

CORD

=== Collaborative Organizations Responding to Dislocation

July 1, 2009

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Java & Jobs helps those who are unemployed to network and discuss ideas with others in similar situations. The group at the right participated in the June 26 session.

JAVA & JOBS OFF TO A GREAT START

Java & Jobs has gotten off to an outstanding start. There have been three sessions with a total of 41 clients participating as of June 26. The first session was held on Friday, June 19. The most recent session on June 26 is shown in the photo below.

Led by Ed Martinez, Employment Training Specialist, subjects have ranged from returning to school and handling the academic situation, to how families are coping with the diminished income levels. Many excellent suggestions and informational tidbits have emerged from these sessions, as well as positive backing from others/peers that are in similar situations. Those attending have been positive in their evaluation of the sessions.

Ed also feels the sessions have been fruitful. "Everyone that has participated in the conversations has helped someone else that has questions on how to handle certain situations," Ed said. He cited topics like health benefits, food pantries, unemployment, and living on a smaller budget as prominent topics. "The concept of sitting around a table of familiar conversation helps everyone accept the reality of having to deal with the same problems at hand," Ed added. He said it has truly been the most successful workshop so far.

Java & Jobs meets every Friday starting at 10 a.m. at the Rock County Job Center Annex located in the UAW Local 95 Hall at 1795 Lafayette in Janesville. Those interested in participating can contact Stephanie Ingham at (608) 741-3506. The sessions are free and gourmet coffee is served.



DOMESTIC ROLES OFTEN SWITCH WHEN A JOB IS LOST

“Cutting expenses is a total necessity, and that changes one’s lifestyle”

Family roles and responsibilities are shifting with the unemployment rate rising. With 82 percent of the pink slips going to men, many times the women are finding themselves the primary breadwinner, giving them less time at home. And that means the ‘man of the house’ may have to change his role and outlook—not an easy task to do!

U.S. Census figures from March reveal that there were 140,000 full-time at-home fathers in 2008. But that excluded many men because it only includes married men at home “who haven’t warned a dime.” In reality, that number is much higher.

Exacerbating the problem is the case when neither spouse has a job and unemployment is the sole income source or perhaps is starting to be exhausted. Cutting expenses is a total necessity, and that changes one’s lifestyle. This, along with the concern about income and jobs, can cause heightened friction between spouses and flare-ups that might not have existed before. Both spouses need to be more understanding and work as a team to come up with solutions.

The ‘team’ needs to work on a master plan where each defines roles and responsibilities, even writing them down if necessary. Communication is critical. Don’t expect your spouse to be a mind-reader—let them know what concerns you have, but in a positive, constructive manner. Let your spouse know you appreciate their contributions to household chores and duties.

For men, part of it may mean washing the dishes, or taking care of the kids. In a way, it’s just like learning to do a new job, which it is. It takes a few months to get used to it, but the critical part is the division of responsibilities between spouses, making it equitable. And “don’t sweat the small stuff!”



You’re never too old to learn skills on the computer, especially when searching for a job—it is now almost mandatory that you have basic skills!

COMPUTER CLASSES BEING OFFERED

Both Beginning and Intermediate computer classes are being offered at two locations--the Rock County Job Center at 1900 Center Ave., Janesville as well as the Job Center Annex at 1795 Lafayette, Janesville (UAW Hall). These are open to anyone who is unemployed and desires to gain the necessary skills to be able to function on a computer with basic skills (see descriptions on page 3).

Beginning Classes at Rock County Job Center--

- July 2—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. * July 6--8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- July 7—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. * July 9--10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- July 13—1-6 p.m. * July 14—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- July 16—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. * July 20—1-6 p.m.
- July 21—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. * July 23—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- July 27—1-6 p.m. * July 28—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- July 30—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Beginning classes at the Job Center Annex--

- July 1—9-11 a.m. * July 8—9-11 a.m.
- July 10—9-11 a.m. * July 15—9-11 a.m.
- July 17—9-11 a.m. * July 22—9-11 a.m.
- July 24—9-11 a.m. * July 29—9-11 a.m.
- July 31—9-11 a.m.

Intermediate classes at the Rock County Job Center--

- July 10—8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-Rm. A * July 17—8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.—Rm. A
- July 24—8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-Rm. A * July 31—8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.-Rm. A

DISLOCATED WORKER ORIENTATIONS

* Thus., July 9, 1-3 p.m. Job Center-Rm. K * Mon., July 20, 9-11 a.m., Job Cntr-Rm. K

* Weds., July 15, 4-6 p.m., Job Ctr. Annex * Fri., July 31, 2-4 p.m., Job Center Annex

CLASSES DESIGNED TO HELP YOU!

Listed on the back page of this newsletter are varied and numerous classes offered at the Rock County Job Center/Annex. However, these are just some of the classes being offered of which you can take full advantage. Check 'em out!

- **Planning for the Months Ahead**—Is training right for you? How do you keep a roof over your head while you're in school? Meeting your insurance needs.
- **Getting Through The Tough Times**—Which bills do you pay first? What's the best way to talk with creditors? Bartering—what it is and will it work for me?
- **Doing What is Best**—Is bankruptcy an option? What are the different types of bankruptcy and which one may be best for me?
- **Helping Yourself and Others**—Helping your children cope with this difficult time. Making your family a part of the solution and taking care of yourself.
- **Moving Ahead**—Covers job scams, starting your own business (not always necessarily a good idea), and community agencies and resources.
- **Hot Jobs**—Features information about new jobs that have been added to the www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com website in the past week. Job search techniques including describing transferable skills, resume and cover letter development, interview do's and don'ts and other topics are covered.
- **Managing What You Have**—How to make the most of what you have be setting spending priorities and strategies for spending less.
- **Beginning Computer classes**—Helps with the basics—how to turn on a computer, operating a mouse, sending an e-mail, opening an e-mail attachment, saving a file, creating folders to save documents, and searching for information on the Internet, etc.
- **Intermediate Computer classes**—More information on using the various functions in Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook & PowerPoint.

Call the Job Center for further details at (608) 741-3578.



Which bills do you pay first? Workshops such as 'Getting Through the Tough Times' and others help you to prioritize and work with creditors to ease your situation.

CHECK OUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES

There are several **Dislocated Worker** workshops that may be of interest to you (even if you are not in the WIA program—these are open to all). Call the Rock County Job Center for information or to schedule a session—Julie Funk at (608) 741-3462 or Carol Kohl at (608) 741-3418.

All Classes listed here are in Classroom C at the Rock County Job Center.

Moving Ahead	Thus., July 2, 1-2 p.m.
Managing What You Have	Thus., July 2, 2-3 p.m.
Planning For the Months Ahead	Mon., July 6, 10-11 a.m.
Hot Jobs	Mon., July 6, 1-2 p.m.
Getting Through the Tough Times	Thus., July 9, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Helping Yourself and Others	Mon., July 13, 9-10 a.m.
Planning For the Months Ahead	Mon., July 13, 10-11 a.m.
Getting Through The Tough Times	Thus., July 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Moving Ahead	Thus., July 16, 1-2 p.m.
Managing What You Have	Thus., July 16, 2-3 p.m.
Helping Yourself and Others	Mon., July 20, 9-10 a.m.
Planning For the Months Ahead	Mon., July 20, 10-11 a.m.
Hot Jobs	Mon., July 20, 1-2 p.m.
Helping Yourself and Others	Mon., July 27, 9-10 a.m.
Planning For the Months Ahead	Mon., July 27, 10-11 a.m.
Hot Jobs	Mon., July 27, 1-2 p.m.
Getting Through the Tough Times	Thus., July 30, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Moving Ahead	Thus., July 30, 1-2 p.m.
Managing What You Have	Thus., July 30, 2-3 p.m.

DISLOCATED WORKER WORKSHOPS AT THE JOB CENTER ANNEX

Getting Through the Tough Times	Thus., July 2, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Doing What Is Best	Mon., July 6, 8-9 a.m.
Moving Ahead	Thus., July 9, 1-2 p.m.
Managing What You Have	Thus., July 9, 2-3 p.m.
Doing What Is Best	Mon., July 13, 8-9 a.m.
Doing What Is Best	Mon., July 20, 8-9 a.m.
Getting Through The Tough Times	Thus., July 23, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Moving Ahead	Thus., July 23, 1-2 p.m.
Managing What You Have	Thus., July 23, 2-3 p.m.
Doing What is Best	Mon., July 27, 8-9 a.m.

In addition, **Pre-Assessment Workshops** are being offered at the Job Center in Classroom C at the following dates/times:

- Tuesday, July 7—4:30-6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 21—2-4 p.m.

If you want a description of the content of the classes listed above, go to page three of this newsletter. A summary of the class will be included.

JULY 2009						
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AUGUST 2009						
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it.”
 ---Henry David Thoreau