

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, December 6, 2012

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Tips for Job Searching During the Holidays

CLEARWATER (December 6, 2012) – Job seekers often suspend their job search for "the holidays," from early or mid-November through New Year's Day, on the theory that no one is interviewed or hired during that period. Contrary to popular belief, many employers do hire over the holidays.

Here are some tips for those in the job market this holiday season:

- **Visit your local One-Stop Career Center** for resources such as job counseling; resume writing and interviewing workshops, and training opportunities. There are many no cost programs and services that can assist you in job search efforts. In Pinellas County, go to www.worknetpinellas.org to view One-Stop Career Center locations.
- **Some businesses hire part-time** to fill positions created by holiday vacations or to meet year-end demand from customers. Part-time work is an excellent way to show your talents to a prospective employer. Some companies hire part-time employees to evaluate how a person fits in and meets their expectations.
- **Don't put off applying for full-time work during the holidays.** Companies operating on a calendar year budget are making decisions about personnel. Make sure your application and resume are there for employers when they consider hiring new people.
- **Use all available tools.** Incorporate social media in your search by using LinkedIn® to connect with people who can help your job search, "follow" potential employers on Twitter and become a fan on Facebook.
- **Take advantage of the season** by attending parties or gatherings and networking with people who might know of job openings. Many times your best source for job openings is friends and acquaintances with insider knowledge about good jobs open or that companies will post in the future.
- **Be positive and be patient.** Bringing a positive attitude to your job search and interviews will help you be successful. Understand that it takes time for a company to make its selection of new staff. Be courteous and understanding when you follow up with potential employers – your attitude on the phone may be the deciding factor in getting an interview or job offer. "Thank You's" go a long way both before and after the interview.
- **Maintaining your job search helps you keep your momentum.** Dropping it and then trying to pick it up again a month later can actually take more energy and resolve than sticking with it.

Press Release

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- **Use staffing agencies.** More and more employers are using "contingent workers," especially during time of economic recovery and uncertainty. These jobs often turn into full time, regular employment. Even if they don't, the experience can yield another positive employer recommendation.

For additional information on WorkNet Pinellas' no cost programs and services please visit www.worknetpinellas.org or call (727) 524-4344.

About WorkNet Pinellas

WorkNet Pinellas is a member of the Employ Florida statewide network of workforce services and resources. To locate any of WorkNet's Pinellas County One-Stop Centers visit www.worknetpinellas.org or call (727) 524-4344. WorkNet is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by calling TTY/TDD 711.

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