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# All they want for Christmas ... is a little of your time

VIRGINIA GALT

The gift of time is one of the most valued holiday presents employers can give their staff, according to Pennsylvania-based consultancy Career Systems International.

An hour of the boss's time to discuss a favourite project, free time off to attend a child's sporting event or permission to attend a course during work hours are some of the suggestions from Career Systems International, which specializes in employee engagement.

The firm also suggests lunch with the boss to discuss future plans, the opportunity to try out a different job role or the chance to be part of a hiring team that selects a new manager.

"These gifts, and many others like them, cost little or no money and require no shopping. But they can add immeasurably to employee engagement and long-term satisfaction -- thus retention," the firm says.

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