Brandon Grubesky

Chapter Name	Southeastern Virginia (SEVA)
Chapter Number (ex. CH0000)	CH4096
Chapter Location (City, State)	Hampton, VA
Chapter Membership Size	Medium (101 - 300)
Contact Person for this Submission:	Jeff Gehris
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Phone Number:	(757) - 876 - 2005
Chapter Board Position:	President
Chapter Website URL:	http://www.seva.astd.org
Submission Title:	Career Club
Submission Description:	Hampton Roads has a fairly unique job market in the best of times and unemployment is at record highs. Having a support group, widening your professional network, and keeping on top of job search skills is crucial. SEVA Career Club provides all three in an informal atmosphere. The Career Club is open to adults looking to start or enhance their career in training and development. Membership in the chapter is not required.
Need Addressed:	The Career Club meets on the second Saturday of each month. They address topics such as Finding Federal Service Jobs, Building a Resume, Helping the Interviewer Discover Your Qualifications, and The Art of Networking. The sessions cover a wide dynamic to ensure we are meeting the needs of new workplace learning professionals and individuals looking for the next great opportunity.
Does this effort align with your chapter's mission?	- Yes
Does this submission align with ASTD's mission?	- Yes
Target Audience:	The target audience is all workplace learning and performance professionals regardless of time spent in the profession.
Costs/Resources Used: (include any funding you were able to get through donations, contributions, barter, etc. and how you went about getting these resources. Also include how much volunteer/board member time this effort took)	The chapter budgets $500 per year toward the Saturday events. This cost covers all materials for the participants as well as breakfast at each event. We also ask for donations from attendees. To date we have received $75 in donations. All presenters are volunteers and our two coordinators are also volunteers. Each session is conducted in a two hour time frame.
How did you implement: (please give a brief description)	We implemented this program as a result of our annual member satisfaction survey. Members identified the need to hone their employment search, interview, and networking skills. The members realized there are many avenues to search for jobs and needed guidance navigating the avenues.
What were the Outcomes: (include financial, membership increases, target audience	The outcomes of this initiative have exceeded our expectations. We have seen an increase in membership directly from the Career Club. We have also had

satisfaction levels, publicity for the chapter, and of the profession)	many success stories where participants have found employment as a result of the skills they learned at the events. In addition, we have identified strengths in the participants that allowed us to use them to mentor other participants.
Lessons Learned: (hints and tips for other chapters who may be considering a similar effort)	The biggest lesson learned was to start small and stick to what you know. We took the time to identify our areas of expertise at the beginning of the program. Now, a year into it, we are branching out to other organizations to partner with (i.e., HRSHRM, HRISPI) and expanding the topics being presented. We let our resources grow with the program as opposed to searching for all the answers from the start.
Please list the specific ASTD chapter resources that helped guide you in the process of completing this best practice.	Our biggest resource was a chapter member who has a passion for driving the Career Club. She ensures all the details are tended to and found a suitable location that allowed for regular meetings. Without her willingness and capacity to drive the program it may never have achieved the levels it has today.