

# ParentJobNet

*Connecting people with opportunities*

A Non-Profit Organization-501(C)3

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **ParentJobNet Created To Help New York City Parents**

*New Non-profit Networking Organization Dedicated to Assisting Parents And Caregivers Of School Children Get Jobs, Develop Skills, And Provide Other Opportunities*

ParentJobNet, Inc., recently announced that it will aggressively move forward in developing new and vital services that are designed to benefit the parents of school-aged children in New York City, now that it has officially received its 501(c)3 designation from the Internal Revenue Service.

ParentJobNet is a non-profit networking service designed primarily to assist parents and caregivers of school children to find jobs, boost their careers, and, in so doing, their quality of life. City Council Member Gale Brewer serves on the Advisory Board of ParentJobNet.

The organization was formed in December 2004 to service parents at PS 87, which is one of the most sought-after public elementary schools on the Upper West Side. Since then, in keeping with the demand, the company has expanded its on-line services beyond PS 87 to include the entire District 3 community. People throughout Manhattan can use the on-line networking services. According to the organization's strategic plan, it intends to slowly expand throughout the entire city, then the tri-state region, and ultimately, in several years, to school communities throughout the U.S.

ParentJobNet is headed by Patricia Craddick, who created the organization when she realized that the wealth of knowledge possessed by parents of school children could be tapped and, in effect, harnessed into community networking opportunities.

"Recently, the Department of Education made a smart move by placing Parent Coordinators in public schools to engage parents in their children's education. But they failed to address one critical aspect of raising children, which is, the economic hardships that parents may often face when raising children and the role jobs and careers play in creating a financially and emotionally stable family life. I created ParentJobNet to address and assist with those needs," Craddick said.

Craddick, whose daughter attends PS 87, went on to say that when parents are financially stable, not only are they able to make monetary contributions to their children's schools, but their ability to send children to school ready to learn improves. At the same time, their emotional willingness to participate in meaningful in-school and parenting activities greatly increases.

ParentJobNet ([www.ParentJobNet.org](http://www.ParentJobNet.org)) provides online and offline networking programs for parents and caregivers of school-age children. The company aims to provide this constituency with the ability to access and share vital information about jobs, career enhancement, job sharing, industry-specific support groups, learning and development, and generally provide them with information that will empower them professionally and in their role as parents and role models for their children.

**More...**

The 501(c)(3) designation empowers ParentJobNet to secure funding to expand its program and provide the much-needed programs and services it has been planning since its inception. These include **AccessEnglish**, a free on-site ESL program, which is currently being offered at District 3 public schools on the Upper West Side. This program was designed for parents and caregivers wishing to improve their English for the purpose of securing employment, helping their children in school, and improving their ability to interact in the community-at-large.

"Whether they are currently unemployed, need to further their education in order to find a new job or simply want to help their children with their homework and be better able to communicate in their daily lives, AccessEnglish can help," says Chelsea Roberts, director of AccessEnglish. "We are different from other programs in that we are reaching out to those who would otherwise not go to school. Some have no time, no money, or no childcare. Others are simply afraid or frustrated. Our classes are free. Our schedule is determined by the students' availability. Lessons are in small groups or even one-on-one. And they can bring their children, their mothers, and their lunch," says Roberts.

Another program, currently underway, is the **AccessTraining** program. This program was designed to provide first-hand introduction to programs that offer computer training, resume writing, interviewing and negotiating skills, as well as social services tailored to the needs of families and children.

"AccessTraining will connect parents with organizations that provide exactly the kind of job training and readiness services they need. Through AccessTraining conferences, we will invite these organizations to address parents and inform them as to how they can access these services," says Amy Carr, director of Special Projects. "In this way, ParentJobnet will be further fulfilling its mandate to help parents acquire the tools they need to secure employment, sometimes the first step in providing a comfortable and safe environment for their children, exactly the kind of environment that promotes emotional, social, and of course, academic learning," she adds.

The organization's Local Networking Chapters serve as industry-specific offline meeting grounds for parents wishing to network and support one another in a more personal way.

Those wishing to join ParentJobNet need only log on to [www.parentjobnet.org](http://www.parentjobnet.org) and follow the simple directions provided. Membership is free for individuals, who may, among other things, access job listings, post their services, and inform the community about job openings. ParentJobNet is very concerned about the privacy of its members. In fact, the organization does not ask for personal information, except for an email address and school affiliation, which are used for administrative purposes. Small businesses and corporation pay a modest fee for job listings.

ParentJobNet is not a chat room. Parents and others email information to site managers and the information they provide is reviewed by an offline moderator who, in turn, posts it on the site.

ParentJobNet's primary mission is to empower parents and others in the school community to secure jobs and advance their careers. It firmly believes that adults on whom children depend for their livelihood prove strong employees because they are uniquely motivated to work hard. Statistics reveal that these types of individuals tend to be better educated and more highly motivated than job seekers in the general population.

To achieve this mission, ParentJobNet enables parents to harness one of the most powerful tools available in an increasingly technologically complex world. It's called, WOM, or WORD OF MOUTH, and its power has created a great deal of buzz in the advertising community, which is realizing that when its product empowers this process it creates a strong ROI (return on investment) for its clients.

"ParentJobNet's online program, which is designed to empower communication between parents and the business world, parents and parents, parents and community resources, acts as a kind of online Word of Mouth vehicle," says Pat Craddick. "And once people have connected online, they may, if they wish, choose to meet face to face to deepen the process," she adds.

ParentJobNet, which was founded on a social service model, exists to serve its members. In so doing, the company aims to help families provide a safe and financially-secure environment in which children can learn and grow.

ParentJobNet is there for you. Use it! [www.ParentJobNet.org](http://www.ParentJobNet.org).

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