

Greetings All,

"Just do it!", "stay positive no matter what!", "no breaks!", "change what needs fixin!", it's not easy. So much for the lead in but it sums up my experience regarding what it requires for success in job search.

Networking, everyone knows how important this is. Connect with networking groups, job search groups, there are many. They meet at libraries, churches and can be found on the internet, by speaking with others, using LinkedIn and more. Decide which ones are most beneficial for you and stick with them. Tell everyone you meet you're in job search. Be sure you know what you're looking for; a shotgun approach will have you all over the place, no focus and less chance of success. Seek out career coaches giving free seminars, they do it.

Be out there. You must be on LinkedIn and have a network of contacts that's always growing. LinkedIn and your contacts need to see change, action, activity. That profile should be as close to 100% as possible. Prospective employers viewing a profile that's incomplete will move to the next candidate, there are many. Get on the boards refresh your posting at least monthly. My present employer found me and I was out of work for over a year.

Positive works, anything less reduces your chance of success. What helps you to stay positive? Figure that out and do it. Exercise helped me; you don't have to run a marathon, even walking helps. Fixing something around the house, going to church, find what it is that keeps you going and keep at it.

Job search is your job, done. It's a hard job, period. Get up and execute the same routine as if you're going to work. Every day. Put in a full day. Set up job searches and review them daily, including weekends. Going to a gathering, party, whatever, where employed people are? Work the crowd; it's your job, eight days a week.

Is there something you've been meaning to change? Hair style, lose some weight? Now is a good time to take care of that, you'll feel better about yourself and grow your confidence. Been meaning to improve your xxxxx skill, there's probably a free course online. Search it out and do it. You'll feel better and that will come across while networking, et all. Think how can I accomplish my goal versus why I can't.

OK, we're too old. "It's not your age, it's your attitude", that's a quote from a career coach at one of those free seminars. Live by it. Age positives...no thirsty Thursday's, child care in the rearview mirror, historic work ethic, due diligence, determination, can cover for others, etc.

There's much to this job search and it's a continuous learning experience. Keep learning, changing. If something is not working after a period of time change it. How long should I wait? Your call, but also use your network. What do others do? Who's winning out there, what are they doing? One more thing, feedback will be sorely lacking for the most part. It's just the way it is. Everyone is way busy.

I sincerely hope this helps. Job search can wear you out, find what keeps you going and do that. Keep in touch with your friends, the positive ones. Consider your options, part time, consulting, whatever gets you back into the workforce.

All the Best!

R.S.C.