

EMPLOYEE SERIES

Tips for dealing with redundancy.



Don't take it personally: Redundancy is not about your personal performance, but about your company responding to the current economic conditions. It is a business decision, and future employers will understand this.



Emotions: Reactions can vary from mild distress to devastation. Initially you might feel shocked; angry; denial "this can't be happening to me"; sadness for the loss of a great position and/or team; or fear for the future. These are normal reactions and will change over time.



Positive thinking: Negative thinking can make you feel worse or helpless, challenge yourself to see the situation from a more positive perspective.



Financial contingency plan: In this day and age, it's unrealistic to think that any job you have will be a job for life. It is important to pre-empt this and to have a financial contingency plan and be aware of your redundancy entitlements.



Career direction: Reflect where you might like to head for the future. Review your qualifications, skills and interests. Consider updating your resume and perhaps using a professional to assist you with this. Talk to trusted colleagues, friends, family or a career counsellor for additional ideas.



Network: Let your network of friends, family, neighbours and former colleagues know that you are on the market. Job leads can come from anywhere.



Planning: Schedule time for career planning and job hunting. Break down the tasks involved into manageable chunks. Create a career profile, sign up to websites and recruitment agencies.



Goals: Give yourself short-term targets or goals, such as updating your CV within the next fortnight or researching potential employers online.



Focus on your wellness: Maintain your self-care activities such as exercise, maintaining a balanced diet, socialising with friends and family, and normal bedtime routines.



Seek support: Visit a counsellor or other support if you are experiencing difficulties. Many employers allow staff who have been made redundant to utilise their EAP service for up to three months after they have left their employ. If you are eligible, EAP is a free service to assist during challenging times.