THE HOMEWORK WAS SHORT but important: Who can you list as a job reference? In this PATHWAYS to Employment and Education class, a one-week program designed by Dr. Cheryl Cook-Posley, senior director of Workforce Development and Education, students are learning the skills necessary to secure and sustain employment, higher education or vocational training.

Volunteer Dr. Robert Mackay, economics professor and consultant, is teaching this class today with the help of Employment and Education Coordinator Dana Thompson and volunteer business professionals Ellen Bredt and Laurie Larson-Jackson.

Networking is Important
At a table in the Mission chapel, four students talk about creating a job network from scratch. They discuss their backgrounds and brainstorm who would be their best candidates. Chris says that his job didn’t end so well. Dr. Mackay replies that this is a good time to reconcile. Apologize to the employer for any trouble you caused, then tell about your new situation and ask humbly if he would be a reference for you.

James is worried; his reference is from decades ago. Dr. Mackay responds, “Who else can you ask? What about me? What about the chaplains and job supervisors at the Mission?” James brightens as he realizes “the Mission has his back.”

The Larger Picture
The students learn that their character reflects on the people who serve as their references and on the Mission itself. “We are the pioneers; we are the example for those who come after us,” comments Richard. It’s a new responsibility for them.

PATHWAYS graduates are on track to thrive as employees with confidence, skills and respect—all because you and Central Union Mission have their backs. Please pray for these men and our other program participants as they strive determinedly to renovate their lives.

If your company has jobs available, please contact Dr. Cook-Posley at ccook-posley@missiondc.org or 202.745.7118, ext. 199. To hear more from our PATHWAYS students, visit http://bit.ly/2BauUPs.
Thank You for Your Partnership

Every donation you make of your time, talent or treasure has an impact on the lives of people returning to productive society from poverty and homelessness. When you support Central Union Mission, you will be helping these January 2019 Spiritual Transformation Program graduates enter their next phase of study: Work Therapy. Please pray that they will be able to work hard, gain experience and stand firm on their new foundation. Pray especially that they will trust God’s plan for their futures.

Thank you!  ■ Photo by Doris Sump

The Missionary

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Yes, I want to help support Mission men renovating their lives.

Please use my donation of:

☐ $20.90 to feed, shelter and train ten students
☐ $62.70 for 30 students
☐ $104.50 for 40 students
☐ $146.30 for 70 students
☐ $ _______ to help as many as possible

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God bless you for caring!

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