Path Forward

Restarting Your Career After Caregiving
Social Media Posts

• Hashtag: #MyPathFWD19
• Remember to tag us!
  • Twitter and Facebook: @PathFWD
  • LinkedIn: @Path Forward.org
Path Forward

#MyPathFWD19
What is a returnship?

- Temporary
- Full-time
- Paid
- Mid-level
- Specific qualifications vary
- Mentoring vs. training
- Require a gap for caregiving
- Employers manage the application process

Path Forward FAQ
3 Steps To Restart Success

1. Find Your People (Or, Build Your Network)

2. Analyze Your Career Assets

3. Tell Your Story
Find Your People
(Or, Build Your Network)
Old way of thinking:
“It’s not what you know, it’s who you know.”
New way of thinking:
“Who you know, is what you know.”
What You Can Learn From Your Network

- How your skills can be applied to new areas
- What skills are most desired in a given field
- The language of a particular industry or company
- What companies are hiring and in what areas
- The hidden hierarchy in a company
- The culture and values of a company
Where do I find my people?
Online ...

![Linkedin](image)
![Twitter](image)
![GitHub](image)
![Stack Overflow](image)

IRL ...

- Reunions
- Classes
- Networking events
- Volunteer events
Analyze Your Career Assets
Things I LOVE To Do

Things I Want To Learn

Things I Don’t Love To Do
Don’t Overlook Community Service
Job Title: Head of the Town Little League

Skills:
- Persuades using influence vs. authority
- Collaborates with different personalities, manages competing agendas
- Maintains financial viability
- Willingness to lead
The (Dreaded) Resume
MIND THE GAP
Resume Basics

• Create custom versions for different career options
• Follow directions!
• Use a chronological format
• Don’t agonize
Does anyone read cover letters? No.
Do I still need to write a cover letter? Yes.
Because cover letters can …

• Tell the story your resume can’t
• Convey the specific value you bring to the position
• Articulate that you’ve done your research and want to work for that company
• Show (a little) personality
You got the interview!!!
How Do You Get To Carnegie Hall?
The Elements To Practice
3 Steps To Restart Success

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Book Recommendation

http://50waystogetajob.com/
One last piece of advice ....
Connect With Us

Web: www.pathforward.org
Email: hello@pathforward.org

The Path Forward Career Restart Kit
A four-part series with recordings, links and more

Facebook and LinkedIn

Twitter @PathFWD & @TamiMForman

Forbes

#MyPathFWD19
Path Forward Resources

- Return to Work Programs Around the US
- Finding Your Way
- The Best Free Online Resources to Uplevel Your Coding Skills
- Translating Non-work Experience into Business Language
- Keep Going
- Catchafire: A Platform for Strategic Volunteering
- Write Your Next Job Description
- Doing Informational Interviews The Right Way
- Finding Your Tribe
- How To Make A Fabulous Introduction
- 5 Ways To Take Your Job Search Out Into the World
- Does Anyone Bother With Cover Letters Anymore? (Yes, And Here’s How to Write a Good One)
- Writing A Resume After (More Than) a Few Years Out of the Workforce
- Send Me Your Resume
- Successful Interviews: What to Do Before, After, and During an Interview
- The Importance of Doing an Interview Post-Mortem
- How To Find Professional References If You Don’t Have Recent Work Experience
- Mastering Behavioral Job Interviews with the STAR Method
Common Questions About Path Forward

Are these regular full-time jobs with benefits? Am I guaranteed a job offer at the end of the program?
Why should I apply for an internship when I have great experience? Should I focus on finding a full-time job?
I signed up on the Path Forward site, now what?
I don’t live in any of the cities where you have openings listed. When will you have opportunities in my city?
What are the criteria for being offered a Path Forward internship?
I meet the Path Forward criteria, does that mean I qualify for the job listed?
What if I don’t meet ALL the job qualifications? Can I still apply?
What kind of support can I expect in the program?
# How nonpaid work translates into the workforce

| Running a volunteer project (PTA, religious org, community org) | • Ability to persuade using influence vs. authority  
• Ability to collaborate with different personalities, manage competing agendas  
• Focus on goals and accomplishments  
• Raise funds and maintain financial viability  
• Ability and willingness to lead |
|---|---|
| Participating in a volunteer project | • Maintain commitment to a cause despite ambiguity of roles and responsibilities  
• Ability to collaborate with different personalities, manage competing agendas  
• Manage your own performance to accomplish team’s goals  
• Demonstrate passion and drive |
| Managing your child’s special needs case | • Navigating complex bureaucracies and rules  
• Adhering to deadlines and schedules  
• Processing complex information and making decisions with limited information |
| Coordinating an international move | • Navigating complex bureaucracies and rules  
• Adhering to deadlines and schedules  
• Adapting to differing culture and supporting family in their adaptation  
• Learning a foreign language |
Formatting Your Resume

- Understand how resumes get submitted
  - Formatted resumes, with centering, bullet points, tabs etc., are fine for printing and for submitting as a PDF
  - Applicant tracking systems (ATS) sometimes requiring filling in a form
  - Resumes submitted to an ATS need to be plain text: flush left, no special characters, no bullets, no tabs no formatting
- Always email PDF versions – never send anything that can be edited
- Be careful with cutting and pasting a resume into an online application!
- Double check that it didn’t reformat or add wonky formatting
### Using The STAR Method To Answer Interview Questions

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| **Situation** | Set the scene with a situation that illustrates your skills and experience  
|          | Use the 5 W’s: Who (Who was involved?), What (What was the challenge?), Where, When, and Why (Why did you have to overcome the challenge?)  
|          | Aim to sum up your situation in just a few sentences |
| **Task**      | Describes what you needed to achieve or the task you had to complete  
|          | Explain any obstacles or constraints |
| **Action**    | Explain the steps you took to achieve the task.  
|          | Speak specifically about what you did and use the word “I” when describing the action  
|          | If a team was involved describe your role and how you worked with others |
| **Result**    | Share the outcome of the situation  
|          | Talk about what you learned during this experience  
|          | The results could be positive or negative—in fact be sure to prepare stories of situations where something didn’t work out, since that’s also a common question |