

This networking\outplacement group was established in the fall of 2001. A group of human resource professionals\volunteers came together to assist individuals who had found themselves unemployed and who were interested in developing a network to help locate new employment.

We know that looking for a new job in today's market can be a challenging and difficult time for individuals and their families. Our goal is to help unemployed individuals on this journey by offering our knowledge and expertise in the employment market in the hopes that it will help them in their search for that next opportunity.

Since 2001 we have had over 3000 individuals participate in our meetings. Individuals participating in our group have represented all industries and all types of skill sets, from Presidents of companies to people just entering the work force.

There is no cost to participants for this service and it is open to the public.

Networking with other professionals still proves to be the most effective way to jump-start, build and manage a person's career. Our program offers a unique opportunity in a small group setting to interact with other individuals to:

- Learn new networking and job search strategies
- Expand professional network
- Increase ability to use the Internet effectively in their job search □ Hear about job leads and what's happening in the marketplace □ Get feedback and share ideas, resources and information

As a participant in this meeting, individuals will develop networking and interviewing skills that will more readily help them achieve their career objectives. During the meetings, there is an opportunity to do both open and structured networking and learn ways to increase their networking skills.

Once each month a more formal presentation is offered to participants on topics important to the job search. We invite in speakers to talk about a number of topics or issues that may be relevant to an individual's job search. We also have special workshop programs such as mock interviewing, skills assessment, computer resource training, etc.

Networking and interactive dialog are an integral part of each Wednesday morning meeting. Facilitators are available to review participant's current resumes and answer job search questions.

Meetings are facilitated by individuals who have extensive experience in the areas of recruitment, training, facilitating, entrepreneurship, outplacement and career management.

The Re-Employment Group Networking Meetings have several objectives. These include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. Provide job search assistance and guidance.
2. Establish communications/networking avenues with others who are seeking employment opportunities.
3. Increase job search productivity by structuring and monitoring search activities.
4. Provide assistance and input to resolve job search problems and issues.
5. Provide support; spiritually, emotionally and practically offering positive motivation to all participants.

Our typical meeting may involve participants introducing themselves and describing their experience, including jobs, education/training, skills and abilities. There will be time allotted to ask questions about their job search. Any and all questions are encouraged. We would like to hear a little about each person's marketing plan (i.e. professional objective, geographical area(s) they are concentrating on, and companies/industries that they would be interested in working for.

Other issues that we may address with them about their job search will include but not be limited to:

1. Developing a resume and marketing plan
2. Writing and sending letters
3. Sending out resumes and/or posting them on the internet
4. Number of networking contacts made
5. Number of interviews and with whom
6. Offers received

Participants are encouraged to describe any problems or issues that they may have encountered and would like to have the group discuss. Such topics or issues might include difficult interview questions, what a cover letter should include, how often you should follow up with a company, etc.

Our hope is that participants will meet other individuals who share common work objectives that will allow them to discuss in more detail issues regarding their job function that they may not be able to discuss in a large group setting.

To help participants in their search we have purchased a program with a variety of on-line\web based materials to help them during their transition.

For more information feel free to call any of the following facilitators.

The facilitators are:

Bill Callahan - Bill is the President/CEO of CG Groups, Inc., which is a management consulting firm. He has over 30 years of Human Resource experience with companies such as Sundstrand and Rockford Powertrain. His phone number is (815) 623-5500. wacgrp@aol.com

Karen Fiery – Karen is presently with the Winnebago County as their Manager of Organization Development. She can be contact at kfiery@wincoil.us or (815) 319-4247.

Dave Hammes - has been self-employed for over 30 years and worked for Lee Hecht Harrison for 7 years providing outplacement and career development services. He can be reached at (815) 218-3462 or djhammes@yahoo.com.

Tom McGinniss – Tom has over 30 years manufacturing management experience with a wide variety of companies. He is presently the Operations Process Development Manager for Eclipse Inc. His phone number is 815-218-7316 and his email is mcginniss5@charter.net.

Rich Meyer – Rich has his MBA from Penn State and is presently a Human Resources Business Partner for Deans Foods. His phone number is 717-304-0165 and his email is richmeyerHRmba@gmail.com

Paul Nickel – Paul has over 30 years human resources and recruiting experience. He is presently with McGladery, a public accounting firm as a Regional Human Resource Manager. He can be contacted at pnn0304@hotmail.com or 815-978-7769.

Nancy Perry – Nancy has over 30 years human resource experience with All State Insurance, She is presently a Program Director with Transform Rockford. She can be reached at 815-262-1608 or nancya.perry@gmail.com

Brian Vogrinc – has over 30 years in executive recruitment and is a partner in the executive search firm Vogrinc & Short. His phone number is (815) 394-1001. brianv@vogshort.com.

Mike Willard - has over 35 years of experience in Human Resources and has worked for JL Clark, Rockford Powertrain, and US Filter. He can be reached at w8766@aol.com or by phone at (815) 342-6767

Other Contacts:

Parish contacts: **Teresa Lantz** tlantz@holyfamilyrockford.org or 815-398-4280
Lisa Mayer lmayer@holyfamilyrockford.org or 815-398-4280

Administrative Support: **Cindy Giardini** cindyg@vogshort.com or 815-394-1001