

# PVCC NETWORK 2WORK

Real Jobs. Real People. Realizing Potential.

## Newsletter Spring 2019



“The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.” —Chinese Proverb



**PEERS:**

Please take a moment and answer our  
Question of the Month.

With your feedback, we can better serve you and your seeker!

**Question of the Month**



## Partner Highlight: Airport Auto



Here at Network2Work, we know it takes a village. This is why we make sure to take the opportunity to thank our partners and volunteers who help make Network2Work possible.

This month, we would like to give a special shout out to Airport Auto, a car service & repair provider in our region.

Airport Auto is a family owned and operated full service auto repair shop, handling everything from oil changes to full engine replacements.

"We have a great relationship with Network2Work" shared Airport Auto. "We enjoy being able to help the Network2Work Job-Seekers have reliable transportation" and know they are driving away in a car that will be able to get them where they need to go, safely.

Thank you Airport Auto for being a provider in the Network2Work program!

[Visit our website](#)



## Job-seeker of the Month

### Alexis Hill



#### Alexis's Path:

"If you were to tell me four years ago that I would be working for UVA as a C.N.A, I would not have believed you. Now, I couldn't imagine myself doing anything else."

In 2015 Alexis Hill was working in retail when her Peer, Dianna Poe, invited her to a meeting with the head of the Network2Work program. "I remember Dianna telling me to go for it, that this program was going to help me get into a career, and I am so happy that I did". Alexis stated that she first took the C.N.A class in 2016, then after working as a C.N.A, decided to go back to PVCC to enroll in the phlebotomy class. Alexis reported, " I would not have gone back to get my phlebotomy certification if it wasn't for everyone at Network2Work. It was because of

the support and encouragement that I had the confidence to go back." Now, Alexis is preparing for her nursing prerequisite classes that start this June. "Its crazy to even hear myself say that I'm starting my RN pre-requisite classes this summer! Network2Work provided me the pathway and stepping stones to make this dream a reality."

**Alexis's N2Work Experience:** "Network2Work changed my life. Its because of the people and this program that I am more confident and I know what I want to do." Alexis shared she used to be shy, but the N2Work certification class helped provide her the tools, skills and confidence to know what to say in an interview and how to present her best self.

"Network2Work is like family to me, they really care and want to see you succeed. Its because of all the people in this program, that I have been able to keep going with my education and career opportunities."

**Alexis's Advice:** "Stick with it. Do more and keep going. Network2Work is really the type of program that cares, you just need to trust them and trust the process and you will benefit in the long run."

Alexis will also be training to become a Peer in the Network, so that she can connect those she knows who are looking for better paying opportunities.



## Network2Work Connections!

Please join us in welcoming Network2Work's newest team member:  
Monica Johnson!

Monica will be serving as Network2Work's Career & Life Coach. We are so very excited to have her on our team! To learn more about Monica, see her introduction below!

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Hi, my name is Monica Johnson and I'm a native of Charlottesville. I have a Masters in social work and I'm currently working on my LCSW. I am so very excited to join the Network2Work team, and begin to serve you and your Job-Seekers.

A little bit about my background:

I have worked with adults and children who have had various mental health issues. I've also worked as a reentry social worker at a women's prison.

In my free time I enjoy working out and competing in a sport called strongwoman. Currently, I am ranked number two in the nation for a heavyweight amateur women in this sport. I love traveling to Ohio to see my niece, and traveling to other states to feed my more adventurous side. I consider myself an avid learner, enjoying educational and informative podcasts and audio-books; "Criminal" being my current favorite podcast.

Having been raised by a single mother in Charlottesville, I know how tough it can get.

I really love the idea of giving back to my community through my position at Network2Work. My role as the Life and Career Coach enables me to be somewhat creative while tying in my mental health background to further empower and equip Job-Seekers with the tools they need to reach self-sufficiency.

The idea of helping people realize their potential through identifying areas of improvement, while empowering them to achieve their overall goal (stable employment), is something that speaks to both my heart, mind and spirit. I believe, having stable employment with good financial management, can be life changing.

I want to see others have the chance to reach their full potential through accessing good paying jobs, supportive resources and personal development techniques.

I can't wait to get started and getting to know all of you better!

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# N2Work Updates

## Onboardings Now Open!

With Monica's hire, we now encourage you to actively find people to place in the tool as we open eight Onboarding slots per week for new Job-Seekers, beginning June 3rd!!

Thank you all for your patience while we update and improve the program with new staff, processes and supports!

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## INVEST IN & GROW YOUR Job-SEEKER

### *Network2Work Certification*

**Designed to inspire, encourage, and enhance your Job-seeker's skills.**

Our four-week workplace readiness workshops are up and running. If your Seeker has completed their credential training, or, is ready to apply for their identified job, they are required to enroll in a **Network2Work Certification** class!

To enroll, contact **Tori Maxey** at:  
[vmaxey@pvcc.edu](mailto:vmaxey@pvcc.edu) or 434-961-5255

**Week 1:** Tuesday, June 4 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Jefferson School City Center Room J111: Workplace Readiness Skills – Part I

**Week 2:** Tuesday, June 11 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Jefferson School City Center Room J 111: Workplace Readiness Skills – Part 2

**Week 3:** Tuesday, June 18 1-hour between 9:30 am – 3:30 pm by appointment,  
Network2Work offices Personal Mock interview & Job selection

**Week 4:** Tuesday, June 25 2:00 – 4:00 pm Network2Work offices:  
Job Readiness Mock interview, Application assistance, GRADUATION!

## Peer of the Month

**Lori's Start:** Lori leads the Young Lives Mentoring program in Virginia, working with teen moms and their children. A couple of years ago, Lori heard about the program and thought it would be a great opportunity for the young mothers she works with. "Many of the teen mom's I work with are interested in the C.N.A program or health care careers, and Network2Work offers a pathway to these types of jobs."

**Lori's "Why?":**

"Working with these girls, hearing about the poverty in their lives, and wanting to help them fight against the poverty to realize their dreams." Lori believes that the mom's she works with want good lives for their kids, "Network2Work is an avenue through which these women can reach their goals."



**Lori's Experience:** "It has been amazing. Network2Work gives you the feeling that you are not alone." Lori shared she feels extremely equipped and supported, receiving input that is helpful with her Job-Seekers.

**Advice to Peers:** "Do it – it's all worth it. It takes longer for some people than others, but they all have it in them. Be patient. Everyone has a different backstory to listen to. Give them space to grow."

**Lori's Favorite Part of N2Work:** Her relationship with Peer Network Coordinator, Sarah Mendoza, and her involvement with her participants. She really enjoys the feeling of making a difference and impacting their lives!

## Who do YOU know that would make a great PEER?



**Have them sign up for a Peer Network Training!**

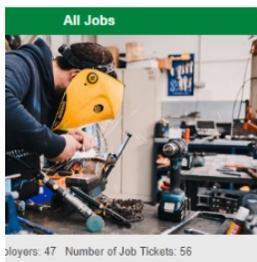
We have Peer training's scheduled so spread the word!  
To register, complete a brief survey by clicking or sharing this link:

## Thank you & Bittersweet Good Byes

Thank you Julia!!! Between January and April of this year, N2W was honored to host our first intern from Uva, third-year Julia Siegel. Julia provided invaluable research and data analysis for multiple aspects of our program. She assisted our team with everything from Newsletter prep to managing our Facebook page to completing multiple reviews of central Virginia employers and social service providers. We miss you Julia but thank you for your service to N2W and for paving the way for future interns!



## Employer Corner



Our Employer Network continues to grow as we are now at 65 employers and, almost 90 individual jobs!

As a Peer and friend of Network2Work, we ask you to inform us when you come across an Employer who is currently NOT in our network, offering jobs that pay \$12.50 or more. We will follow up with all of your suggestions as we expand our list to create a robust assortment of jobs that fit the needs and desires of your/our job seekers.

If you do have an Employer in mind, send them our way!

**[FSquillace@pvcc.edu](mailto:FSquillace@pvcc.edu)**

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