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# 2BC Employment Update

Employment News for 2BC Members and the Greater RVA  
Community

February 2018

## We Are Back!



**After a short break, the 2BC Employment Connection Newsletter is back!** We are so excited to connect you with updates, tools and resources around everything "EMPLOYMENT". Our newsletter will be featured every other month beginning this month, both in hardcopy format and on the 2BC Website. Check out what we will be up to in 2018.

**Employment Information Packets** – As part of Caring and Sharing Ministry, one of our goals this year is to always have information available for the Second Baptist Church family and surrounding communities regarding employment tools and resources. Beginning in March, "Employment Information Packets" will be available in the church office. These packets will include calendar workshops and activities, information sessions provided by Goodwill services, interviewing tools and other networking detail.



## Community Connection Events

Heads up! We are planning an **April Career Fair**. Visit with employment vendors from all across the RVA area to learn about their opportunities. We hope to invite Dominion Energy, Waffle House, The Dollar Store and many more companies. Stay tuned for more announcements on this planned career fair.

## *Topic of the Month – “How to Manage Your Career”*

### **How to Manage Your Career**

There’s no getting around it: Networking has an awful reputation. It conjures up images of self-absorbed corporate ladder-climbers whose main interest is, “What’s in it for me?”

But there is almost unanimous agreement among researchers that building and nurturing relationships with people — current and former colleagues and people we respect in the business — provides a strong medium for a vibrant career and a cushion for when the unplanned happens.

### **Networking Basics**

The good news is that you already enjoy the benefits of networks, both formal and informal. Think of the people you work with every day, the people you’ll ask, “Why isn’t the printer working?” or “Have you tried the new coffee place down the street?” Think of this as your local network.

Then think of co-workers you run into on a regular basis; these are people you have a working relationship with and know well enough to have an occasional conversation. You might call them your outer circle.

Next, former colleagues and old bosses. They might be your extended circle.

**That’s just three very generalized networks.** You could have many more – a network built around the company softball team, or parents who can suggest daycare providers, or a companywide project you are involved in.

Networks provide a connection with fellow workers, an emotional link with someone who knows us. But they also provide a source of information or business intel – about your department, your business or your industry.

In fact, it is often the distant links in your networks that provide the most value – such as helping you find a job. The sociologist Mark Granovetter makes a distinction between strong ties (close friends, family, co-workers) and weak ties (former classmates, ex-colleagues, people we know but not well). In [“The Strength of Weak Ties,”](#) he shows how these more distant links provide doorways into other networks we wouldn’t normally have access to.

Your goal is to attend to these different relationships the way you might attend to a garden. They require some nurturing, some giving in order to receive. In other words, pay attention and put in some time.

### **How to Get Started**

If you sense your networking muscles need some exercise, here are a few ways to get started. In all these cases, you will often have to be the initiator. So get used to that idea.

- **Start small.** When you run into a former coworker at your place of business, say more than a quick hello. Try to take a moment and find out how they are doing. Jobs and responsibilities are always changing, and, frankly, it’s nice when someone takes a sincere interest in our lives.
- **Take a leap.** Invite folks to drinks after work, or to join you in a company-sponsored volunteer effort. The thing here is just getting to know people a bit better beyond working hours.
- **Use social media.** Social media is rightly maligned for so many reasons, but there’s no doubt it can

[be an effective career tool](#). LinkedIn and Facebook can provide an effective and relatively painless way to reach out to people you know, especially those who have changed jobs. Think of a colleague or classmate you've lost touch with, and make contact with a simple "what's new?" message. Relate a little (no more than a few sentences!) on what you've been up to, and ask how they've been doing. The thing to avoid here is sounding, well, needy or creepy – that just confirms the worst stereotypes of networks.

- **Just be sincere:** You are trying to re-establish connections with some old co-workers. And don't take it personally if you don't hear back; if your colleague wants to write back, he or she will.
- Remember to **keep your profiles up to date**. Whatever your feelings about social media, an outdated profile isn't doing you any good.

### Quarterly Resume Review and Interviewing Skills Q&A

Is your resume up to par for 2018? When was the last time you interviewed for a job? Are you as sharp as you could be? Do you struggle with how to answer the tough questions? The employment team will be providing quarterly resume review or interviewing skills Q&A workshops after our 8:00 and 11:00 morning services. Participants will be invited to sign up, specifically stating their career or employment needs. Flyers for these events will be announced.

### *Employment Opportunities in RVA:*

#### **Estes Trucking**

Payments Processor-Administrator

Part time

High School Diploma/GED, some college a plus

<https://www.estes-express.com/careers/>

#### **VCU: Raising Cane's, Chick-fil-A, Starbucks and IHOP Express**

[www.aramark.com/careers](http://www.aramark.com/careers)

#### **Lowe's**

[www.lowes.com/careers](http://www.lowes.com/careers)

#### **Walmart**

[www.careers.walmart.com](http://www.careers.walmart.com)

### Upcoming Job Fairs

#### **Food Lion, Distribution Center**

February 7 & 14, 2pm

Resource Center, 203 E. Cary St

#### **Aramark**

February 8 & 15, 2pm

Resource Center, 203 E. Cary St