

When I was laid off in May 2013, I knew the job market was not good, especially for those of us in the over 40 yrs old category.

However, I had the good fortune of connecting with a former colleague from HempsteadWorks, Gloria Schramm, and other staff from NYS Dept of Labor. The workshops, job leads, resume advice, tips for using social media in my job search, and most importantly, the value of networking, were all very helpful.

It took 5 long months for me to land a new position, as an Afterschool Director, and I found out about this opportunity from a former co-worker. Once again, the power of tapping into the "hidden job market". This job opportunity, which was very much the kind of position I wanted, was never advertised.

I have just begun working and wanted to thank the good people at the Dept of Labor and HempsteadWorks for their ongoing assistance.

Now that I am employed, I will be sure to "pay it forward" by keeping an eye out for job opportunities for my fellow jobseekers who are still looking to land that dream job.

Gratefully submitted,  
F.P.