My Experience of Each One Reach One

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**Who I am**

I joined the Civil Service in 2018 in DWP and I remember how excited I was. That excitedness remained when I started as a Case Manager about 18 months ago. However, I knew I wanted more.

**Going it alone**

So my applications began. It was hard. I got knocked out time and time again at the sift stage and it was disheartening. But I was going it alone. I realised I needed a mentor who could provide guidance on my applications, interviews and development. I just did not know how to go about it.

**Summer school inspiration**

Fast forward to this year’s Summer School. One of the words that was consistent in those sessions was ‘mentors’. Then I saw the Each One Reach One (EORO) mentoring sessions advertised, I didn’t hesitate to sign up, hoping the session would be beneficial. It was!

**Each One Reach One session**

So the Skype invite email came. I found the session very helpful. One of the key things I took out of the meeting was when [redacted] said it is important to identify one's strengths and seek opportunities to utilise those strengths. For me, this was a light bulb moment! I had always focused on my weakness - which was not enough experience.

The other key advice I got was ‘Be Brave’. Don’t be afraid to ask to be involved in a project, a secondment, job shadowing. The worst you could get is a ‘No’, or a ‘No, but I can direct you who you could speak with…....’ or even a ‘Yes!’

**Reflections**

Find a mentor, formal or informal, someone with no clue about your job role to review your application and don’t allow the long list of essential requirements put you off from making an application. I’m glad I took part in EORO, I recommend it and am optimistic about my future applications and career.