

# **Metro Area Job Support and Employment Networking Groups**

Here are some Twin Cities metro-area job support, transition and networking groups, sponsored by a variety of government, nonprofit and private organizations.

The groups offer guest speakers, group discussions on job search, and opportunities to network for job leads, and a support from other job seekers. Most are offered free of charge or carry only a nominal fee.

Some groups are open to the general public, others are open to specific professions or groups, and others require that participants be sponsored by current members or become members themselves. Most groups are offered free of charge or carry a nominal fee.

First, we highlight the networking groups and job clubs sponsored by our metro-area WorkForce Centers. Then we highlight groups sponsored by other organizations.

Notify Laurie Trach at 952-346-4010 for additions or changes.

# **Networking Groups at Metro Area WorkForce Centers**

## **GENERAL NETWORKING AND JOB CLUBS**

Here we feature general networking groups and job clubs sponsored by our metro-area WorkForce Centers.

Minnesota WorkForce Center – Anoka County *Address:* 1201 89th Avenue NE #235, Blaine

What's Available: Share job leads, review job search process, speakers

Meeting Times: Monday and Tuesday 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., Thursdays 10:00 to 11:30

a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact**: 763-783-4800

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/anoka

Minnesota WorkForce Center - Dakota County North

Address: 1 Mendota Road W, West St. Paul

What's Available: Networking and job-search counseling

**Meeting Times:** Mondays, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: Darlene Dahl 952-895-7658

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/dakotanorth

Minnesota WorkForce Center – Dakota County West

Address: 2900 County Rd 42 W, Burnsville

What's Available: Networking and job-search counseling.

Meeting Times: Wednesdays, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** Mike Lang 952-895-7641

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/dakotawest

Minnesota WorkForce Center – Hennepin North

Address: 7225 Northland Drive, Brooklyn Park

What's Available: Networking and job-search counseling.

Meeting Times: Wednesdays, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** 763-279-4400

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/hennepinnorth

Minnesota WorkForce Center – Hennepin South

**Address:** 4220 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington **Name:** HSW (Hennepin Southwest) Suburban Networkers

What's Available: General networking, activities, and speakers

Meeting Times: Tuesday, June 8 through September (except July 27). Second and

fourth Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** Jackie Buck, 952-346-4028

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/hennepinsouth

Minnesota WorkForce Center - Ramsey County-North St. Paul

Address: 2098 East 11th Avenue, North St. Paul

What's Available: Networking and job-search counseling.

Meeting Times: Thursdays, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** 651-779-5666

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/ramseycounty

Minnesota WorkForce Center – Scott County

Address: 752 Canterbury Road S, Shakopee

What's Available: Networking and job-search counseling.

**Meeting Times:** Second and fourth Wednesdays, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: Curt Sammann 952-403-7992 or Help Desk at 952-403-7990

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/scottcounty

#### **VETERANS NETWORKING GROUPS**

The following employment networking groups are for veterans only. Participants come from any job background and from any branch and era of military service.

## Minnesota WorkForce Center – Anoka County

Address: 1201 89th Avenue NE #235, Blaine

What's Available: Share job leads, review job search process, speakers

Meeting Times: Tuesday 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact**: Tim LaBeau 763-785-6488

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/anoka

## Minnesota WorkForce Center - Dakota County West

Address: 2900 County Rd 42 W, Suite 140, Burnsville

What's Available: Networking for Veterans only Meeting Times: Mondays, 10:00 to 12:00 noon

Cost: No charge.

Contact: Harry Ostendorf 952-895-7656

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/dakotawest

## Minnesota WorkForce Center – Hennepin North

Address: 7225 Northland Drive, Brooklyn Park What's Available: Networking for veterans only Meeting Times: Fridays, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** Mark Mann at 763-279-4424

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/hennepinnorth

#### Minnesota WorkForce Center – Hennepin South

Address: 4220 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington

What's Available: Networking for veterans only Meeting Times: Mondays 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: Donovan Wright 952-346-4014

Web site: www.positivelyminnesota.com/hennepinsouth

#### OTHER SPECIALIZED NETWORKING GROUPS

Here we feature networking groups that focus on a specific industry or demographic.

#### Minnesota WorkForce Center – Hennepin South

**Address:** 4220 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington **What's Available:** Networking for Health Care Professionals **Meeting Times:** First and third Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** Susan Speetzen at the Help Desk 952-346-4028 **Web site:** www.positivelyminnesota.com/hennepinsouth

## **Networking Groups Sponsored by Other Organizations**

Here we list metro-area networking and job support groups sponsored by a variety of organizations. DEED does not support or endorse any specific organization. Groups are listed alphabetically.

## 7 Degreecreativ.org

Address: St. Georges' Episcopal Church, 5224 Minnetonka Blvd (NE corner HWY 100

and Minnetonka Blvd), Parish Hall, St. Louis Park

What's available: Networking Meets: Fridays 11:00 to-1:00 p.m.

Cost: No charge

Contact: Diane Hauschild 952-334-5700 or info@7degreecreativ.org

Web site: www.7degreecreativ.org

## **Association of Information Technology Professionals**

Contact: <a href="mailto:lnfo@nwaitp.org">lnfo@nwaitp.org</a>
Web site: <a href="mailto:www.nwaitp.org">www.nwaitp.org</a>

## **Bloomington Caribou**

Address: France and Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington

What's Available: Networking Meeting Times: currently on hold

Cost: No charge.

Contact: 612-750-3449 or email Dianalawrench@msn.com.

Web site: None

## **Basilica of St. Mary**

**Employment Ministry** 

Address: 17th & Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

What's Available: Monthly workshops and one-on-one coaching

**Meeting Times:** Vary **Cost:** No charge.

Contact: Janet Grove at 612-317-3508 or email jgrove@mary.org

Web site: www.mary.org/life/employment/index.html

#### **Change Your Stripes**

What's Available: Online groups and forum also offers "Job Talk" events.

**Cost:** No charge.

**Contact:** Catherine Breet-Byers 612-508-2017 **Web site:** http://www.changeyourstripes.net

## **Christ Presbyterian Church**

Minneapolis Job Support Workshop for Managers, Professionals and Others

Address: 6901 Normandale Road, Edina

What's Available: Networking, resume and interviewing assistance

**Meeting Times:** Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. **Cost:** No charge or a \$3 suggested donation.

Contact: Stan Brown at 952-943-0718 or Chuck Guerin at 612-720-6532

Web site: www.mjsw.org

## **Christ Presbyterian Church**

Women's Networking Group

Address: 6901 Normandale Road, Edina

What's Available: Host is M.E.G. Roy and features guest speakers.

Meeting Times: Second Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m., first floor parlor

**Cost:** No charge or a \$3 suggested donation. **Contact:** Email M.E.G. Roy at roy.meg@gmail.com

Web site: www.mjsw.org

Colonial Church

Address: 13600 Technology Drive Eden Prairie

*Meeting Times:* Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m.

Cost: No information Contact: 952-925-2711

## **Eden Prairie Assembly of God Church**

Address: 16591 Duck Lake Trail

*Meeting Times:* Second and fourth Thursday, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

**Contact:** Email ron@conroyconsult.com

#### **Employment Action Center**

Women's Programs

**Address:** Locations throughout the metro area

What's Available: Career exploration, job search strategies, and coaching.

**Meeting Times:** Call for locations, days and appointments.

Contact: Dina at 612 -752-8444 or email dstender@resource-mn.org

Web site: www.eac-mn.org/WomenProg/WomenProg-Home

## Face2Face Job Search Networking

Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka

Address: , 605 Rice Street, Wayzata

What's Available: Networking clusters that focus on specific career areas. Meeting Times: First and Third Thursdays of each month, 9 a.m. to noon. Cost: \$5 registration fee and a suggested donation of \$5 per meeting.

Contact: Email Joanne Meehl at www.face2.net/contact.php

Web site: www.face2.net

## **Financial Executives Networking Group**

Address: See Web site for chapter locations

What's Available: Networking and job leads for upper-level executives. Participants

must be sponsored.

Contact: Email richards\_mj@msn.com

Web site: www.thefeng.org

#### **Grace Church**

Crossroads Career Network Ministry

Address: 9301 Eden Prairie Road, Eden Prairie, Room M 209, door 4. What's

Available: Networking, expert speakers, workshops, etc.

Meeting Times: First Thursday, 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: 952-926-1884, ccnatgrace@gmail.com or david\_sparkman@uhc.com

Web site: www.ccnatgrace.com or www.crossroadscareer.org

## **Holy Name of Jesus Church**

Job Transition Group

Address: 155 County Road 24 Wayzata, Emmaus Room

What's Available: Networking, employment leads, guest speakers.

*Meeting Times*: First Thursday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: Cheryl Alexander Stearns 763-416-4570 or email wcorrig@comcast.net

Web site: www.hnoj.org/jobNetwork.html

#### **Minneapolitan Toastmasters**

Hopkins Family Resource Center *Address:* 915 Main St., Hopkins

What's Available: Helps improve your job communications skills

*Meeting Times:* Every Thursday at 6:45 pm

Cost: \$20 membership fee and monthly dues of \$4 to \$6

Contact: David Altrowitz 952-484-9592 or email daltrowitz@comcast.net

Web site: www.d6tm.org

#### **Minnesota Technical Recruiters Network**

Address: Locations vary. Check Web site

What's Available: Job listings, resumes, events.

*Meeting Times:* Every third Tuesday every other month. Times vary.

Cost: First event is free. \$20 per event.

Contact: Rick (952) 473-0022; rick@recruitersofmn.com or kelly@recruitersofmn.com

Web site: www.mntrn.org

#### **Minnesotans in Transition (MITSVA)**

Address: 1712 Hopkins Crossroads, Minnetonka

What's available: Resume, interviewing, and networking

Meets: Fridays 9:30 a.m. to noon

Cost: No charge

**Contact:** mn.intransitionsupport@gmail.com or info@mitsvahobs.com

## **New Day Career Connections**

**Address:** Wayzata Community Church 125 Wayzata Boulevard E, Wayzata

What's Available: Large group presentations, small group networking, one-on-one job

search

Meeting Times: Third Tuesday of the month 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Cost: Free

**Contact:** Christine at 612-710-3388 **Web site:** wayzatacommunitychurch.org

#### Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Sales and Marketing Professionals

Address: 2200 Old Shakopee Road (Shakopee & Penn), Bloomington What's Available: Networking for sales and marketing professionals. Meeting Times: Every other Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. See Web site. Cost: First meeting is free. Non-members \$5 to \$10 per meeting

Contact: George Burr at 612-669-0455 <a href="mailto:gburr@localmarketmedia.com">gburr@localmarketmedia.com</a>

Web site: www.SMPnet.org

#### **Prince of Peace Christian Life Center**

(Merged with Shepherd of the Valley)

Address: 13901 Fairview Drive, Burnsville. Parking on upper level.

What's Available: Networking

Meeting Times: Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., second floor.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: Bob Callahan 952-898-9388 or info@princeofpeace online.org

Web site: www.princeofpeaceonline.org or www.sotv.org

#### **Project Management Institute-Minnesota Chapter**

Address: Hilton Hotel, 3800 American Blvd. East, Bloomington by MOA.

What's Available: Career networking, special events

**Meeting Times:** Third Monday of most months. Check Web site. **Cost:** No charge for networking. Charges for membership and meals.

Contact: 651-917-6246 or administrator@pmi-mn.org

Web site: www.pmi-mn.org

#### **Quality Career Services**

Address: 2515 Wabash Avenue, Ste. LL1, St. Paul

What's Available: Networking for dislocated workers and seniors

Meeting Times: Mondays, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** Mary or Gary at 651-647-9322 **Web site:** www.qualitycareerservices.org

**River Valley Church** 

**Address:** 14898 Energy Way, Suite 1000, Apple Valley **Meeting Times:** Second and fourth Mondays at 7 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** 952-997-2222

Web site: www.rivervalleychurch.org

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Address: 13600 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie

What's Available: Job transition group

*Meeting Times:* Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: info@standrewlu.org

Web site: www.standrewlu.org/jobtransition.shtml

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Address: 13600 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie

What's Available: Information Technology Networkers

Meeting Times: Wednesdays, 10 to 11:15 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: John Schorer, itgroup minnesota@yahoo.com

Web site: www.standrewlu.org/jobtransition.shtml

St. Hubert Job Support Group

St. Hubert Catholic Community

Address: 8201 Main Street, Chanhassen

What's Available: Mostly one-on-one assistance

*Meeting Times:* Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7 to 9 p.m. Room 222.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: George Davisson, 952-443-0010 or George davisson@yahoo.com

Web site: www.sthubert.org

St. Stephens's Episcopal Church

Job Search Support Group

Address: 4439 West 50th Street, Edina

**What's Available:** Networking, job-search advice, job leads. **Meeting Times:** Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the library

**Cost:** No charge

**Contact:** John Barrow at 651-920-0595 or Len Slade at 952-929-2699

Web site: www.ststephens.com/jobsupport

Sales and Marketing Group

What's Available: Open to those in sales and marketing.

**Meeting Times:** By invitation only. Non-members may attend one time.

Contact: Email M. Shane Smith at mshanesmith@q.com

## **Shepherd of the Lake Career Support Group**

Address: 3611 North Berens Road NW, Prior Lake

What's Available: Networking, personal support, job seeking advice

Meeting Times: Every other Wednesday 11:30-1:00

Cost: No charge.

Contact: adamsprecher@oberonllc.com

Web site: www.sollc.org

#### **SHIFT**

Address: Loring Park Dunn Bros Coffee, 329 W. 15th Street, Minneapolis

What's Available: Events, discussions, networking, mentoring.

Meeting Times: Mondays, 7 p.m. Check Web site

Cost: \$60 annual membership fee; Non-member guests pay \$5 per event.

Contact: David Buck

Web site: www.shiftonline.org

## Smile 'n' Dial IT Subgroup

Address: 4620 West 77<sup>th</sup> St. (Pentagon Park), Edina *Meeting Times:* First Tuesday of each month. 7 to 9 a.m.

Contact: Phillip Brooks at 651 470-1257 or philbrooks@comcast.net

#### **SOAR for Jobs**

St. Odilia's Catholic Church

Address: 3495 Victoria Street North, Shoreview

What's Available: Large group presentations, small group networking

Meeting Times: Second and fourth Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m.

Cost: Bring an item for the food shelf

**Contact:** Linda at 651-415-3327 **Web site:** www.soar4jobs.org

#### Twin Cities Business Startup Meetup

**Address:** Meeting locations vary

What's Available: Networking and mentoring Meeting Times: Vary, check calendar on Web site

**Cost:** Some events are free, others carry a registration fee **Contact:** Scott Plum. Email Scott through the Web site.

Web site: www.newstartupmeetup.com

#### **Veterans Center**

Address: 550 County Road D, suite 10, New Brighton

What's Available: One-on-one counseling for veterans of era.

**Meeting Times:** Call to schedule a session.

Contact: Andrew Huff at 651-644-4022 or email Andrew.huff@va.gov

Web site: www.vetcenter.va.gov

#### **Wayzata Evangelical Free Church**

Address: 705 County Road 101 North, Plymouth

What's Available: Networking.

*Meeting Times:* First Tuesday of each month, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m.

Cost: Not available.

Contact: David at 763-553-7892 or Terri Jo at 612-518-1611

Web site: www.wayzatafree.org

## **Westminister Presbyterian Church**

**Address:** 1200 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis. **Meeting Times:** See Web site for times and dates.

**Contact:** Sharon at 612-332-3421 **Web site:** www.ewestminster.org

#### **Westwood Job Transition Group**

Westwood Community Church

Address: 3121 Westwood Drive, Chanhassen

What's Available: Networking, support.

Meeting Times: First and third Monday of each month, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m..

Cost: No charge.

Contact: Matt Beck at 952-457-8866 or email mathewpbeck@yahoo.com

Web site: www.westwoodcc.org

#### **Women Venture**

Career and Employment Transition Group *Address:* 2324 University Avenue West

What's Available: Networking, personal support, job seeking advice

**Meeting Times:** See web site for schedule.

Cost: No charge.

Contact: 651-646-3808 or email services@womenventure.org

Web site: www.womenventure.com

#### **Woodbury Lutheran Church Fireside Room**

Career Transition Connection

Address: 7380 Afton Road, Woodbury

What's Available: Advice, support and networking for job seekers

*Meeting Times:* Second and fourth Thursdays of each month, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** Use Web site for email contacts. **Web site:** www.woodburylutheran.org

#### **Wooddale Church**

Job Search Group

Address: 6630 Shady Oak Road, Eden Prairie. What's Available: Customized job search planning

Meeting Times: Every Monday at 7:15 a.m.

Cost: No charge.

**Contact:** 952-656-1075 or 952-944-6300 or <a href="mailitsg@wooddale.org">emailitsg@wooddale.org</a> **Web site:** <a href="mailitsg@wooddale.org">www.jobtransition.net</a>