

August 4, 2020

Dear Editor:

The local workforce development board's mission is to put people back to work. When employers lay off workers, we help connect those individuals with career planning assistance and training programs and help guide them to their next role.

Today, we are beginning to see increasing layoffs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will need more resources to serve the newly unemployed; yet the relief bills being negotiated by the White House, Senate and U.S. House of Representatives fail to fully fund job centers and workforce development efforts to the amounts needed to keep this vital system functioning.

Our job centers can be lifelines to get Wisconsinites off unemployment and give them hope. Our region is one of responsible and hard-working individuals who see promise and possibility in each other, but we depend on the financial support from the federal government to fund the work that is needed to shore up our economy. Every dollar invested in workforce programs means fewer dollars needed for unemployment and social services while lifting the unemployed out of poverty.

If you or someone you know has been recently unemployed, if you are a business owner desperate for skilled labor or if you are just someone who cares about your neighbors, contact Senators Baldwin and Johnson and your Representative and demand the next COVID relief bill contains financial support for workforce development.

Sincerely,

Anthony Snyder, CEO

Fox Valley Workforce Development Board

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