

Priesthood and Relief Society Leadership Presentation

Employment Training & Collaboration: Wards and Stakes

by John Kuzmich, Jr. & Jim Olsten

e-mail: jkuzmich@earthlink.net

Employment Blog: <http://goldenemployment.blogspot.com>

The Challenge to the Priesthood

Bishop Richard C Edgely – *April 2009 General Conference* – Video excerpt of the first 2:18 minutes. **When the priesthood quorums and relief society embraces the approach Bishop Edgley articulated, networking success is imminent.**

Priesthood Leadership by Dieter F. Uchtdorf October 2011 General Conference - Video: 17:49 minutes covering Church priesthood responsibilities given on the 75th anniversary of the Church's Welfare Plan

Caring for the poor and needy

Becoming Self-Reliant

Serving Our Fellow Men

A Solution to Bishop Edgely's Priesthood Challenge

Job hunting is extremely difficult and it's up to the individual to make it happen.

But with a job coach, employment success is significantly enhanced

And when combined together with the coordinated efforts of the Ward Council, **Employment Success** can/will be achieved as a model networking example of **Compassionate Service in Action!**

High Ward Employment Presence?

A high ward employment presence is essential because:

In the Denver area, only 10% of those members who stand in need have been identified for assistance

This statistic is not atypical in the Church

Quick Test for the Status of an Entire Ward

Are you happy with your present employment?

Is your job and career track stable till retirement years.

Is your financial situation stable?

Are you working two jobs? Spouse working?

Are you developing networks for your next job?

The Magic Formula for Employment Team Success!

The church employment program includes **ward leaders, ward and stake employment specialist** and the **regional employment center** can assist you in all of these areas.

But in order to get help, **job seekers are going to have to identify themselves** at the ward, stake or regional levels. You can also do this on-line at www.ldsjobs.org.

Circle of Caring and Its Barriers

Please know that there are a lot of people who stand ready and are anxious to provide you with assistance.

Circle of Caring is a difference-maker!

Note: the Barriers of Caring can also be common!

Employment Resources

The people responsible to assist their fellow members with employment needs.

Bishop or Branch President	High Priest Group Leader	Relief Society President
First & Second Counselors	Elders Quorum President	Employment Specialist

A religion that cannot save a man temporally does not have power to save him spiritually

Bruce R McConkie (Ensign, May 1979, p92)

The Economic Situation

Current U.S. employment situation is unlikely to improve over the next few years.

- *It will get worse before it gets better.*
- *U-3 unemployment in July is 6.2% but the U-6 category represents broader distressment at 12.2% and even more people have given up on their employment which is not reflected in these statistics.*
- *Minorities have even higher unemployment statistics.*

50% longer to find a job since World War II.

- *32 weeks compared to the previous high of 22 weeks*

One in 6 working LDS adults stressed as
Unemployed or Underemployed

For an in-depth review of employment statistics click [here](#).

The Employment Program

Bishop's Charge And Accountability

- *“The bishop should know the temporal circumstances of his ward members and ensure that proper care and attention are given to those in need. It is not enough for him to respond only when asked for help. To serve effectively, he must seek out the poor. In this responsibility, he may be assisted by priesthood quorum leaders and Relief Society leaders, home teachers and visiting teachers.”*

Providing In The Lord's Way, A Leader's Guide to Welfare

Church Support Resources

- *Financial – tithes and offerings*
- *ldsjobs.org – employment leadership records notebook*

Unit Welfare Committee

President Gordon B. Hinckley said :

“ I am satisfied, my brethren, that there is enough of expertise, of knowledge, of strength, of concern in every priesthood quorum to assist the troubled members of that quorum if these resources are properly administered ” (Ensign, Nov. 1977, pp. 85-86)

A fully functional and effective Ward Council is essential to bring to bear the experience, encouragement, time and talents of the local unit.

The roles of the Ward Council are detailed [here](#)

The Ward Council can utilize ldsjobs.org to organize its efforts and effectively fulfill it's responsibility.

Functions of www.ldsjobs.org

Ward Council

- *Shared record keeping data base for all members of the committee*
- *Private notes section for individual members and the Denver ERC*
- *Resource materials to assist members with their employment responsibilities*
- *Weekly, monthly, quarterly or never receiving e-mail reports of all members needing assistance*

Job Seekers:

- *Profile of skills required*
- *Thousands of positions posted*
- *Receive contact directly from employers*

Employers:

- *Free access to quality workforce*
- *Automatic job links on employer web pages*

My role as: Leader



John (John) Kuzmich, Jr. Edit Name

Username: jkuzmich Change LDS Account Password

Stake Employment Specialist Golden Colorado Stake

Save Changes Cancel

MY ROLES

- CANDIDATE
- EMPLOYER
- STAKE**
- WARD
- STAFF
- ADD ROLE

RECEIVE REPORTS (About candidates in my stake/district)

- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Never

NOTIFY ME (by email)

- when stake/district members create a profile or change their status
- when non-members in my ward/branch boundaries create a profile or change their status

How to use ldsjobs.org

Obtain an account to access the system: [web](#)

Bishop's control of welfare committee accountability: [web](#)

Access confirmed by MLS data records: [web](#)

Access information with the 'Stake and Ward' tab: [web](#)

Review job seeker profile and progress: [web](#)

Include notes for committee coordination: [web](#)

Utilize information for training assistance and
accountability: [web](#)

Additional resources available at the regional level: [web](#)

Job Seeker Road Map

Outline of essential tasks to support the job search process:

- *Assess state of employment : **awareness***
- *Acknowledge and embrace ward / branch support : **humility***
- *Networking : **key to job leads***
- *Develop job search strategies : **organized***
- *Resume : **documentation of qualifications***
- *Resolution of job history issues : **background***
- *Interviewing skills : **practiced and prepared***
- *Negotiating a suitable acceptance : **success***

These tasks are detailed [here](#)

Employment Team Expectations

- You will only become comfortable with this system as **you sign in and use it regularly.**
- **Hands-on experience** will save you time and energy as you work with job seekers.
- The value of the Employment Specialist as a technical expert can not be overstated. This person **can train each member of the welfare committee on this system.** With appropriate training, everyone can be effective and make a difference!

Summary:

Know Your Prime Sources of Jobs in Colorado

Networking is the single most essential ingredient that the Ward Council and priesthood and Relief Society quorums together comprise an effective employment team. Click [here](#)

When appropriate, assign [job coaches](#) for job seekers.

Prime Sources for Prime Jobs in Colorado! are posted [local](#) & [www.kuzmich.com/ward-council/Prime Sources of Jobs in Colorado.pdf](http://www.kuzmich.com/ward-council/Prime_Sources_of_Jobs_in_Colorado.pdf)

More Employment Support for Members

Need Employment Help?

See an overview of employment assistance for the Job Seeker.

[Schedule Free On-Line Consultation](#)

If you find yourself challenged with click on

[Job Seeker Overview](#) and

[Leader's Overview](#).

Questions

- *You have just been fed an elephant*
- *The bites were fairly large*
- *It will take time to digest*

- *There are no stupid questions*
- *There are only compelling answers*

Click [here](#) to return to the beginning of PowerPoint slideshow

- Open / Print out this presentation for: [Ward Council](#)