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: Info@nwaitp.org
Web site: www.nwaitp.org

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, ccmnatgrace@gmail.com or david_sparkman@uhc.com
Web site: www.ccmnatgrace.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 wccorrig@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  gburr@localmarketmedia.com  
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 77th 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

Westminster 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 emailjtsq@wooddale.org
Web site: www.jobtransition.net