



YOU'VE BEEN LAID OFF - NOW WHAT? 3 IMMEDIATE STEPS YOU NEED TO TAKE

Layoffs are more common today than you would want them to be - and it is very much possible that you might be the next "victim" of the recession. However, as bad as it sounds and feels this is definitely not something you cannot improve with just a little diligence and perseverance. **3 Immediate Steps You Need to Take** First of all, you need to keep in mind that above all this is NOT your fault. Bad things happen; and this time bad things have happened to you. As long as it is not a life and death matter - you can tackle anything and come out a winner. True, this is a considerable setback; but with a little planning, the right attitude and purposeful steps forward, it can be beaten.

1. **Share the News With Your Family** - Many keep the bad news from their family assuming that they "cannot handle it". Suppressing stress and keeping the crisis inside is not a healthy **way to handle a layoff**. You need the support of your family in more ways than one; and they need to know. That is what families are there for - to support and help one another in times of crisis. You will need to cut on expenses, look for other means to earn, and perhaps count on the help of your family members in many ways. They have to know; and the best time to tell them is immediately when it happens.
2. **Prioritize Your Expenses on the Monthly Budget** - Immediately go to your budget and cut out all the expenses that you could live without. Pay only for the must-haves. You will need to conserve as much money as possible until you find another way to earn an income. Until then, live as simple as possible. Having money in your pocket will give you the self-assurance you need when you are looking for other means of earning money.
3. **Brainstorm on Possibilities You Have** - More often than not, layoffs are opportunities in disguise. When you are off that comfortable perch you occupied in your job, you suddenly open your wings and find that you can soar much above the place you have been. Brainstorm on the possibilities you have and the opportunities that you can take up right now. Look at all the avenues available and try many simultaneously. Do not put your eggs in one basket anymore; look for multiple ways to earn money. You will be surprised with what ideas - and opportunities - you will get.

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