



Lunchtime Learning Leads to Changed Lives

**Your support helps residents in our community turn their
job searches into meaningful employment.**

As the glass doors open in front of her, Lisa Raymond strides into the Library with a clear sense of purpose. Leaving behind the sounds of cars and buses whizzing along Smithfield Street, she is greeted by the steady hum of quiet conversations, clicking computer keyboards and a familiar voice.

“Hi, Lisa. How are you?” calls out Sally Nava, the social service lead librarian at CLP - Downtown & Business. “Is it lunchtime already?” she asks checking her watch.

Lisa smiles and waves and then heads down the stairs. After a quick scan of the room, she finds an unoccupied table in the back and sets up

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Because of donors like you, the Library is able to provide free career-building workshops, résumé assistance and networking programs to help area job seekers secure meaningful work.

shop. On the menu for today are two in-person meetings: one for a résumé reboot; the other, a mock interview.

It's a typical Thursday afternoon for Lisa, a Library volunteer who gladly trades in her lunch hour to offer practical advice, constructive feedback and personal encouragement to library patrons hoping to convert online job searches into real-life jobs.

In 1977, Lisa's parents started Choice Personnel and more than four decades later, with Lisa at the helm, the company remains committed to helping people find work. A certified life coach and author of *It's Your Job*, she knows there are plenty of people struggling to turn the corner and find a new way forward.

That's something library staff like Sally know as well. "It's heartbreaking to see people spending hours and hours on their job search and not getting the kind of responses they want, not getting that job interview," she says.

Luckily, thanks to you, the Library can provide job programs that involve dedicated volunteers like Lisa. For over a year, and still counting, she's been volunteering her time and expertise to assist anyone—immigrants, refugees, parolees, recent college grads, those who have lost their jobs and those trying to make a career change—in negotiating the sometimes confusing, often frustrating work of looking for a job.

"People come as they are," Lisa says. "What I do is try to help them get to the next level." The outcomes, Lisa affirms, are as unique as the job seekers themselves and mean a world of difference in their lives. ■



Thank you
for transforming lives one lunch hour at a time through your financial support.