

Dec 16, 2022

Dear Stake Presidents,

Elder Heaton asked that I send the following to each of you. As many of you are aware there have been several layoffs, most recently with a number of tech companies in the area. The timing of these events is never ideal, especially as we enter the holiday season. We encourage you to reach out to your Bishops, Elders Quorums, and Relief Society Presidents in the wards and use your councils to identify those that may be impacted and determine the support they may need. We have been coordinating with Employment Services of the Church and their offices and services are available to assist. Additionally, we want to inform you of a number of resources available and upcoming that may be able to help those members impacted by these layoffs.

- There are number of Job Fairs upcoming:
 - Silicon Slopes is hosting a networking event from 9am–noon Monday, December 19 th at the organization's Lehi headquarters for recently laid-off workers and companies that are hiring. Individuals can RSVP for the event at <https://community.siliconslopes.com/events/details/silicon-slopes-silicon-slopes-presents-hiring-and-networking-at-silicon-slopes-hq>
 - There is a virtual job fair by the Utah Department of Work Force Service <https://jobs.utah.gov/department/events.html#event=74136968;instance=20230112100000?popup=1>
 - There are number of smaller job fairs scheduled in the valley - <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/ut--provo/job-fairs/>
- Church Employment Services – <https://employment.churchofjesuschrist.org>
 - Encourage people to register for an account which informs Leadership in Ward and Stake of those seeking employment so they can also be thinking about potential job or networking opportunities
 - Active Job Search groups “Mon-Fri 8:30am Zoom meetings” to show daily virtual support and networking
 - Finding Job Leads
 - Resume review and development
 - Personalized Employment Coaching
 - Webinars and recorded past webinars on how to enhance LinkedIn Profile, how to succeed in second and third job interviews, and more
- Leader and Clerk Resources
 - Leaders can check under reports to see those who are registered with Employment Services
- Self-Reliance Services
 - Self-Reliance Plan Form can be used to set goals and help people identify potential resources. https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/english/pdf/welfare/PD60007387_000_SelfReliancePlan_Member_Web_Interactive.pdf
 - Find a better Job Self-Reliance Manual/Class <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/self-reliance/course-materials/find-a-better-job> A ward welfare and self-reliance specialist

can go through sections of the manual or the entire course with individuals helping them develop their me in 30 seconds and checking in to see how they are doing with 15-10-2 concept taught in the manual.

- Community Resources
 - Those recently unemployed can apply for unemployment, food, and Medicaid/medical assistance through the Department of Workforce Services - <https://jobs.utah.gov/assistance/index.html>
 - Additional resources for Unemployed Workers can be found on the Department of Workforce Services website - <https://jobs.utah.gov/ui/resources.html>
 - Mortgage/Rent assistance may also be available through Community Action Services and Food Bank. Instructions on how to apply can be found at <https://www.communityactionprovo.org/client-portal-instructions/>
 - Community Resources can be found by texting or calling 2-1-1, using the 2-1-1 Utah app, or at 211utah.org.
 - Another extensive directory of resources can be found at <https://www.findhelp.org>

Again, this is a difficult and unfortunate challenge impacting our community and members. As you coordinate and counsel, be on the lookout for other temporal needs that may be needed, they may not fully manifest themselves because of the overshadowing issue of job loss but may be present. Utilize the Spirit and the principles taught regarding the Self-Reliance Plan to guide you in assisting these individuals. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and those that are impacted due to these layoffs.

Know that Elder Heaton and I are here to support you as unique needs arise, or guidance is needed.

All my best,

Stephanie Ashcraft | Regional Welfare & Self Reliance Manager
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