

**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Statewide Distribution**



**For Immediate Release**  
Date: July 29, 2014

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**Iowa Workforce Development Partners with the City of Cherokee  
to Support Tyson Workers**

DES MOINES – Iowa Workforce Development has launched the Rapid Response program to serve the individuals affected by the recent Tyson Foods announcement. The Rapid Response team will provide dedicated services to ensure the employees receive all of the available benefits and have access to important resources for securing future employment.

“Our team of dedicated professionals will work to develop a customized service plan specific to the needs of the individuals affected by the unfortunate event in Cherokee,” stated Iowa Workforce Development Director.

“We greatly appreciate the expedited process that IWD has put forth to serve the community of Cherokee,” said Mayor Mark Murphy. “Launching the assistance at the beginning of the downsizing process will greatly benefit the employees.”

The Rapid Response program provides customized services to the affected individuals with career counseling, access to training and an opportunity to access and certify existing skill sets. This allows the employees to clearly demonstrate their strengths to potential employers.

“The City of Cherokee is coordinating space in the community center for Iowa Workforce Development to staff a temporary office to support the ongoing services offered by the Rapid Response program,” stated City Administrator Donald Eikmeier.

Starting August 6<sup>th</sup>, Iowa Workforce Development will staff the temporary office Wednesday – Friday from 4:00 – 8:00PM and on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 – 2:00PM. The non-traditional hours will allow the affected individuals to receive services at convenient times while still working at Tyson Foods. Additionally, resources are available at local workforce access points at Western Iowa Tech Community College, the Cherokee Public Library and the Marcus Public Library.

Iowa Workforce Development is committed to providing workforce services across the state.

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**An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.  
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