Discover your world by participating in groups. It is a great way to make strategic connections and to give back to your community. My groups feed our community, conduct interviews with high school and college students, volunteer at career fairs, offer guest speaking gigs at local colleges, receive guest posts for an on-line blog site and facilitate training at career transition group meetings.

Here I am ready to share with those at the Chesterfield Food Bank the tools necessary to build a successful job search process.





While on the Virginia State Campus, promoting the RVA CAREER EXPO, I met Abraham, Ishmael and Jonathan.





I met Paula Pondo, Ed. D. President of Reynolds Community College, at an Encorepreneur networking meeting at the Veritas school 03/2019.





Sharing with Freshmen at the "Maximize Your Study Abroad" class at Virginia Commonwealth University.

These students came to learn how to incorporate their experiences into their BRAND for maximum effectiveness when it's time to look for a job after graduation.

Staying active during your season of job search shows your prospective employer that you are continuing to learn and grow.



Catching up with recruiters and business colleagues at the RVA CAREER EXPO indoor picnic September 2019. Every March and October, Career Prospectors and Jobs Assistance Ministry in partnership with Virginia Tech Alumni, host the RVA CAREER EXPO. Over 1000 job seekers and over 100 companies participate in this premier career expo in Glen Allen, Virginia.

What are **Synapse Hubs**? Diverse groups of business professionals who come together regularly to learn from, do business with, and support one another in business



development, as well as to learn about and support their Hub's nonprofit partner. Synapse quickly pivoted from face-to-face meetings to hosting Synapse Hubcast virtual meetings due to COVID-19.





I conduct mock interviews for students of the EDGE BootCamp at Randolph-Macon College. Students are provided the opportunity to dialog with a business friend of the college in a supportive atmosphere, where they hone their skills in communication, critical thinking and problem solving.

Career Prospectors is a FREE service for job seekers open to the public. Between my consulting gigs, 2015-2018, I would frequent their weekly meetings to update my job seeking skills and knowledge along



with adding to my network of business colleagues in the Richmond, Virginia region.



Cheri Blazer, CEO at Boomer Connections, LLC, published my blog "Career Transition for workers over 50", for the June 2019 edition.

https://boomerconnections.com/thisboomers-life/second-acts/careertransitions-at-50-my-story/





Cristo Rey Richmond, Supervisor Appreciation & Recruitment Breakfast 1/29/20

- Amy McCracken. Founding Director of Corporate Work Study/Chief Talent Officer delivered the welcome greeting.
- ➤ Gabe Obregon, Assistant to the President/Chief of Staff, a Cristo Rey graduate, is heading up the Corporate Work Study Program for the school in Richmond.

Follow this link to learn more about your business becoming a partner in the Work Study program at Cristo Rey Richmond.

https://www.cristoreyrichmond.org/work-study/becoming-a-partner/

#### Meet Bruce



I had a 6-month lapse in employment due to resigning my former job after my wife took a new job in another city. I needed help re-branding myself and refining my message and leveraging my existing professional network to achieve success. I broadened my network at a local career fair where I asked prospective employers targeted questions crafted using information gained from online research. At the end of the day, I was able to increase my job search outreach and improved my branding and image. — Bruce C.



Richmond, Virginia is buzzing with non-profits and new business startups. There are digital groups and face-to-face groups that nurture professional development and contribute to local businesses growth. Here is a brief sampling.

Group Name	Website
Linkedin Groups	https://www.linkedin.com/groups/
Meetup Groups	https://www.meetup.com/
Pro Richmond	http://theprocommunity.com/
We Are More	https://www.wamrva.com/
TwoTwelveReferrals	https://www.twotwelvereferrals.com/find-a-team/
Business Network	
International (BNI) –	
to find a chapter	https://www.bni.com/find-a-chapter?address=23832
BNI – Home Site	http://bniva.com/en-US/index
Career Prospectors	http://career-prospectors.com/index.html
Jobs Assistance	
Ministry	https://saint-mikes.org/jobs-assistance-ministry
Synapse – WebSite	https://www.synapsehubs.com/
Events on Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/pg/Synapsehubs/events/?ref=page_internal

### Financial Planning and Support are available through:

- VA Employment Commission: <u>www.vec.virginia.gov</u>
- Central Virginia Foodbank (CVFB): <u>feedmore.org/foodbank</u>
- Goodwill: https://www.goodwill.org/category/blog/career-and-financial-advice/

#### **Business News**

- Richmond BizSense: <a href="http://www.richmondbizsense.com/">http://www.richmondbizsense.com/</a>
- Richmond Metro Business Calendar:
   http://www.timesdispatch.com/business/local/metro-business/full-metro-business-calendar-for-april/article 9b281473-55f6-5815-9091-5fba13f05f9d.html

### Social Media Web Links - https://www.thebalancecareers.com

- Job Searching
- Top Social Media Sites



- Do's and Don'ts of Job Search
- How to Use LinkedIn Effectively
- · Get Active on Twitter

### **Other Popular Websites:**

www.connectVA.org – "The Community Foundation envisions a strong nonprofit community working successfully in cross-sector collaborations, contributing to a thriving region. Cohesive efforts are vital to community change; all sectors — nonprofit organizations, businesses, government and others — are essential. Their team strives to build bridges within and across these sectors for improved organizational communication and maximum impact."

<u>www.handsonrva.org</u> – "HandsOn Greater Richmond provides a link for individuals, families, teams, and corporate groups to join and engage in meaningful volunteer opportunities within the Greater Richmond region. Offering unique, fun, and flexible ways to get connected and involved and provide volunteer management resources to the nonprofit sector."

<u>www.referenceUsa.com</u> – "ReferenceUSA is the premier source of business and residential information for reference and research. ReferenceUSA offers the most up-to-date data available in the market. In fact, our business and consumer databases are continuously updated from more than 5,000 public sources. With our help, your patrons will be able to:

- Find jobs by job skills, location, and industry
- Find business opportunities
- Locate companies nationwide
- Research business executives
- View historical market trends
- Track down addresses and phone numbers
- Discover news articles for research"

<u>www.virginiabusiness.com</u> – "Virginia Business is the only publication dedicated to covering economic activity in every sector and every region of the state. Since its creation, our magazine has won awards, attracted loyal readers and established a reputation as a "must read" for anybody who wants to stay abreast of commercial events in the commonwealth."



https://local.job-applications.com/jobs/virginia/richmond/ - this is a list of current Richmond Entry Level jobs.

Choose to make your job search a positive experience by joining multiple groups.

