of state funding. "We are stretched to the limits in terms of being able to provide services to the community, and this grant offers NOVA the opportunity to continue to serve Silicon Valley's transitioning workforce," she said.

The STAR grant will operate through March 31, 2012, and plans to serve over 2,000 individuals.

About:

NOVA (North Valley Job Training Consortium) is a nonprofit, federally funded organization dedicated to providing innovative, high-quality, customer-focused workforce development services. NOVA works closely with local businesses, educators and job seekers to ensure that its programs provide opportunities that build the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to address the workforce needs of Silicon Valley. For more information about NOVA, please visit www.novaworks.org.

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