



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Communications Office

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DATE: 11/30/2012

SUBJECT: City of Duluth Receives State Grant to Assist Dislocated Georgia Pacific Workers

BY: Daniel Fanning

City of Duluth Receives \$285,000 Grant to Assist Dislocated Georgia Pacific Workers

Mayor Don Ness and Duluth Workforce Development Manager Don Hoag will join former Georgia Pacific (GP) employees at a press conference today, Friday, November 30th, at 11:00 am in the Mayor's Reception Room (Room 405 of Duluth City Hall, 411 West First Street).

Mayor Ness will announce the State of Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) has awarded Duluth a \$285,000 grant from the State Workforce Development Funds. The funds are made available to specifically assist former employees of Georgia Pacific. Georgia Pacific's Duluth Plant closed early fall leaving a workforce of 141 employees out of work. The grant will help the City serve up to 80 dislocated workers who are skilled and experienced but too young to retire and/or need additional training or assistance in order to return to the labor workforce. Financial assistance will also be available for retraining programs. The grant is effective immediately and runs through the end of 2013, with an option to request an extension if needed.

Former employees who are interested in assistance should contact the Workforce Development Center in Duluth by phone (218) 302-8400 or in person by visiting the office at 402 W. 1st Street (Duluth Athletic Club bldg.) Services are free and include one-on-one career counseling and support.

For additional information please contact Workforce Development Manager Don Hoag at (218) 730-5241 or Community Relations Officer Daniel Fanning at (218) 730-5307.