

Frequently Asked Questions **About WorkNet**

1. What is WorkNet?

It is a dynamic, creative, interactive career development curriculum designed for the disadvantaged unemployed and underemployed. Comprising workshop content using Student Journals or Fast Track pamphlets, games, exercises and mentoring relationships, the WorkNet Model guides participants through an engaging process that leads to meaningful employment. Workshop topics include: Work Motivation, My Career Planner, Career Path Strategies, Working for Advancement, Understanding the U. S. Business Culture, Overcoming Barriers to Employment, Job Search Strategies, Marketing Yourself on Paper, Marketing Yourself Over the Phone, and Marketing Yourself in Person.

2. Who is WorkNet designed for?

This curriculum is for churches reaching out to the chronically unemployed or difficult-to-place populations. It is ideally suited to churches with resources to sustain the on-going operations of such a program, i.e. staff person or volunteer to function as program coordinator/trainer, access to computers and phones, classroom space to hold workshops, and finances to purchase materials in the future. However, churches with limited capacity can customize WorkNet to their ministry setting or work in partnership with existing job preparedness programs. WorkNet offers tools any sized church can use.

3. What is distinctive about WorkNet?

This is one of the most outstanding career development models for people at risk. WorkNet is a highly successful career development curriculum specifically designed for the difficult-to-place candidate, i.e. former substance abusers, ex-offenders, chronically unemployed, etc. It helps a person discover their fields of fascination and begin a career path in a field they already love. Highly creative and interactive exercises help participants uncover their barriers to employment and identify appropriate solutions. Participants learn about the U.S. business culture and how to design confident, honest, and positive responses to those difficult interview questions. After learning how to think like the employer and market themselves appropriately, candidates begin calling employers to set up appointments for interviews.

It was co-developed and written by Elisabeth Harney Sanders-Park, a follower of Christ with more than fifteen years of experience in hands-on career development with the at-risk population. She is also the co-author of the best-selling reference book entitled "*No One Is Unemployable.*"

4. How can you respond to spiritual needs as you use the WorkNet curriculum?

Although the WorkNet model was written in neutral language to be used in a variety of settings, you will discover many opportunities to respond to spiritual needs throughout the process. As candidates explore their fields of fascination, you can talk about God's love for them and His special purpose for their lives. As they explore the skills they

enjoy using, you can explain how God has created them uniquely for the contribution He wants them to make to this world. As they consider their barriers to employment, you can share about the relationship they can have with Jesus and His power to help them overcome these challenges. Graduations can take place in worship services, and invitations can be made to the various events and services offered at your church. HLIC also makes available Foundation of Hope messages that contain a series of 30-minute devotional topics for use in the classroom. The options to respond to spiritual need are limitless.

5. What are some ways churches can get started using the WorkNet curriculum?

Although the ideal is to see churches use the complete WorkNet curriculum in its entirety, some churches choose one or two modules that meet a specific need. For example, the working class poor are an at-risk population. A church could take an evangelistic approach to the module called Working for Advancement and offer it as a one-time workshop for low-income wage earners. Perhaps, a church wants to help people market themselves for the workplace. They could purchase the “Marketing Yourself on Paper, in Person, and on the Phone” series, or they could do a seminar on “Understanding the U. S. Business Culture” and have someone share their testimony of faith in Christ as they describe their work environment and culture. Several of the workshops stand alone and can be used to supplement an existing ministry program or can be used during a one-time event.

6. What does Here’s Life Inner City offer?

Twice a year, HLIC sponsors a “train the trainer” workshop to equip potential trainers in the use of the WorkNet curriculum and how to design a career development center. HLIC provides materials and training (*valued at approximately \$1,000*) for the trainers’ workshop. Continental breakfast and lunch are included during the training days. If a church is ready to open a career development center within six months of the training, HLIC will purchase a set of materials and accessories (*valued at approximately \$1,200*) for the first 20 participants to help start the ministry’s career development center. **These gift materials are only available to under-resourced churches that begin their programs within six months of the training.**

The next trainers’ workshop entitled “Forward Bound the WorkNet Way” will be held October 31 through November 3, 2007 in Jacksonville, FL. It will begin with a welcome dinner Wednesday evening, October 31 at 6:30 p.m.

7. What is the cost to each ministry?

A fee of \$200 is requested per person for registration (*to be applied toward training expenses*). After receiving the gift set of materials, ministries are responsible for all operational costs for their centers and material purchases (*10% discount on materials for the first year, if ordered through HLIC—see www.worknetsolutions.com for more details on cost of materials*).

8. What does the training schedule look like?

On Wednesday evening, October 31, 6:30 p.m., we will get to know each other at a

Welcome Dinner at Dona Maria's Mexican Restaurant at The Jacksonville Landing. Training begins bright and early Thursday, November 1 through Saturday, November 3 from 8:45 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. each day. **It is critically important to attend all sessions.** We are condensing one week of training into three days. If you miss any portion, you will miss major segments. If you are unable to attend all sessions, you may not receive additional WorkNet materials gifted by HLIC.

Location of training: *8493Baymeadows Way, 32256 at Team JAS*

9. Can I audit the workshop? Yes, you are welcome to join us for the training November 1-3 for \$10 per day if you just wish to get an overview; however, you will not receive any materials. All alumni from previous trainings may bring all of their own materials and also audit for \$10 per day. Be sure to bring all your materials from your original training.

10. How do you register for the WorkNet Trainers' Workshop?

Email Susan.Hill@ccci.org or call at 904-448-0737, ext. 4#. Your checks should be made payable to Here's Life Inner City for \$200.00 per person to guarantee your registration and sent to Susan Hill, c/o Here's Life Inner City, Campus Crusade for Christ, 5860 Mt. Carmel Terrace, Jacksonville, FL 32216.

11. What if I want more information on WorkNet?

For additional information, contact Sandy Barnett with Here's Life Inner City at 718-391-4491/email: Sandy.Barnett@ccci.org. For information on materials, you may also consult WorkNet's website at www.worknetsolutions.com.