



# JOBS *for* LIFE

Building lives. One job at a time.



*"This is the best Job Search Workshop I have attended in Morgantown. Recruiters help you become the kind of people that companies are looking for "*

*Di P.*

*-JfL Graduate*

## Transforming Lives and Communities Through Work

Through our program Jobs for Life (JfL), we provide powerful tools to transform lives and empower people. JfL offers a unique solution to poverty and joblessness in our community. We provide job skills training, ongoing mentor assistance, and networking opportunities to those who are struggling to find and keep employment.

The JfL program gives biblical understanding of work and surrounds students with support from their community. By attending our classes, students gain access to a network of resources they need to take care of themselves and their families.

We believe work gives us dignity, value, and purpose. Through the JfL program men and women develop the character, confidence and core work skills to prepare them for work and life.

## Session topics include:

- Understanding My Value
- Perseverance, Positive Attitude, and Conflict Resolution
- Effective Communication Skills and Customer Satisfaction
- Developing a Vocational Plan and Résumé
- Managing Employer Expectations

**CLASSES ARE FORMING,  
REGISTER NOW!**

**Christian Help, Inc.  
219 Walnut St.  
Morgantown, WV, 26505**

**February 22—April 12  
Monday and Thursday Evenings  
5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Contact Kirk Haas at  
(304) 296-0221  
JobsForLife  
@MoTownChristianHelp.com**

**For more information about  
Christian Help please visit:  
[www.MoTownChristianHelp.com](http://www.MoTownChristianHelp.com)**

## Community Member Support

In addition to the training, every JfL student has a champion (mentor) who provides the student friendship and support during the training, and following graduation. With this training and support system, Christian Help and the community provide a reliable, trustworthy workforce to meet the pressing employment needs of companies in Morgantown.

By joining the JfL program, our volunteers are able to connect to their neighbors and be seen as a leader and resource for positive change to many of our communities problems.

## Business Partners

Students can use JfL as a platform to build relationships with local businesses that offer employment to those in need of work. In exchange, JfL for life provides

local businesses with employees who understand the value of work.

Become one of our business partners by supporting our program, and together, we can begin to make a real transformation in our community.

- **Participate in a class:** Serve as an interviewer during mock interviews or as a part of employer roundtables
- **Provide funding:** Consider sponsoring our JfL program by conducting a workplace event to support our program
- **Hire a JfL graduate:** Contact our site to access potential employees.



# The Impact / Costs of Unemployment

## Poverty

In 2012, over 46.5 million people are living in poverty in the U.S. This figure is up from 37 million in 2007 and the highest amount in our countries history. <sup>1</sup> In Monongalia County, 22.4% of the population is below poverty level.<sup>A</sup>

## Homelessness

Climbing out of homelessness is virtually impossible for those without a job. 3.5 million people will experience homelessness each year. <sup>2</sup> 35% of which are families with children.

## Domestic Violence

An extensive report by the National Institute of Justice found that the rate of violence against women increases as male unemployment increases. <sup>3</sup> Almost 700 individuals were served by West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence in 2012.<sup>B</sup>

## Crime

Rising crime rates are often directly associated with lower wages and rising unemployment. Persons below the Federal Poverty Level have more than double the rate of violent crime as those in high-income households. <sup>4</sup>

## Effects on Family

A parents unemployment can cause much devastation in a family. Poverty drives children away from education and into an unsavory lifestyle. <sup>5</sup> Unemployment also brings on financial stress which one of the leading reason that couples site for divorce. <sup>6</sup>

## Depression and Suicide

In addition to a diminished sense of self, those exposed to unemployment exhibit higher levels of anxiety, depression, and lack of sleep. Unemployed people are two to four times as likely to commit suicide. <sup>7</sup>

## References

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2. Overview of Homelessness In America. (n.d.). Retrieved September 11, 2015, <http://www.studentsagainsthunger.org/page/hhp/overview-homelessness-america>
3. Economic Distress and Intimate Partner Violence. (2009, January 5). Retrieved September 14, 2015, <http://www.nij.gov/topics/crime/intimate-partner-violence/pages/economic-distress.aspx> 2009
4. Household Poverty and Nonfatal Violent Victimization, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=5137> 2014
5. R. Connell (1994) Poverty and Education. Harvard Educational Review: July 1994, Vol. 64, No. 2, pp. 125-150.
6. Leading Causes of Divorce. (n.d.). Retrieved September 14, 2015, from <https://www.institutedfa.com/Leading-Causes-Divorce/> Milner A, Page A, LaMontagne AD (2013) Long-Term Unemployment and Suicide: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. PLoS ONE 8(1): e51333. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0051333
- A. Monongalia County, West Virginia Quick Facts. (2015, August 5). Retrieved September 14, 2015, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/54/54061.html>
- B. Behavioral Health Epidemiological County Profile for Monongalia County. (2014, February 1). Retrieved September 14, 2015.

*“We have seen many wonderful outcomes as people who believed they don’t have a future, learn their individual purpose and find hope through the skills and principles that they learn through Jobs for Life”*

*-Kirk Haas*

*JfL Site Leader,*

*Christian Help*



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**FUNDED PARTNER**  
**United Way**  
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