

Hire Up Session 13

Green Mountain Self-Advocates has planned this series of Hire Up meetings to provide peer support to individuals who are unemployed or underemployed. The purpose of the group is to practice self-advocacy skills, explore individual dreams for employment, share experiences, explore the barriers to employment, get to know each other, and provide support to one another.

Set up: This meeting set up is for 12 people or less. It works best if you sit at tables. Arrange tables to allow for an open space for group activities. Snacks need to be provided.

Time: Two hours

Materials: Sign in sheets, group agreements, markers, flip chart, folders, Infomercial Template, Infomercial Rating Sheet, Video Recorder, TV

Teaches Participants: To present themselves and to evaluate others.

Note to Trainers: Before the meeting the trainers need to practice this workshop and decide who will be teaching each section. Write the name of the trainer on the blank line before each part in the script. The instructions on what to do are in black and suggestions of what to say are in red. We strongly recommend that you use your own words and try not to read from the script. It is better to speak from your heart. Reading from a script can sometimes sound boring.

Getting Started

As people arrive, all the trainers should say “hello” and introduce themselves. Make people feel welcome. Give a new participant a folder.

Check in and Group Agreements

20 minutes



Good morning, glad to see you all again. You probably remember my name is _____.



And I'm _____. We're glad you are here.



Let's review our Group Agreements and then we'll get started.

Go over the group agreements.



This morning we want to hear how things are going at work or with the job hunt. What's bugging you at work?

Activity: Infomercial Taping and Rating



This is the week you get to present your Infomercial and have it recorded. We are going to pay attention and make sure the person has all the information.

Pass out the rating sheets.



You are the boss doing the interviewing. Does the infomercial cover all the information you need?

Review the sheet.



What else do you need to know? These would be follow up questions.

Discuss follow up questions. What types of information might be missing? Availability, references, any information left out of the Infomercial



We need a volunteer to start.

Trainer tip: Sometimes it helps to pass out numbers to determine who goes first.

Videotape each participant.



Break 10 Minutes

ACTIVITY: Viewing and Rating the Infomercials



Now the fun begins. Watching the video. Grab a Rating Sheet. Let's go over it again.

Review each item and discuss as needed.

Make sure everyone has a pen or pencil.



Watch to see if each topic is covered. Don't forget you can ask follow up questions.

Watch the first Infomercial and Stop



I'll read each item and you circle yes or no.

Read each item to be rated.



Does anyone have a follow up question?



As we share our thoughts, let's tell the person what they did well first and then tell them what they could improve on. Examples might be helpful to the person. Be respectful.

Repeat until all participants have had an opportunity to be taped, rated, and review.

Encourage second takes.



“Take 2!”

ACTIVITY: Story Time
30 minutes

Goal: To share a story of an advocate who is employed
To discuss the advantages of working

Materials: a copy of the “Story of the Week” for everyone

Directions:



We are going to read this story about _____ . Who would like to read the story loud and clear?

Encourage the person you choose to read the story loudly, slowly, and clearly.

Then, lead a discussion using the focus questions on the story.

Evaluation

5 minutes



Time to go already! We have one last thing for you to do. Your ticket out is the evaluation form.

We'll go through this process with you.

I had a chance to speak freely.

Circle: yes not sure no

I learned something about myself today.

Circle: yes not sure no

I got to know another person better today.

Circle: yes not sure no

Lots of ideas were shared.

Circle: yes not sure no

I know what I need to do during the week.

Circle: yes not sure no