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Disability--Disability Mentoring Day [1]

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**PRESIDENT CLINTON CELEBRATES NATIONAL DISABILITY
MENTORING DAY THROUGH ACTIVITIES EXPANDING EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

October 25, 2000—DRAFT 10/24 11:30am

Today, President Clinton will celebrate National Disability Mentoring Day and National Disability Employment Awareness month by applauding the mentoring activities that public and private employers will be hosting throughout the Administration and across the nation to help expand employment opportunities for young people with disabilities. The President will also announce several actions that the Clinton-Gore Administration is taking to continue its efforts to help people with disabilities enter the workforce. These steps include grants to advance the goals of the landmark Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act, partnerships to close the digital divide for persons with disabilities, and progress in both federal and private sector initiatives to hire more people with disabilities.

First National Disability Mentoring Day. The Administration will be hosting a day-long program for more than 100 high school and college-age people with disabilities. The day's events will include a White House opening session followed by one-on-one mentoring with volunteers throughout the Administration and a State Department reception celebrating the potential of young people with disabilities. The President will also recognize the winners of a Disability Mentoring Day Essay Contest and the public and private partners responsible for organizing Mentoring Day activities in 14 states. These efforts to highlight the contributions of young people with disabilities and to increase their employment opportunities will bring us closer to achieving the goals of the ADA and IDEA [I'M NOT SURE HOW WELL KNOWN THIS IS. MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T USE THE ACRONYM ON FIRST REFERENCE].

Grants Enhancing Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities. The President will announce several Administration grant programs to enhance employment opportunities for people with disabilities and to carry out key aspects and goals of the Ticket to Work and Workforce Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIA).

- The Social Security Administration (SSA) is awarding \$8 million in Benefit Planning Grants to 43 non-profit organizations and/or state agencies in 26 states and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Island for benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are attempting to return to work.
- The Department of Labor (DOL) is issuing \$20 million in Work Incentives Grants to ensure that people with disabilities have access to the full range of employment and reemployment services under the Workforce Investment Act. Grantees will be responsible for working with One-Stop operators to augment their capacity to provide the full range of effective employment and training services to people with disabilities.
- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is awarding its first Medicaid demonstration grants under the Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment program. These demonstration projects will help working individuals with chronic or progressive conditions remain competitively employed by giving

them access to health benefits in order to prevent or delay further deterioration or relapse.

- HHS is releasing \$17 million in Medicaid Infrastructure Grants to help 24 states and the District of Columbia **improve access to personal assistance and create Medicaid buy-in programs for employed persons with disabilities.** ~~build the systems they need to provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to purchase health coverage through Medicaid.~~ These grants encourage states to help individuals with disabilities ~~return to~~ work without fear of losing health coverage. **[WE SUGGEST REMOVING “RETURN TO” BECAUSE PEOPLE AREN’T REQUIRED TO HAVE PREVIOUSLY WORKED.]**

Public-Private Partnerships to Bridge the Digital Divide. Building on his recent visit to Flint, Michigan, **and** highlighting the need to create digital opportunity for people with disabilities, the President will announce new public-private partnerships to bridge the digital divide so that more individuals with disabilities can participate fully in the workforce and in the nation’s public life.

- VA has formed a public-private partnership with VERIZON and SAIC to ensure our Nation’s veterans, particularly our disabled veterans, have the technology access and training to improve education and employment opportunities, and take full advantage of this new digital economy where public services, including VA services, and private business are conducted ~~on-line~~ online.
- DOL and the Bureau of Indian Affairs are launching a partnership with the Information Technology Association of America and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute for increasing technology access for ~~Native Americans~~ **American Indians and Alaskan Natives** with disabilities.
- Microsoft’s Accessible Technology Group is awarding \$250,000 in grants to nine programs to provide people with disabilities, especially young people, with greater access to technology, employment, and entrepreneurship. These grants include support of two newly-created High School/High Tech projects, which are sponsored by the President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

Progress in Initiatives to Increase Hiring of Persons with Disabilities. Finally the President will commend both the public and private sectors for important progress in improving opportunities for persons with disabilities to be employed in the federal government **[DELETE COMMA THAT WAS HERE]** or in private companies.

- CEO’s of leading companies are pledging to support the recruitment, hiring, and promotion of individuals with disabilities as part of their diversity goals. In a letter to the President, more than 15 CEO’s of leading American businesses identify steps to move toward full inclusion of people with disabilities including the development of policies for providing reasonable accommodations such as assistive technology. The leadership exhibited by these CEO’s is a powerful statement to the corporate sector that hiring people with disabilities is not just the right thing to do -- it’s also good business.
- The Office of Personnel Management is reporting that the Administration is on course to meet the goal of President Clinton’s July 25th Executive Order calling on federal agencies to hire 100,000 more people with disabilities over a 5-year period.

Building on the Clinton-Gore Record of Expanding Economic Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities. Today's announcements continue the Clinton-Gore Administration's strong commitment to improving employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. Key accomplishments include:

- Creating the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, charged with developing a coordinated and aggressive national policy to bring adults with disabilities into gainful employment at a rate that is as close as possible to that of the general adult population.
- Signing the landmark Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIIA) which enhances employment-related services for individuals with disabilities and enables Americans with disabilities to retain their Medicare or Medicaid coverage when they go to work.
- Mobilizing public and private efforts to create digital opportunity for people with disabilities and increase their ability to participate in the workforce. Initiatives to improve technological access for persons with disabilities include securing commitments from high tech companies, research firms, and non-profit organizations to help improve the accessibility and affordability of technology for persons with disabilities.
- Making the federal government a model employer by directing agencies to increase efforts to recruit and hire people with disabilities, by expanding hiring opportunities for people with psychiatric disabilities, and calling for mental health parity for federal employees.
- Increasing the Substantial Gainful Activity level to enable more individuals with disabilities to return to work without fear of losing critical benefits.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL'S OFFICE
FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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DATE: 10-23-2000

NO. OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): _____

COMMENTS:

Christina,

Attached to this is the most recent draft of the amendment to Executive Order 13078.

Please review and advise by COB Today Monday Oct 23rd.

Thank you. Mac

Executive Order

DRAFT
10-23-2000
4:45 p.m.

AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 13078, TO EXPAND THE ROLE
OF THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON EMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS
WITH DISABILITIES TO INCLUDE A FOCUS ON YOUTH

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, and in order to provide for improved access to employment and training for youth with disabilities, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order 13078 of March 13, 1998, is amended by adding to section 2 of that order the following new subsection to read as follows: "(h) To improve employment outcomes for persons with disabilities by addressing, among other things, the education, transition, employment, health and rehabilitation, and independent living issues affecting young people with disabilities, executive departments and agencies shall coordinate and cooperate with the Task Force to: (1) strengthen interagency research, demonstration, and training activities relating to young people with disabilities; (2) create a public awareness campaign focused on access to equal opportunity for young people with disabilities; (3) promote the inclusion of young people with disabilities in the planning and implementation of all youth programs mandated under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998; (4) increase access to and utilization of health insurance and health care for young people with disabilities through the formalization of the Federal Healthy and Ready to Work Interagency Council; (5) increase participation by young people with disabilities in postsecondary education and training programs; and (6) create a nationally representative (balancing disability type, gender, regions, and cultural diversity factors) Youth Advisory Council to be funded and chaired by the Department of Labor, to advise the Task Force in conducting these and other appropriate activities. ✓

THE WHITE HOUSE,

EXECUTIVE ORDER

THE PRESIDENT'S DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP BOARD

By authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, and in order to promote the employment of people with disabilities, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Establishment and Composition of the Board.*

(a) There is hereby established the President's Disability Employment Partnership Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board).

(b) The Board shall be composed of not more than 15 members who shall be appointed for terms of 2 years by, and serve at the pleasure of, the President. The members may be reappointed by the President. The membership shall include individuals who are representatives of employers, labor organizations, State or local governments, disabled veterans, individuals with disabilities, organizations serving individuals with disabilities, and researchers or academicians focusing on issues relating to the employment of individuals with disabilities.

(c) The President shall designate a Chairperson from among the members of the Board.

Sec. 2. *Functions of the Board.*

(a) The Board shall provide advice and information to the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of Labor, the Office of Disability Policy in the Department of Labor and other appropriate Federal officials designed to facilitate employment for people with disabilities, and shall carry out other activities that promote the formation of public-private partnerships, the use of economic incentives, the provision of technical assistance regarding entrepreneurship, and other actions that may enhance such employment opportunities.

(b) In carrying out paragraph (a), the Board shall:

(i) develop and submit to the Office of Disability Policy in the Department of Labor a comprehensive plan for joint public-private efforts to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities and improve access to financial institutions and commercial and business enterprises;

(ii) identify strategies that may be used by employers, labor unions, national and international organizations, and Federal, State and local officials to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities; and

(iii) work with the Office of Disability Policy in the Department of Labor in promoting the organization of public and private resources, including those of the Department of Labor, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Federal Communications Commission, and with the office of small, disadvantaged business utilization in each Department and agency of the United States, to assist people with disabilities in the formation and expansion of small business concerns and in enhancing their access to Federal procurement and other relevant business opportunities.

(c) The Board shall report annually to the President, who may apprise Congress and other interested organizations and individuals, on the activities of the Board and the progress and problems relating to maximizing employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

(d) The Chairperson shall serve as a member and the Vice Chair of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities established under Executive Order 13078.

Sec. 3. Administration of the Board.

(a) The Board shall meet on call of the Chairperson, at a time and place designated by the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall call at least two meetings per calendar year. The Chairperson may form subcommittees or working groups within the Board to address particular matters.

(b) The Chairperson may from time to time prescribe such rules, procedures, and policies relating to the activities of the Board as are not inconsistent with law or with the provisions of this Order.

(c) Members of the Board shall serve without compensation but shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in Federal service (5 U.S.C. 5701-5707).

(d) The Department of Labor is requested to make available appropriate support to assist the Board in carrying out the activities described in section 2, including necessary office space, equipment, supplies, and services. The estimate of appropriations for the operation of the Board shall be included within the framework of the appropriations structure of the Department of Labor.

(e) The heads of executive agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide the Board such information as it may require for purposes of carrying out the functions described in

section 2.

Sec. 4. Prior Orders and Transition.

(a) Executive Order 12640 relating to the establishment of the President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities is hereby rescinded. The employees, records, property, and funds of the Committee shall become the employees, records, property and funds of the Department of Labor.

(b) Executive Order 13078 is amended—

(i) in section 1(a), by striking “Chair of the President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities” and inserting “Chairperson of the President’s Disability Employment Partnership Board”; and

(ii) in section 1(b), by striking “Chair of the President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities” and inserting “Chairperson of the President’s Disability Employment Partnership Board”.

THE WHITE HOUSE

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Christina Ho	FROM:	Edmund Bynes
COMPANY:	White House	DATE:	10/24/00
FAX NUMBER:	456-7431	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	Four
PHONE NUMBER:	456-1959	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:	606-2572
RE:	Mentoring Day	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:	

☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Christina,

Please see the Q&A, talking points and fact sheet attached to this fax.

Thanks,

Edmund Bynes
Office of Personnel Management
Office of Communications

[CLICK HERE AND TYPE RETURN ADDRESS]

**Q&A on the Implementation
of Executive Order 13163
Hiring 100,000 People with Disabilities in the Federal Government
Over the Next Five Years
October 24, 2000**

Q: Are you going to publicize agency commitments?

A: Yes. We will publicize agency commitments. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is still in the process of reviewing agency plans for recruiting individuals with disabilities. Once OPM's review is complete, we will publish this information.

**Status on Implementation of
Executive Order 13163
Hiring 100,000 People with Disabilities in the Federal Government
Over the Next Five Years
October 24, 2000**

TALKING POINTS

- OPM's July 26 memo asked Federal agencies for a plan (due September 25) that included the number of proposed hires, their job series, and grade levels, as well as strategies for their recruitment, hiring, development, and accommodation. Nearly 50 agencies have submitted their plans
- OPM officials are reviewing them for completeness, sufficiency, and creativity.
Some examples of what reviewers are looking for: ensuring the plan works toward the correct target number; balance in the job series and grade levels being considered; complete strategies that include barrier identification, appropriate action items, responsible officials, as well as appropriate networks and partnerships.
- At least one plan has been identified as meeting all requirements (Education). It is being used as the basis for a composite "model" plan that includes activities from several other plans.
- Agencies will get feedback letters with the "model" plan attached. Letters will be out within the next few weeks.
- The Human Resources Management Council (HRMC) is convening an interagency committee to monitor and facilitate the implementation of agency plans. Agencies are appointing representatives from their HR and EEO communities. The group will meet during the month of November.
- For more information, call OPM's Office of Diversity on 202-606-1059.

**THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ORDER
ON INCREASING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EMPLOYED BY THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT
DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT**

"Seventy-five percent of Americans with disabilities remain unemployed, and of those, 72% say they want to go to work. This is not just a missed opportunity for Americans with disabilities -- it is a missed opportunity for America."

- President Bill Clinton, June 4, 1999 -

Fact sheet:

June 21, 2000

On July 26, 2000, President Clinton will sign an executive order directing federal agencies to increase their efforts to hire individuals with disabilities at all levels of the government. This will continue his objective of making the federal government a model employer and an example to private employers.

- In five years, federal agencies will be able to hire 100,000 people with disabilities.
- This is a 60% increase over the current hiring rate.
- President Clinton and Vice President Gore are determined that the federal government will take the lead in demonstrating that individuals with disabilities can successfully compete and perform in a wide range of jobs. Through the executive order, President Clinton is directing agencies to adjust their recruitment efforts to tap into the talented pool of individuals with disabilities.
- Currently, there are 122,000 federal employees with disabilities, which make up 7.2% of the workforce. Of the entire federal workforce, 1.2% are severely disabled.
- The Executive Order specifically calls on agencies to recruit for the full range of levels and occupations in the federal government.
- Each agency will be asked to submit a plan by September 25, 2000. OPM will work with agencies to assure the overall success of the initiative.
- An employee is considered disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment, which substantially limits one or more major life activities. For example, speech, vision, hearing and orthopedic impairments, missing extremities, paralysis, mental illness, diabetes and heart disease.

Q & A's on Disability Mentoring Day

October 25, 2000

Disability Mentoring Day Q. What is Disability Mentoring Day?

11/15
Patterned after mentoring and job shadow days associated with African American History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and the annual February 2 Groundhog Job Shadow Day sponsored by the National School-to-Work Office, Disability Mentoring Day ~~will be~~ a chance for young people with disabilities to gain insight into career options both within and outside government by spending part of their day in the workplace "shadowing" an employee as he or she goes through a normal day on the job. *Disability* A similar Mentoring Day was held in October 1999. Last year, however, participation was limited to Federal agencies, and a few corporate and non-profit entities in only a couple of areas around the country. This year, ~~we want to greatly expand the~~ *has greatly expanded* number of youth participating and in the number of cities around the country.

Disability Mentoring Day is held in October to coincide with Disability Employment Awareness Month, proclaimed by the President. It has special meaning this year in that it also falls between the tenth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act in July and the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in November.

Q. Who are the sponsors of Disability Mentoring Day?

The White House, the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, the President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities, and the American Association of People with Disabilities have formed a public-private partnership to ensure the ongoing success of Disability Mentoring Day and to expand its scope nationally.

Q. Which agencies are participating in Disability Mentoring Day, and who are the agency contacts?

See attachment at end
A: DOD, OPM, State, NCP, VA, Energy, GSA, DVC . . . -

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Q. How many states/territories will have mentoring activities during National Disability Mentoring Day?

A. The following ^{seventeen} ~~fifteen~~ states and ^{D.C.} ~~territories~~ will be participating: California, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington State and the District of Columbia

Q. Which businesses will be participating?

A. Bank of America, HBO, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, Lucent Technologies, Microsoft, McDonald's, MTV, New York Life, Nickelodeon, Northrup Grumman, PBS, RR Donnelley, Verizon and Xerox will participate in this year's Disability Mentoring Day.

Q. What are the benefits of Disability Mentoring Day?

A. As more youth with disabilities gain exposure into available career opportunities, and employers and the general public are made more aware that people with disabilities, and particularly youth, represent a massive resource for sustaining our national economy and well-being, the employment goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be realized. Hopefully, students will be able to see the connection between what they learn in school and what career options might be available to them.

SSA Benefit Planning Grants
Grant announcements

Q. Why is SSA making these Benefit Planning awards?

A. With broad bipartisan support, President Clinton signed the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (TWWIIA), the bill that became Public Law 106-170, on

December 17, 1999. The law expands the availability of health care coverage for working individuals with disabilities, establishes a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration (SSA) to provide beneficiaries with disabilities meaningful opportunities to work, and provides benefits planning, and assistance services and outreach to beneficiaries with disabilities. Under Section 121 of TWWIIA, SSA is funding BPAO projects in communities across America.

spill at
Q. The law requires SSA to establish these projects in every State, the District of Columbia and every territory. Why is SSA doing less than the law requires?

SSA did SSA
A. There was limited FY 2000 funding available to us. We wanted to stretch it the farthest by awarding as many States as possible. *They* We looked at those highest scoring applications in States where there were few competing applications and where there would be limited negotiations required. Negotiations were required if an applicant requested a higher amount than that State was allowed. With the resources available to us, we were able to make awards to more than half the States in the first round.

SSA was
Q. When did SSA decide who would receive these grants?

What was the process for deciding
A. SSA published a Request for Applications (RFA) in the *Federal Register* on May 31, 2000. Cooperative agreement awards range between \$50,000 and \$300,000 per fiscal year for periods up to 5 years. Applications were due to SSA by July 31, 2000.

SSA from all 50 States
We received 180 applications, which were reviewed by a panel of independent reviewers, *based on* including people outside the government. We did not receive applications from 5 States; and some portions of 3 States were not fully covered by the acceptable applications we did receive. A second RFA will be published in the *Federal Register* later this Fall to solicit applications for projects in those remaining locations.

Q. What were the criteria for awarding these cooperative agreements?

A. The evaluation criteria were published in the RFA. We rated each proposal under these categories: capability, relevance/adequacy of program design, resources and management and quality assurance plans. The points to be considered for each element were also in the RFA. Prior to the start of the application review process, the review panel set a recommended cut-off score of 70 for recommending approval or denial.

Awards were made to the highest scoring applicants from each State for the area requested.

Q. These are "cooperative agreements." How do they differ from a grant or a contract?

A. Contracts are used for procurement transactions and grants and cooperative agreements are used to provide assistance. Grants and cooperative agreements are two

methods of providing Federal financial assistance. Unlike a grant, a cooperative agreement provides for substantial programmatic involvement between the granting agency and the recipient during the performance of the activities.

Q. Why these 26 States? Why not California or Texas?

SSA
A. The States of California and Texas have multiple applicants competing for the same areas or counties. There were other counties for which there were no acceptable applications. In those and other States we negotiated with applicants to "move" the geographic coverage area to assure statewide coverage with acceptable applicants. There was not sufficient time to complete negotiations to make awards by the end of the fiscal year. Also, a number of other States could not have been awarded with FY 2000 funds had either or both CA and TX been awarded. Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio are other large States for which we were just not able to complete negotiations in time.

SSA was
We have completed negotiations at this time for all States for which we received acceptable applications and have prepared award recommendations for approval as soon as FY 2001 funding is available. The President's budget requests \$23,000,000 for full funding of these projects in FY 2001. *million*

Q. How is the amount for a State determined? What is the formula?

A. The amount is determined by the number of Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities in the State. There are about 8 million beneficiaries nationally, and the State's beneficiary population is calculated as a percent of that number. The law established a minimum award amount of \$50,000 and a maximum of \$300,000. Thus, a State whose population is very low is guaranteed \$50,000 for BPAO services. Larger States will have multiple awards with the largest being \$300,000. An applicant could come in proposing to serve all Social Security beneficiaries in an entire State or in just ~~one or two counties in that State~~ *a few*.

~~For States with multiple awards, we break it down even further to determine the number of Social Security beneficiaries by county. We use the county population number against the State population number to obtain the county's percentage of that State; then take that percentage and apply it to the State's total dollar amount. Hence, the county's dollar amount. We then determine the amount of each individual award based on the number of beneficiaries in the counties requested by each applicant. That is why one awardee in Wisconsin, for example, is receiving \$67,519 and another is receiving \$139,122.~~

Q. Who will be providing these services?

A. Those entities receiving awards include agencies of State and local governments, private non-profit organizations and private for-profit groups. We are pleased to announce that our awardees include State affiliates of the national Protection and



News Release

SOCIAL SECURITY

President Clinton Announces Grant Awards To Organizations Assisting Persons with Disabilities Attempting to Return to Work

President Bill Clinton announced today that the Social Security Administration is awarding \$8 million in grants to 43 non-profit organizations and/or state agencies in 26 states and two territories to provide benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are attempting to return to work. These grants are part of The Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act, which the President signed last year.

These are the first round of grants to be issued. The organizations, which will be expected to be providing service in early 2001, will be awarded grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$300,000. When fully implemented, grants will be awarded to organizations and/or state agencies in every State. Additional grants will be issued later once the Social Security Administration has its appropriation for Fiscal Year 2001.

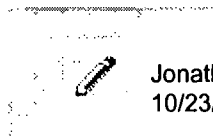
"Today, I am pleased to report that my Administration is taking specific actions to help more people with disabilities participate in the workforce," commented President Clinton. "All Americans benefit when we work toward the full inclusion of people with disabilities in our nation's historic economic growth and prosperity."

"These grants will begin an important partnership between the Social Security Administration, States, cities and local community organizations," commented Kenneth S. Apfel, Commissioner of Social Security. "We want persons with disabilities to have organizations in their community that will help them navigate the system and successfully return to work."

The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 was designed to help persons with disabilities who want return to work. The act increases beneficiary choice in obtaining rehabilitation and vocational services, removes barriers that require people with disabilities to choose between health care coverage and work and assures that more Americans with disabilities have the opportunity to participate in the workforce and lessen their dependence on public benefits.

The benefit planners will provide direct advice and assistance to Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries who want to work. As one of the first partner agencies, these agencies will work closely with beneficiaries to explain SSA's work incentives,

inform them of the effects of work on benefits and provide information on other supports available, such as vocational rehabilitation. SSA will provide training and technical assistance to these organizations under new contracts recently awarded to Cornell University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of Missouri.



Jonathan M. Young
10/23/2000 02:10:04 PM

Jennifer Smith

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP

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Subject: Disability Mentoring Day Announcements

anything work here?

----- Forwarded by Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP on 10/23/2000 02:10 PM -----



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10/23/2000 02:03:41 PM

Record Type: Record

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Subject: Disability Mentoring Day Announcements

Jonathan and Christina -

Per your conversation with Judy Heumann Thursday night, here are some potential announcements for Disability Mentoring Day:

Secondary TA Center:

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services is pleased to announce a \$9.5 million award over five years to the University of Minnesota for a National Center to provide technical assistance to states, organizations, and districts. The purpose of this collaborative center is to improve results for students in high school and to increase their successful transition to postsecondary education and employment. Through a system of four TA networks, the Center will plan and support the delivery of technical assistance and information dissemination to a broad audience, including youth and families with disabilities. The Center will also conduct two national summits which will be designed to help support systemic collaboration among multiple systems, such as education, vocational rehabilitation, workforce development health, social security, housing, and transportation. The University of Minnesota is partnering with the PACER Center (a national parent organization), the National Center on the Study of Postsecondary Education Supports (at University of Hawaii), National Association of Directors of Special Education, the Institute for Educational Leadership Center for Workforce Development, and TransCen, Inc. (a Maryland based employment training organization).

Work Incentives Handbooks:

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services is pleased to announce the development of two handbooks designed for school personnel, parents, youth with disabilities, IEP/transition team members, adult service providers, and others involved in student-focused transition planning. The first handbook is titled Meeting the Needs of Youth with Disabilities: Handbook on Supplemental Security Income Work Incentives and Transition Students. It is intended to serve as a resource for understanding how supplemental security income (SSI) work incentives can be included in the IEP/transition plan for students who have paid employment through a community-based vocational education program in high school and when they are beginning to work or plan for further training upon graduation. The second handbook titled Meeting the Needs of Youth with Disabilities: Examples of Students with Disabilities Accessing SSI Work Incentives, serves as a resource and companion piece to the first handbook. The handbooks were developed by the SSI and Transitioning Youth Project and the National Transition Network both located at the Institute on Community Integration at the University of Minnesota, in collaboration with the Study Group, Inc. in Kill Devil Hills, NC. The development of these handbooks was supported in part by U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services grants. Information on these and other SSI work incentives materials and training opportunities may be accessed on the web at <http://www.vcu.edu/rrtcweb/witn/ssi.htm> or by calling 612/627-4008.

Student Earned Income Exclusion:

The Department of Education is coordinating a joint letter between Secretary Riley and Social Security Administration (SSA) Commissioner Kenneth Apfel to students with disabilities, parents, relevant service providers, and educators regarding changes to the Student Earned Income Exclusion. These changes will provide increased opportunities for early work experiences without threatening eligibility for important Supplemental Security Income (SSI) cash benefits. Also, students with disabilities may be encouraged to stay in school, graduate, and continue their education past high school. Much research has shown that early work experiences are vitally important for students with disabilities because of they often lead to continued employment outcomes after high school. For students receiving SSI benefits, however, engaging in paid employment experiences may result in the loss of cash assistance and key health insurance benefits and services. SSA has responded to this problem and is proud to announce new work incentive provisions for student SSI participants. After receiving much public comment, SSA will likely approve important changes to the Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE). Specifically, SSI students under the age of 22 years will be able to earn up to \$1,290 per month with an annual limit of \$5,200.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Laura

Laura K. Browning
Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary Judith E. Heumann
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
U.S. Department of Education
202-205-8432

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**TASK FORCE ON
EMPLOYMENT
OF ADULTS
WITH
DISABILITIES**

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Put Ability to Work!

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Southern Essex Workforce Investment Board/ City of Salem, Massachusetts.
70 Washington Street, Suite 314
Salem, Massachusetts 01970**

Contact: Mark Whitmore
Phone: (781) 593-0585

Proposed Award Amount: **\$547,000**

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The North Shore Employment Consortium (NOSEC), led by the Southern Essex Workforce Investment Board, will address the need for full accessibility to employment and training services for all citizens. NoSEC partners are targeting this project for people with disabilities in the nineteen cities and towns of Southern Essex County, Massachusetts. NOSEC partners will institute a cultural paradigm shift towards improved physical and programmatic accessibility. This project will include a training/marketing program for employment service providers, employers, and disabled person and the community at large. The project will also focus on transportation needs of disabled persons seeking employments and on the creation of relevant internships for people with disabilities.

Community Served: The nineteen cities and towns of Southern Essex, Massachusetts.

Barriers/Target Group: NOSEC has determined from meetings with partner agencies' clients that transportation and education/training/marketing are current gaps in the system. These areas, as well as ethnic and cultural diversity, will be addressed by this project.

Partnership: This grant has been developed by the North Shore Employment Consortium (NOSEC) which is a Collaborations established by the Southern Essex Workforce Investment Board, its One-stop North Shore Career centers, and area providers, including: Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission; Department of Mental health; Department of Mental Retardation; Massachusetts commission for the blind; Independent Living Center of the North Shore and Cape Ann, Inc.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: **Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh**
 2600 East Carson Street
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15203

 Contact: Patricia L. Petrosky
 Phone: (412) 390-2215

Proposed Awarded Amount: **\$744,253**

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities

Summary Paragraph: Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh and its consortium partners seek to implement a comprehensive service strategy with specific approaches to both improving access to One-Stop services for people with disabilities, and expanding their employment options through outreach to employers. Some specific components of the proposed service delivery model include: a making determinations of existing service gaps and physical/attitudinal barriers; providing out reach to job seekers with disabilities; developing and informational website for job seekers and employers; developing expertise of One-Stop center staff regarding employment issues of people with disabilities; enhancing physical accessibility of One-Stop centers and Satellites; coordination and linkage with Vocational Rehabilitation; providing outreach to potential employers of people with disabilities; and facilitating the development of an employer-driven "workplace inclusion network" to assist businesses to become Supportive workplace environments for all employees and customers.

Community Served: In Pennsylvania, Allegheny County and the city of Pittsburgh; Washington, Greene, and Beaver counties; Butler, Armstrong, and Indiana counties, and Westmoreland and Fayette counties. In West Virginia, the service area encompasses Hancock county, Brooke county, Ohio county, Marshall county, Wetzel county, and Tyler county.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target job seekers with disabilities, whose support needs will be identified in two ways. First, the customer may self-identify needs; second, one-stop staff may determine through structured interviews that a job seeker might need additional support, and will make appropriate referrals.

Partnerships: Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh is submitting this grant application on behalf of a consortium of partners in Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Panhandle of West Virginia within the Team Pennsylvania Career Link (TPCL) and Work 4 West Virginia (W4WV) One-Stop systems. Consortium partners in Pennsylvania include: Tree Rivers Workforce Investment Board; Washington Greene county Job training Agency, Inc; Tri-County Workforce Investment Board, Inc; and Westmoreland/Fayette Workforce Investment Board, Inc. In West Virginia, the Northern Panhandle Workforce Investment Board Participating.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: City of Hawthorne- South Bay Workforce Investment Board
1 Manchester Blvd, 4th floor
Inglewood, California 90301

Contact: Jan Vogel
Phone: (310) 412-5558

Proposed Award Amount: \$864,037

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The South Bay Work Incentive Partnership proposes to plan and implement system enhancement activities to adapt and improve their One-Stop center WIA Core services to fully meet the employment and training needs of persons with disabilities. The applicants plan to carry out a series of planning, system integrations, staff development, technology, marketing, management, evaluation, and system management. The applicants further intends to develop uniform client intake and tracking forms to establish baseline data on consumers with disabilities accessing the One-Stop centers.

Community Served: Inglewood, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach Hawthorne, Lawndale, E/Segundo, Gardena, and Redondo Beach.

Barriers/Target Group: This project targets people with disabilities, including Welfare-to-Work recipients, who are seeking employment services at One-Stop Centers.

Partnerships: The south Bay Workforce Investment Board is the applicant agency on behalf of the South Bay Work Incentive Partnership. The Consortium includes the six affiliated South Bay One-Stop Centers: Hawthorne One-Stop Centers; Inglewood One-Stop Center; Lawndale One-Stop center; Gardena One-Stop Center; Beach cities One-Stop center(Redondo Beach, CA) and Westchester/El Segundo One-Stop Center. Also, the Westside center for Independent Living, the Westside Regional Center, and the California Department of Rehabilitation. Other participants are: The state of California Employment Development Department; Los Angeles county Department of Public Social Services; Southern California Regional Occupation Center; Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science; California State University Dominguez Hills, and El Camino Community College.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Way Station, Inc.
P.O. Box 3826
230 West Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland 21705-3826

Contact: Anne Rea
Phone: (301) 662-0099 ext.1240

Proposed Award Amount: \$ 844,157

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Frederick Works Project is a comprehensive proposal designed to address the multiple impediments to employment that persons with disabilities must overcome. Innovative components of the Frederick Works Project are: the establishment of special staff positions, "Community Resource Consultants"; the provision of comprehensive training on disability issues for staff in the workforce investment system; the creation of an advisory Board, which will include both employers and persons with disabilities; the expansion of the Frederick Works website to include a confidential labor exchange for persons with disabilities and interested employers; the pursuit of waivers or demonstration projects with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and/or U.S. Department of Agriculture; and the establishment of a client Services fund to leverage appropriate state and/or local resources to aid in filling gaps in the local service delivery system.

Community Served: Frederick County, Maryland.

Barriers/Target Group: More than 35,00 people with disabilities reside in Frederick county, and data suggests that at least 800 new individuals with disabilities are expected to move to Frederick county each year. The Frederick works Project proposes to enhance the employability, job retention, and career advancement of persons with disabilities in Frederick county, Maryland

Partnership: Way station, Inc., a not-for-profit, community-based rehabilitation program presents the Frederick works Project on behalf of a consortium of public and private organizations. Consortium partners include: the Workplace Development Board of Frederick County; the One-Stop Employment Partnership (OEP) of Frederick County (a team of nine public agencies, including the Maryland State Department of Educations Division of Rehabilitation Services), Way Station, Inc., and Goodwill Industries of Monocay Valley, Inc.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Texas Workforce Commission
101 East 15th Street
Room 4401
Austin, Texas 78778-0001

Contact: City Geisman
Phone: (512) 463-2692

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The Texas Workforce Commission (commission) will partner with five local workforce development boards to design a model project of five unique One-Stop systems. Each of the sites (covering a spectrum of urban, suburban, and rural areas) will focus on a different strategy for creating a model approach to providing seamless service deliver within the One-Stop system for people with a wide range of disabilities. These approaches include: providing State-of-the-art accessible technology; setting up satellite locations within the offices of other service providers; concentrating on outreach to the disability community by including people with disabilities on an Advisory Board; providing comprehensive services and programs designed to meet needs and to address common employment barriers to persons with significant disabilities; and establishing a Virtual One-Stop with services accessible through computer.

Community Served: The State of Texas and five local sites: Concho Valley, Golden Crescent, the Gulf Coast, Tarrant County, And the Upper Rio Grande.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target people with disabilities, including significant disabilities, across varying cultural and ethic groups across the State of Texas.

Partnerships: The Texas workforce commission will develop a statewide consortium including: the Texas Department of Housing and Community affairs (TDHCA); the Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC); Texas Commission for the Blind (TCB); Texas Department of mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR); Texas Department of Human Services (TDHS); the Texas chapter of Goodwill Industries; Texas Association of Centers for Independent Living, and local Workforce Development Boards from five local sites: Concho Valley, Golden Crescent, Gulf Coast, Tarrant County, and Upper Rio Grande.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: State of Louisiana Governors office of Disability Affairs
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Contact: Laura Brakin
Phone: (225) 219-7547

Proposed Award Amount: \$800,000

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: Louisiana Work Incentive Project (LaWIP) builds the capacity of One-Stop to provide seamless service to individuals with disabilities. This project will: train staff; establish policies and procedures; develop knowledge of, and access to, a comprehensive database of resource information; build a system of communication through disability subcommittees, and build a system of communication with employers through the Louisiana Business Leadership Network.

Community Served: The service area is all 18 local workforce investment areas in the state of Louisiana.

Barriers/Target Group: People with disabilities, including culturally and ethnically diverse populations. To ensure maximum accessibility all written materials will also be printed in Spanish, French, and Vietnamese.

Partnerships: State agencies include: the Workforce Commission; Louisiana Rehabilitation Services; Department of Health and Hospitals; Office of Mental Health; Louisiana Commission for the Deaf; Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities; Department of Education; Bureau of health Services financing; office of public health; department of Labor; Department of Social services; Department of Transportation and Development; traumatic brain injury Trust Fund; and Louisiana State University's Human Development Center. Boards and Councils are: Local Workforce Investment Boards; Louisiana State Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities; Statewide Independent living council; Louisiana Rehabilitation council; and Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs. Additionally, the following disability agencies are consortium partners: Latan; the Advocacy Center; families helping Families; Louisiana Youth leadership Forum; and the three centers for independent living.

Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Indianapolis Private Industry Council
17 West Market Street, Suite 500
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Contact: Kelley D. Gulley
Phone: (317) 684-2447

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities in Central Indiana.

Summary Paragraph: under this grant, the One-Stop Consortium will partner with Easter Seals Cross Roads Rehabilitation Center to address assistive technology and facility accessibility evaluations. The project will provide disability-related staff training that results in an informed, cross-trained staff who are willing and prepared to assess and meet the needs of people with disabilities through programmatic and leveraged funding opportunities; incorporating the use of assistive technology and improving accommodations services to employers and to people with disabilities; and improving the physical accessibility of One-Stop Centers, along with improving outreach services to communities of people with disabilities.

Community Served: Central Indiana

Barriers/Target Groups: Despite the overall success of the One-Stop System in Marion county, people with disabilities remain an under served population. This project addresses the barrier of "accessibility issues" by focusing on access to knowledgeable staff, access to assistive technology (including Computers), and physical accessibility to One-Stop facilities.

Partnerships: The Indianapolis Private Industry Council Submitted this proposal in partnership with the One-Stop consortium and Easter seals crossroads Rehabilitation Center (Easter Seals Crossroads).

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: State of Oregon Department of Human Services,
Vocational Rehabilitation Division
500 Summer Street E 87,
Salem, Oregon 97301-1120

Contact: Lynnae Rutledge
Phone: (503) 945-6204

Proposed Award Amount : \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This project will provide model One-Stop service delivery through availability of comprehensive services and programs designed to meet multiple needs and to overcome common employment barriers for people with disabilities. There are five main components to this project: staff training (for One-Stop Center and partner staff) in "Basic Disability 101 Information" and "Sensitivity/Awareness training"; development of an online resource manual for One-Stop Centers and system, employers, and employees/potential employees with disabilities; pilot projects in accessible technologies; the incorporation of benefits planners and experts into the One-Stop system; and outreach to the multi variate disability community and potential or current employers of people with disabilities.

Community Served: The State of Oregon.

Barriers/Target Group: This project seeks to improve overall accessibility of the One-Stop System in order increase the system's utilization by people with disabilities.

Partnerships: The applicant, State of Oregon Department of Human Services, Vocation Rehabilitation Division, submitted this proposal along with the following consortium partners: State Workforce Investment Board; State Independent living Council; State of Oregon Workforce partners, including: Department of Human services-Adult and Family services, Senior and Disabled Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation; Department of Education; Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development; and Employment Department.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: **Human Resource Investment Council**
 610 Manton Ave.
 Providence, Rhode Island 02909

Contact: Peter D'Orsi
 Phone: (401) 457-1702

Proposed Award Amount: **\$900,000**

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The Human Resource Investment Council and its consortium partners plan to make Rhode Islands One-Stop System, called NetWORKri, a model for assisting people with disabilities to make informed decisions about their individual reads to independence. This project is designed to effect systems change, to increase employment outcomes for people with disabilities, and to be sustainable over time. Some innovative components of the project are: the formation of Disability Advisory Committees; hiring Disability Resource Specialists; providing ongoing disability-related training for front-line staff; increasing competitive unsubsidized employment for people with disabilities through on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities; increased marketing of NetWORKri, and improved accessibility to specific disability populations such as to people who are Deaf.

Community Served: The State of Rhode Island.

Barriers/Target Group: (Not Sure what to Say here)

Partnerships: The Rhode Island Human Resource Investment Council/State Workforce Investment Board is submitting this proposal with its partners, the two local Workforce Investment Boards, the Department of Labor and training (DLT), the office of Rehabilitation Services' Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program, the Department of Human Service (DHS), the Adult Education division of the Department of Education, the Governor's Commission on Disabilities; the Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and both Independent Living Centers in the State, PARI "People Actively Reaching Independence," and OSCIL, the Ocean State Center for Independent Living.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
124 Marriott Drive., Suite 203
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Contact: Kathy Burton
Phone: (850) 488-4180

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) and its consortium partners have designated three project sites, Regions 5, 12, and 21. The project will provide a project director and staff at the three sites. The project will deliver a training video on awarded of "hidden disabilities," and a statewide conference in conjunction with the annual workforce development sector meeting will provide a forum for discussion of best practices regarding hidden disabilities. The project will produce two guide books one for consumers, one for professionals, to individual benefits and the impact of employment on benefits. Outreach will be done both statewide through newsletters and other communication media, and locally, through a public information campaign including radio and television spots, public speaking engagements to service clubs and rehabilitation facilities, and other means.

Community Served: Region (North Florida)- Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla counties; Region 12 (Central Florida)- Seminole Community college, with One-Stops in Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, and Sumter counties; and Region 21 (South Florida)- Palm Beach Habilitation Center, and One-Stops in Palm Beach County.

Barriers/Target Group: This project targets individuals with unidentified disabilities who are under served, and individuals who may be receiving individualized services elsewhere, but who would benefit from linkages between One-Stops and the specialized programs that have served them.

Partnerships: The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) is working with a Consortium including the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Service, Division of Workforce Development, and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; the Department of Children and Families, Developmental Services and Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health programs; the Brain Injury Association of Florida; the Agency for Workforce Innovation; the Agency on Health Care Administration Medicaid Program Development, and the Transportation Disadvantaged Commission.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardec: **City of Cincinnati**
 19 West Elder Street
 Cincinnati, OH 45210

Contact: **Jerry B. Brown, Jr.**
 Phone: **(513) 731-9800**

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The City of Cincinnati and its partners seek to develop a model One-Stop service delivery system in the Southwest Ohio Region. This project will address three dimensions: people, programs, and systems. Some of the measurable objectives of this project are: development of a referral source of services and information concerning the employment of people with disabilities; establishing procedures for identifying hidden disabilities; providing access to knowledgeable benefits counselors; developing and implementing an extensive marketing strategy; providing information/technical assistance to employers and the eligible providers of education and training services; educating staff to enable the three Southwest Ohio Region One-Stops to serve as an employment network provider established under the provisions of the Ticket-to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act; and developing a more accessible infrastructure and improving programmatic access for people with disabilities. The project activities include capacity building activities; developing a Triage Model to screen One-Stop customers to identify people with disabilities; providing benefits counseling for One-Stop customers and their family members; providing referrals to partner agencies, and upgrading existing technology to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.

Community Served: Hamilton City and the City of Cincinnati.

Barriers/Target Group: Currently, very few people with disabilities are utilizing services at the physical locations of the One-Stops. Services to this target group are provided primarily off-site at organizations that specialize in providing services to people with disabilities. This project seeks to overcome the physical and other barriers currently preventing people from disabilities from using One-Stop Centers.

Partnerships: The applicant, the City of Cincinnati Employment and Training Division (ETD), made this proposal in partnership with the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Policy Board, Hamilton County Department of Job and Family Services, Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services, University of Cincinnati College of Evening and Continuing Education, Jewish Vocational Service, Ohio Valley Goodwill, Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati, the Work Resource Center (non-profit), Clermont Counseling Center (non-private), and CRJ (non-profit).

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Alpha One**
 127 Main Street, South Portland
 Cumberland, ME 04106

Contact: **Steven Tremblay**
 Phone: **(207) 767-2189**

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: Alpha One and the Six County Coastal CareerCenters have designed this consumer-directed employment initiative to serve Maine's citizens with disabilities. The comprehensive strategy emphasizes consumer direction in employment services. Provisions are made for improved employment service supports for customers with disabilities; for expanded access to CareerCenters. Plans for improved relationships with employers entail expanded outreach to employers regarding new opportunities for recruitment of workers with disabilities; the provision of supplemental human resources capacity to employers around disability issues such as legal, accessibility, assistive technology, and financial incentives; and providing conflict resolution assistance to employers and people with disabilities. Further, the project will make extended outreach, delivering an aggressive networked information campaign through consumer-directed disability organizations, to consumers with disabilities.

Community Served: All of Maine's Local Workforce Investment Area #4, comprised of the southern coastal counties of York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo.

Barriers/Target Group: This grant will focus on Maine residents with disabilities.

Partnerships: Alpha One, Maine's Center for Independent Living, is the lead applicant. Its consortium partners include the seven CareerCenters located in the Six County Coastal Workforce Investment Area..

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
State Department of Education
435 St. Michael's Drive, Building D
Santa Fe, NM 87505**

Contact: **Andrew Winnegar**
Phone: **(505) 954-8521**

Proposed Award Amount: \$539,000

Project Emphasis: Working-age individuals with disabilities, including Native Americans with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The New Mexico One Project will develop a model One Stop program to enhance employability, employment, and career advancement of people with disabilities. The project will provide training in disability-related issues for One Stop staff, and will seek new informational technology for use at the One Stop Career Centers. Assistive technology and staff support and training will augment this program's work towards maximizing the One-Stop Centers' accessibility. The NMONE will also maintain a quality program evaluation system to include an external evaluator and a core team of representative consumer advocacy stakeholders. The evaluation function will provide opportunities for correction and redirection as the program development process unfolds.

Community Served: The State of New Mexico.

Barriers/Target Group: This project targets all working-age individuals with disabilities in the state of New Mexico.

Partnerships: The New Mexico Technology Assistance Program (NTAP), Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) in the New Mexico Department of Education, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, working with the New Mexico Workforce Development Board is leading this project. The New Mexico One (NMONE) Project is submitted in collaboration with the State Workforce Development Board and includes all its WIA partners.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: Illinois Department of Human Services
623 East Adams, P.O. Box 19929
Springfield, IL 62794-9429

Contact: Carl Suter
Phone: (217) 782-2094

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Illinois Department of Human Services is leading this proposal for creating the "Access to Employment Network," a statewide infrastructure that will facilitate a fully accessible One-Stop system. Along with its consortium partners, DHS will form network teams comprised of members of the various consortium partners' agencies. These teams will collaborate to accomplish four main tasks: training, technical assistance, outreach/marketing, and One-Stop certification process. Training programs, which will be primarily targeted towards One-Stop staff and employers, will build local capacity by facilitating an ongoing information exchange regarding core disability awareness, benefits planning, assistive technology, and other issues. A wide range of technical assistance, including an Internet-based technical assistance program, will be made available to One-Stops, local employers, community providers, and citizens. Outreach and marketing, as well as a multi-media campaign, will be targeted to customers, employers, and communities. Finally, the network will facilitate full physical and informational accessibility of all One-Stops by developing and implementing a component in the One-Stop certification process and by providing basic assistive technology to meet minimum accessibility needs.

Community Served: The State of Illinois.

Barriers/Target Group: This project has been developed in coordination with a Benefits planning proposal to the Social Security Administration. Because people with disabilities may choose not to pursue employment without accurate information about the impact of employment on their benefits and health care, this project will also include a provision for benefits planning, in case the SSA grant is not awarded. Also, this program will seek to identify and provide service to individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families who may have hidden disabilities.

Partnerships: The Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) is making this proposal in partnership with: Illinois Department of Human Services/Office of Rehabilitation Services; Illinois Workforce Investment Board; all 26 Local Workforce Investment Boards/One-Stops; Illinois Department of Employment Security; Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living/all 24 Centers for Independent Living; SSI Coalition For a Responsible Safety Net; Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois; Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois; Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Illinois Assistive Technology Project; Great Lakes Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center; and the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Iowa Workforce Development
150 Des Moines Street
Des Moines, IA 50309**

Contact: **Irene Shultz**
Phone: **(515)281-9095**

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This Work Incentive Grant project will focus on identifying and eliminating physical, procedural, training, and policy barriers within the State's regional One-Stop Center system. This state-wide project will develop resource teams--consisting of local service providers and state partner organizations' staff who have expertise in addressing specific barriers to employment--which will work with the regional workforce investment boards to identify possible solutions, and then to implement locally-selected changes using Workforce Investment Grant funds. This project is innovative in its wide scope from grassroots focus groups to statewide collaborations. A SSA proposal is being submitted, concurrently with this proposal, to expand the provisions of benefits planning within Iowa for individuals with disabilities. With the additional complementary grants from Rehabilitation Services Administration and Social Security Administration to address community collaboration-related barriers and employer-related barriers, respectively, this Work Incentive Grant project will fulfill an essential piece in the delivery of a seamless employment and training service delivery system through each regional One-Stop Center system in the state of Iowa.

Community Served: All sixteen regions of the State of Iowa.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target the employment and training needs of persons with disabilities, including beneficiaries of SSI and SSDI, in the State of Iowa.

Partnerships: Iowa Workforce Development is serving as applicant on behalf of the project partners, which, in addition to IWD, include the State Workforce Investment Board, the Iowa Department of Human Services, the Iowa Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, the Iowa Department for the Blind, the Iowa Department of Human Rights (Division of Persons with Disabilities), the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, Iowa CEO, Inc., University of Iowa Law Center/DBTAC, Drake University Rehabilitation Institute, Centers for Independent Living, and the Iowa Association for Community Providers.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: Michigan Works! Association
2500 Kerry Street, Suite 210
Lansing, MI 48912

Contact: Kay Penner
Phone: (517) 371-1100

Proposed Award Amount: \$980,385

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This Work Incentive Grant project is designed to develop and market information about employment opportunities for people with disabilities, and to build a central information clearinghouse for the employer community on the value of hiring people with disabilities. Key components include needs assessment; compilation of a resource directory for Michigan Works! Center staff; a resource directory for employers; information for employers on incentives such as Ticket to Work and the Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIIA); extensive training to staff and subcontractors; the development of a catalogue of assistive technology products which will be available to both Michigan Works! Centers and employers; and finally, extensive marketing to both the disability community and employers.

Community Served: The State of Michigan.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target both people with disabilities in the State of Michigan, and the employer community.

Partnerships: Michigan Works! Association is the membership association for Michigan's 25 Workforce Development Boards, Local Elected Officials, and Michigan Works! Agencies organized under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Michigan Works! Association is the lead member of a consortium that includes the Governor's Workforce Commission (Michigan's State Workforce investment Board); the State Departments of Career Development, Education, Social Services, Transportation, and Community Health (incorporating mental health and public health); Michigan Rehabilitation Services; Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns; Michigan Commission for the Blind; Social Security Administration; and Great Lakes Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grants**

Awardee: **Full Employment Council, Inc.**
 1740 Paseo
 Kansas City, MO 64108

Contact: Clyde McQueen
 Phone: (816) 471-2330, ext.256

Proposed Award Amount: \$624,025

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Full Employment Council, Inc., a WIA Fiscal Agent and One- Stop Operator, with consortium partners listed below, will establish a system to provide for a seamless delivery of employment and training service to clients with disabilities at the four One-Stop Centers in the Kansas City and Vicinity and East Jackson County local workforce investment areas. Innovative components of the project include: evaluation of assessment tools and point of usage; development of system for referral of clients to Community Rehabilitation Programs, development of system to access interpreters; coordination of services provided with partners and cross training of staff; implementation of assistive technology at One-Stop Centers; development of automated MIS system and case management system to track clients served and services provided clients; identification of necessary accommodations at training facilities, schools, places of employment; researching effects of employment on benefits including transportation, health insurance, housing, and other entitlements; development/updating directory of services; evaluation of the program; and examination of the sustainability of the system.

Community Served: The Missouri Local Workforce Investment Areas of Kansas City, Missouri, and Vicinity, and East Jackson County, which includes the counties of Cass, Clay, Platte, Ray, and Jackson, and the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

Barriers/Target Group: People with disabilities served by the One-Stop Operator (Full Employment Council, Inc.) and partner organizations.

Partnerships: Consortium partners include: Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Helping Hand of Goodwill Industries, the Rehabilitation Institute, Jewish Vocational Service, the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, and the Local Investment Commission (a designated representative of the Missouri Division of Family Services). Additionally, the advisory committee will coordinate information on barriers to employment with the SSA grant recipient and HHS Medicaid Infrastructure grant recipient.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**
 1016 West 6th, Suite 205
 Anchorage, AK 99501

Contact: **Jim Beck**
 Phone: **(907) 269-3569**

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The proposed project markets the One-Stop system to the disability community, while at the same time building the capacity of the system to better serve individuals with disabilities in a competent, respectful manner with consumer choice at its foundation. Components of the project include hiring Resource Specialists to provide training and technical assistance on disability and employment issues; coordination with Alaska's HHS Medicaid Infrastructure grant; and employment of a Program Manager to oversee activities including Assistive Technology capacity assessment and reporting, establishing statewide marketing initiatives, compiling and adapting training curricula relevant to persons with disabilities using One-Stop Job Centers, and compiling and adapting existing disability-specific screening tools working towards their implementation statewide in Job Centers. Additionally, this project will support the Job Centers in enhancing their capacity to become Employment Networks under the Ticket to Work program. This project will also assist in the procurement of services from qualified benefits counselors. As well, through this project the applicants will publish a reference manual for Job Center staff about disability-related needs and services, with concrete answers to common situations.

Community Served: The State of Alaska.

Barriers/Target Group: The proposed project provides wraparound services to individuals with disabilities as they move through the One-Stop system.

Partnerships: Along with the Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), partner agencies include: the Alaska Division of Public Assistance (DPA); the Alaska Division of Employment Security (ES); Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation programs; Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education (GCDSE); and area non-profit organizations and local business entities.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grants**

Awardee: **South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency**
 SE 2750 Old Olympic Highway
 Shelton, WA 98584

Contact: **Amadeo T. Tiam**
 Phone: **(360) 426-3990**

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: Native American individuals with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This project involves the development and implementation of a model One-Stop Center for delivering employment training services to Native Americans, with an emphasis on individuals with disabilities, within the 5 Tribe service area. The 5 member Tribes and SPIPA, who have previously collaborated on vocational rehabilitation and Welfare to Work programs, utilize an innovative service delivery system in which technical assistance, data collection, collaboration, evaluation, and administrative services are centralized at the SPIPA headquarters. Additionally, at the tribal sites located on each reservation, on-site counselors provide outreach, intake, service plan development, and case plan implementation and follow-up services. This Work Incentive Grant project will entail the employment of a project coordinator, a training resource/technology specialist, and 5 tribal job counselors/coordinators to encompass all employment training, counseling, and related services under an intertribal service delivery umbrella.

Community Served: The project service area includes the 5 member Tribes' reservations, plus the tribal services areas encompassing Thurston, Mason, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Lewis, and portions of Pierce Counties in the State of Washington, South Puget Sound region.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will serve Native Americans with disabilities who reside in the project service areas. The applicants expect to provide employment and training services to more than 360 Native Americans within the service area over the 30 month period.

Partnerships: The applicant, South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA), represents an Intertribal Consortium whose members include: Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation; Nisqually Indian Tribe; Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe; Skokomish Indian Tribe; and the Squaxin Island Indian Tribe.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Nashville Career Advancement Center
621 Mainstream Dr., Suite 210
Nashville, TN 37228-1210**

Contact: Lisa Pote
Phone: (615) 862-8890 ext.277

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Nashville Career Advancement Center (NCAC), the lead agency of Local Workforce Investment Area 9 in Middle Tennessee, is applying for this grant. This project will improve access to One-Stop services for customers with disabilities in several ways. The project will hire several "Special Services Facilitators" whose responsibility will be to serve as gatekeepers for Federally funded employment and training benefits programs, and the community based organizations that serve individuals with disabilities with employment and training services. The grant will allow for improvement of coordinated employment opportunities through the development of an employment council for people with disabilities. Further, the applicant will develop an Individual Training Account (ITA) system for customers with disabilities who would need specialized employment and training services, in preparation for the Ticket to Work system.

Community Served: *(illegible from Fax-- waiting for info from grant office)*

Barriers/Target Group: Although the current One-Stop system in Middle Tennessee does provide services to people with disabilities, duplication and gaps in service do exist. For example, although the NCAC is fortunate to have a partner in Vocational Rehabilitation, many disabled customers do not qualify or choose away from these benefits. This project is targeted at filling those gaps in service and eliminating duplication.

Partnerships: The Nashville Career Advancement Center is partnered with Vocational Rehabilitation, the Department of Human Services, and the Tennessee Board of Regents.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **State of Vermont**
 P.O. Box 488
 5 Green Mountain Drive
 Montpelier, VT 05601-0488

Contact: **Bill Cormany**
 Phone: **(802) 828-4355**

Proposed Award Amount: \$831,431

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Vermont Human Resources Investment Council, with its consortium partners, proposes to implement a project that seeks to realize the potential of the Workforce Investment Act by defining and providing a coordinated continuum of services to enhance the employability and careers of people with disabilities. This project, called Vermont Works, will provide training, technical assistance, strategic planning, outreach, assessment, benefits planning, information and referral, as well as direct services to people with disabilities, providers of services, advocates, and employers. This proposal will develop systemic and individualized strategies to provide a seamless service delivery system for individuals with disabilities, including: Community Collaboration Forums, an analysis of current services which will reveal existing gaps in service; Consumer Peer Group Program, a peer group program to provide guidance people with disabilities in identifying barriers to employment and developing strategies to overcome them; Benefits Planning, Outreach, and Assistance; and Evaluation, a consumer-tested evaluation of both policies and programs.

Community Served: The State of Vermont.

Barriers/Target Group: This group is targeted towards consumers with disabilities in the state of Vermont. The core delivery sites for this services continuum will be the department of Employment and Training's One-Stop Career Resource Centers.

Partnerships: The Vermont Human Resources Investment Council is applying for this grant in partnership with the Department of Employment and Training (DET), the Agency of Human Services (AHS), Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL).

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: Montana Job Training Partnership, Inc.
302 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 409
Helena, MT 59601

Contact: Sue Mohr
Phone: (406) 444-1330

Proposed Award Amount: \$824,112

Project Emphasis: Individuals with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This project will focus on providing capacity-building activities to enhance Montana's One-Stop delivery system. The comprehensive service strategy encompasses that the applicants will (1) establish a benefits Analysis certification program for One-Stop staff and partner agency staff; (2) provide professional development and technical assistance on topics including Workforce Investment Act, ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (TWWIIA), Medicaid and health issues, Social Security work incentives, Plans to Achieve Self Support (PASS) job development and job carving methods, supported employment, assistive technology, assessment/screening issues, and self-employment for people with disabilities; (3) market workforce investment programs to other state and local entities such as Vocational Rehabilitation and others; (4) create an Assessment Task Force charged with testing assessment and diagnostic tools used in the One-Stop Centers, developing guidelines for services provided for people with learning and other disabilities, identifying training opportunities for the identification of hidden disabilities for front-line staff in the workforce investment system; and (5) convene a statewide conference to highlight such issues as health care, transportation, technology, housing, employment and training, school-to-work, work incentives, Ticket to Work, and the Workforce Investment Act.

Community Served: The State of Montana.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target people with disabilities who are served through the One-Stop system in the State of Montana. The applicants note that a central part of providing seamless service delivery includes educating front-line staff about the identification and screening of hidden disabilities in the consumers.

Partnerships: Montana Job Training Partnership, Inc., which is the administrative entity/grant recipient for Montana's workforce areas, is applying for this Work Incentive Grant in consortium with: State Workforce Investment Board; Balance of State Joint Council; Concentrated Employment Program Workforce Investment Board; and the University of Montana Rural Institute on Disabilities (a university-affiliated program).

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council, Inc.**
 64 Old Suncook Road
 Concord, NH 03301

Contact: **Jackie Heuser**
 Phone: **(603) 229-3470**

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council and its One-Stop partners seek to enhance and strengthen NH's seamless service delivery within a One-Stop delivery system for people with a wide range of disabilities. The partners also seek to create a referral source of diverse services and information that commonly impact the employability of people with disabilities. One-Stop service delivery will be improved through the implementation of availability of comprehensive services and programs; fully accessible technology and/or other accommodations; knowledgeable and skilled staff; Work Incentives and Employment Counseling to One-Stop customers with disabilities; outreach to the disability community; establishment of linkages and technical assistance to public and private providers of service to people with disabilities; leveraging available funds and services available to people with disabilities; and the facilitation of One-Stops in becoming Employment Network providers. Further, this program will ensure that all One-Stop services are accessible for people with "hidden" disabilities; will assist individuals with disabilities to become more financially independent through the development of an Individual Development Account (IDA) savings and capital acquisition infrastructure, and will create a youth pilot program that provides outreach, mentoring, and employment and training services to youth with disabilities.

Community Served: The State of New Hampshire.

Barriers/Target Group: This proposal targets people with disabilities, including people with "hidden disabilities," in the state of New Hampshire.

Partnerships: The New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council (NHWOC), in conjunction with Governor Jeanne Shaheen and the NH One-Stop System Partners and the Governor's Task Force on Employment and Economic Opportunity, is the applicant for this project. Consortium partners include: NH Employment Security (Wagner Peyser and Unemployment Insurance); NH Department of Education, Division of Adult Education and Rehabilitation (Adult Education, School-to-Work, Vocational Rehabilitation, Vocational Education, and WIA Title I Youth); NH Community-Technical College System; and the NH Association of Community Action Programs (WIA Title I - Adult and Dislocated Worker, Welfare-to-Work, Food Stamp Employment and Training, and one of three partners in delivery of NH Employment Program (TANF)).

10/24/2000 05:28:32 PM



Ann O'Leary
10/24/2000 05:28:32 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

bcc:

Subject: Re: 

How about this (too long?) --

Working with the First Lady to create a new interagency Youth to Work initiative to help young people with disabilities successfully make the transition from school to work. Today, the President signed an Executive Order to ensure that the President's Task Force on the Employment of Adults with Disabilities focus their efforts on starting early and reaching out to youth with disabilities through this collaborative interagency Youth to Work Initiative. This initiative will support work that will help youth with disabilities improve results in high school and receive the support they need to successfully transition to postsecondary education and employment, such as a recent Department of Education grant that will provide technical assistance to local communities to help create a seamless system of education, vocational rehabilitation, workforce development health, social security, housing, and transportation for youth with disabilities.

Christina S. Ho

Christina S. Ho

10/24/2000

04:58:21 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Ann O'Leary/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject:

Working with the First Lady to create a new interagency Youth to Work Initiative to help focus on efforts such as the recent Department of Education grant for technical assistance to improve results for young people with disabilities and increase their successful transition to



postsecondary education and employment. 1025 press paper-drft 1130am



**TASK FORCE ON
EMPLOYMENT
OF ADULTS
WITH
DISABILITIES**

Room S-2220
Washington, DC 20210
Main: 202-693-4939
Fax: 202-693-4929
TTY: 202-693-4920
www.dol.gov

CC: CH
JB

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From: Becky

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☐ Confidential

Comments:

Embargoed until further notice.

Put Ability to Work!

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Southern Essex Workforce Investment Board/ City of Salem, Massachusetts.
70 Washington Street, Suite 314
Salem, Massachusetts 01970

Contact: Mark Whitmore
Phone: (781) 593-0585

Proposed Award Amount: \$547,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The North Shore Employment Consortium (NOSEC), led by the Southern Essex Workforce Investment Board, will address the need for full accessibility to employment and training services for all citizens. NoSEC partners are targeting this project for people with disabilities in the nineteen cities and towns of Southern Essex County, Massachusetts. NOSEC partners will institute a cultural paradigm shift towards improved physical and programmatic accessibility. This project will include a training/marketing program for employment service providers, employers, and disabled person and the community at large. The project will also focus on transportation needs of disabled persons seeking employments and on the creation of relevant internships for people with disabilities.

Community Served: The nineteen cities and towns of Southern Essex, Massachusetts.

Barriers/Target Group: NOSEC has determined from meetings with partner agencies' clients that transportation and education/training/marketing are current gaps in the system. These areas, as well as ethnic and cultural diversity, will be addressed by this project.

Partnership: This grant has been developed by the North Shore Employment Consortium (NOSEC) which is a Collaborations established by the Southern Essex Workforce Investment Board, its One-stop North Shore Career centers, and area providers, including: Massachusetts Rehabilitations Commission; Department of Mental health; Department of Mental Retardation; Massachusetts commission for the blind; Independent Living Center of the North Shore and Cape Ann, Inc.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: **Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh**
2600 East Carson Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15203

Contact: Patricia L. Petrosky
Phone: (412) 390-2215

Proposed Awarded Amount: **\$744,253**

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities

Summary Paragraph: Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh and its consortium partners seek to implement a comprehensive service strategy with specific approaches to both improving access to One-Stop services for people with disabilities, and expanding their employment options through outreach to employers. Some specific components of the proposed service delivery model include: a making determinations of existing service gaps and physical/attitudinal barriers; providing out reach to job seekers with disabilities; developing and informational website for job seekers and employers; developing expertise of One-Stop center staff regarding employment issues of people with disabilities; enhancing physical accessibility of One-Stop centers and Satellites; coordination and linkage with Vocational Rehabilitation; providing outreach to potential employers of people with disabilities; and facilitating the development of an employer-driven "workplace inclusion network" to assist businesses to become Supportive workplace environments for all employees and customers.

Community Served: In Pennsylvania, Allegheny County and the city of Pittsburgh; Washington, Greene, and Beaver counties; Butler, Armstrong, and Indiana counties, and Westmoreland and Fayette counties. In West Virginia, the service area encompasses Hancock county, Brooke county, Ohio county, Marshall county, Wetzel county, and Tyler county.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target job seekers with disabilities, whose support needs will be identified in two ways. First, the customer may self-identify needs; second, one-stop staff may determine through structured interviews that a job seeker might need additional support, and will make appropriate referrals.

Partnerships: Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh is submitting this grant application on behalf of a consortium of partners in Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Panhandle of West Virginia within the Team Pennsylvania Career Link (TPCL) and Work 4 West Virginia (W4WV) One-Stop systems. Consortium partners in Pennsylvania include: Tree Rivers Workforce Investment Board; Washington Greene county Job training Agency, Inc; Tri-County Workforce Investment Board, Inc; and Westmoreland/Fayette Workforce Investment Board, Inc. In West Virginia, the Northern Panhandle Workforce Investment Board Participating.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: **City of Hawthorne- South Bay Workforce Investment Board**
1 Manchester Blvd, 4th floor
Inglewood, California 90301

Contact: Jan Vogel
Phone: (310) 412-5558

Proposed Award Amount: \$864,037

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The South Bay Work Incentive Partnership proposes to plan and implement system enhancement activities to adapt and improve their One-Stop center WIA Core services to fully meet the employment and training needs of persons with disabilities. The applicants plan to carry out a series of planning, system integrations, staff development, technology, marketing, management, evaluation, and system management. The applicants further intends to develop uniform client intake and tracking forms to establish baseline data on consumers with disabilities accessing the One-Stop centers.

Community Served: Inglewood, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach Hawthorne, Lawndale, E/Segundo, Gardena, and Redondo Beach.

Barriers/Target Group: This project targets people with disabilities, including Welfare-to-Work recipients, who are seeking employment services at One-Stop Centers.

Partnerships: The south Bay Workforce Investment Board is the applicant agency on behalf of the South Bay Work Incentive Partnership. The Consortium includes the six affiliated South Bay One-Stop Centers: Hawthorne One-Stop Centers; Inglewood One-Stop Center; Lawndale One-Stop center; Gardena One-Stop Center; Beach cities One-Stop center(Redondo Beach, CA) and Westchester/El Segundo One-Stop Center. Also, the Westside center for Independent Living, the Westside Regional Center, and the California Department of Rehabilitation. Other participants are: The state of California Employment Development Department; Los Angeles county Department of Public Social Services; Southern California Regional Occupation Center; Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science; California State University Dominguez Hills, and El Camino Community College.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Way Station, Inc.
P.O. Box 3826
230 West Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland 21705-3826

Contact: Anne Rea
Phone: (301) 662-0099 ext.1240

Proposed Award Amount: \$ 844,157

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Frederick Works Project is a comprehensive proposal designed to address the multiple impediments to employment that persons with disabilities must overcome. Innovative components of the Frederick Works Project are: the establishment of special staff positions, "Community Resource Consultants"; the provision of comprehensive training on disability issues for staff in the workforce investment system; the creation of an advisory Board, which will include both employers and persons with disabilities; the expansion of the Frederick Works website to include a confidential labor exchange for persons with disabilities and interested employers; the pursuit of waivers or demonstration projects with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and/or U.S. Department of Agriculture; and the establishment of a client Services fund to leverage appropriate state and/or local resources to aid in filling gaps in the local service delivery system.

Community Served: Frederick County, Maryland.

Barriers/Target Group: More than 35,00 people with disabilities reside in Frederick county, and data suggests that at least 800 new individuals with disabilities are expected to move to Frederick county each year. The Frederick works Project proposes to enhance the employability, job retention, and career advancement of persons with disabilities in Frederick county, Maryland

Partnership: Way station, Inc., a not-for-profit, community-based rehabilitation program presents the Frederick works Project on behalf of a consortium of public and private organizations. Consortium partners include: the Workplace Development Board of Frederick County; the One-Stop Employment Partnership (OEP) of Frederick County (a team of nine public agencies, including the Maryland State Department of Educations Division of Rehabilitation Services), Way Station, Inc., and Goodwill Industries of Monocay Valley, Inc.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Texas Workforce Commission
101 East 15th Street
Room 4401
Austin, Texas 78778-0001

Contact: City Geisman
Phone: (512) 463-2692

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The Texas Workforce Commission (commission) will partner with five local workforce development boards to design a model project of five unique One-Stop systems. Each of the sites (covering a spectrum of urban, suburban, and rural areas) will focus on a different strategy for creating a model approach to providing seamless service deliver within the One-Stop system for people with a wide range of disabilities. These approaches include: providing State-of-the-art accessible technology; setting up satellite locations within the offices of other service providers; concentrating on outreach to the disability community by including people with disabilities on an Advisory Board; providing comprehensive services and programs designed to meet needs and to address common employment barriers to persons with significant disabilities; and establishing a Virtual One-Stop with services accessible through computer.

Community Served: The State of Texas and five local sites: Concho Valley, Golden Crescent, the Gulf Coast, Tarrant County, And the Upper Rio Grande.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target people with disabilities, including significant disabilities, across varying cultural and ethic groups across the State of Texas.

Partnerships: The Texas workforce commission will develop a statewide consortium including: the Texas Department of Housing and Community affairs (TDHCA); the Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC); Texas Commission for the Blind (TCB); Texas Department of mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR); Texas Department of Human Services (TDHS); the Texas chapter of Goodwill Industries; Texas Association of Centers for Independent Living, and local Workforce Development Boards from five local sites: Concho Valley, Golden Crescent, Gulf Coast, Tarrant County, and Upper Rio Grande.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: **State of Louisiana Governors office of Disability Affairs**
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Contact: Laura Brakin
 Phone: (225) 219-7547

Proposed Award Amount: \$800,000

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: Louisiana Work Incentive Project (LaWIP) builds the capacity of One-Stop to provide seamless service to individuals with disabilities. This project will: train staff; establish policies and procedures; develop knowledge of, and access to, a comprehensive database of resource information; build a system of communication through disability subcommittees, and build a system of communication with employers through the Louisiana Business Leadership Network.

Community Served: The service area is all 18 local workforce investment areas in the state of Louisiana.

Barriers/Target Group: People with disabilities, including culturally and ethnically diverse populations. To ensure maximum accessibility all written materials will also be printed in Spanish, French, and Vietnamese.

Partnerships: State agencies include: the Workforce Commission; Louisiana Rehabilitation Services; Department of Health and Hospitals; Office of Mental Health; Louisiana Commission for the Deaf; Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities; Department of Education; Bureau of health Services financing; office of public health; department of Labor; Department of Social services; Department of Transportation and Development; traumatic brain injury Trust Fund; and Louisiana State University's Human Development Center. Boards and Councils are: Local Workforce Investment Boards; Louisiana State Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities; Statewide Independent living council; Louisiana Rehabilitation council; and Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs. Additionally, the following disability agencies are consortium partners: Latan; the Advocacy Center; families helping Families; Louisiana Youth leadership Forum; and the three centers for independent living.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Indianapolis Private Industry Council
17 West Market Street, Suite 500
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Contact: Kelley D. Gulley
Phone: (317) 684-2447

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities in Central Indiana.

Summary Paragraph: under this grant, the One-Stop Consortium will partner with Easter Seals Cross Roads Rehabilitation Center to address assistive technology and facility accessibility evaluations. The project will provide disability-related staff training that results in an informed, cross-trained staff who are willing and prepared to assess and meet the needs of people with disabilities through programmatic and leveraged funding opportunities; incorporating the use of assistive technology and improving accommodations services to employers and to people with disabilities; and improving the physical accessibility of One-Stop Centers, along with improving outreach services to communities of people with disabilities.

Community Served: Central Indiana

Barriers/Target Groups: Despite the overall success of the One-Stop System in Marion county, people with disabilities remain an under served population. This project addresses the barrier of "accessibility issues" by focusing on access to knowledgeable staff, access to assistive technology (including Computers), and physical accessibility to One-Stop facilities.

Partnerships: The Indianapolis Private Industry Council Submitted this proposal in partnership with the One-Stop consortium and Easter seals crossroads Rehabilitation Center (Easter Seals Crossroads).

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: State of Oregon Department of Human Services,
Vocational Rehabilitation Division
500 Summer Street E 87,
Salem, Oregon 97301-1120

Contact: Lynnae Rutledge
Phone: (503) 945-6204

Proposed Award Amount : \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This project will provide model One-Stop service delivery through availability of comprehensive services and programs designed to meet multiple needs and to overcome common employment barriers for people with disabilities. There are five main components to this project: staff training (for One-Stop Center and partner staff) in "Basic Disability 101 Information" and "Sensitivity/Awareness training"; development of an online resource manual for One-Stop Centers and system, employers, and employees/potential employees with disabilities; pilot projects in accessible technologies; the incorporation of benefits planners and experts into the One-Stop system; and outreach to the multi variate disability community and potential or current employers of people with disabilities.

Community Served: The State of Oregon.

Barriers/Target Group: This project seeks to improve overall accessibility of the One-Stop System in order increase the system's utilization by people with disabilities.

Partnerships: The applicant, State of Oregon Department of Human Services, Vocation Rehabilitation Division, submitted this proposal along with the following consortium partners: State Workforce Investment Board; State Independent living Council; State of Oregon Workforce partners, including: Department of Human services-Adult and Family services, Senior and Disabled Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation; Department of Education; Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development; and Employment Department.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: **Human Resource Investment Council**
 610 Manton Ave.
 Providence, Rhode Island 02909

Contact: Peter D'Orsi
Phone: (401) 457-1702

Proposed Award Amount: **\$900,000**

Project Emphasis: People with Disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The Human Resource Investment Council and its consortium partners plan to make Rhode Islands One-Stop System, called NetWORKri, a model for assisting people with disabilities to make informed decisions about their individual reads to independence. This project is designed to effect systems change, to increase employment outcomes for people with disabilities, and to be sustainable over time. Some innovative components of the project are: the formation of Disability Advisory Committees; hiring Disability Resource Specialists; providing ongoing disability-related training for front-line staff; increasing competitive unsubsidized employment for people with disabilities through on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities; increased marketing of NetWORKri, and improved accessibility to specific disability populations such as to people who are Deaf.

Community Served: The State of Rhode Island.

Barriers/Target Group: (Not Sure what to Say here)

Partnerships: The Rhode Island Human Resource Investment Council/State Workforce Investment Board is submitting this proposal with its partners, the two local Workforce Investment Boards, the Department of Labor and training (DLT), the office of Rehabilitation Services' Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program, the Department of Human Service (DHS), the Adult Education division of the Department of Education, the Governor's Commission on Disabilities; the Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and both Independent Living Centers in the State, PARI "People Actively Reaching Independence," and OSCIL, the Ocean State Center for Independent Living.

Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant

Awardee: Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
124 Marriott Drive., Suite 203
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Contact: Kathy Burton
Phone: (850) 488-4180

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities

Summary Paragraph: The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) and its consortium partners have designated three project sites, Regions 5, 12, and 21. The project will provide a project director and staff at the three sites. The project will deliver a training video on awarded of "hidden disabilities," and a statewide conference in conjunction with the annual workforce development sector meeting will provide a forum for discussion of best practices regarding hidden disabilities. The project will produce two guide books one for consumers, one for professionals, to individual benefits and the impact of employment on benefits. Outreach will be done both statewide through newsletters and other communication media, and locally, through a public information campaign including radio and television spots, public speaking engagements to service clubs and rehabilitation facilities, and other means.

Community Served: Region (North Florida)- Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla counties; Region 12 (Central Florida)- Seminole Community college, with One-Stops in Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, and Sumter counties; and Region 21 (South Florida)- Palm Beach Habilitation Center, and One-Stops in Palm Beach County.

Barriers/Target Group: This project targets individuals with unidentified disabilities who are under served, and individuals who may be receiving individualized services elsewhere, but who would benefit from linkages between One-Stops and the specialized programs that have served them.

Partnerships: The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) is working with a Consortium including the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Service, Division of Workforce Development, and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; the Department of Children and Families, Developmental Services and Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health programs; the Brain Injury Association of Florida; the Agency for Workforce Innovation; the Agency on Health Care Administration Medicaid Program Development, and the Transportation Disadvantaged Commission.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardec: **City of Cincinnati**
 19 West Elder Street
 Cincinnati, OH 45210

Contact: **Jerry B. Brown, Jr.**
 Phone: **(513) 731-9800**

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The City of Cincinnati and its partners seek to develop a model One-Stop service delivery system in the Southwest Ohio Region. This project will address three dimensions: people, programs, and systems. Some of the measurable objectives of this project are: development of a referral source of services and information concerning the employment of people with disabilities; establishing procedures for identifying hidden disabilities; providing access to knowledgeable benefits counselors; developing and implementing an extensive marketing strategy; providing information/technical assistance to employers and the eligible providers of education and training services; educating staff to enable the three Southwest Ohio Region One-Stops to serve as an employment network provider established under the provisions of the Ticket-to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act; and developing a more accessible infrastructure and improving programmatic access for people with disabilities. The project activities include capacity building activities; developing a Triage Model to screen One-Stop customers to identify people with disabilities; providing benefits counseling for One-Stop customers and their family members; providing referrals to partner agencies, and upgrading existing technology to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.

Community Served: Hamilton City and the City of Cincinnati.

Barriers/Target Group: Currently, very few people with disabilities are utilizing services at the physical locations of the One-Stops. Services to this target group are provided primarily off-site at organizations that specialize in providing services to people with disabilities. This project seeks to overcome the physical and other barriers currently preventing people from disabilities from using One-Stop Centers.

Partnerships: The applicant, the City of Cincinnati Employment and Training Division (ETD), made this proposal in partnership with the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Policy Board, Hamilton County Department of Job and Family Services, Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services, University of Cincinnati College of Evening and Continuing Education, Jewish Vocational Service, Ohio Valley Goodwill, Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati, the Work Resource Center (non-profit), Clermont Counseling Center (non-private), and CRI (non-profit).

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Alpha One**
 127 Main Street, South Portland
 Cumberland, ME 04106

Contact: Steven Tremblay
 Phone: (207) 767-2189

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: Alpha One and the Six County Coastal CareerCenters have designed this consumer-directed employment initiative to serve Maine's citizens with disabilities. The comprehensive strategy emphasizes consumer direction in employment services. Provisions are made for improved employment service supports for customers with disabilities; for expanded access to CareerCenters. Plans for improved relationships with employers entail expanded outreach to employers regarding new opportunities for recruitment of workers with disabilities; the provision of supplemental human resources capacity to employers around disability issues such as legal, accessibility, assistive technology, and financial incentives; and providing conflict resolution assistance to employers and people with disabilities. Further, the project will make extended outreach, delivering an aggressive networked information campaign through consumer-directed disability organizations, to consumers with disabilities.

Community Served: All of Maine's Local Workforce Investment Area #4, comprised of the southern coastal counties of York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo.

Barriers/Target Group: This grant will focus on Maine residents with disabilities.

Partnerships: Alpha One, Maine's Center for Independent Living, is the lead applicant. Its consortium partners include the seven CareerCenters located in the Six County Coastal Workforce Investment Area..

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
State Department of Education
435 St. Michael's Drive, Building D
Santa Fe, NM 87505**

Contact: **Andrew Winnegar**
Phone: **(505) 954-8521**

Proposed Award Amount: \$539,000

Project Emphasis: Working-age individuals with disabilities, including Native Americans with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The New Mexico One Project will develop a model One Stop program to enhance employability, employment, and career advancement of people with disabilities. The project will provide training in disability-related issues for One Stop staff, and will seek new informational technology for use at the One Stop Career Centers. Assistive technology and staff support and training will augment this program's work towards maximizing the One-Stop Centers' accessibility. The NMONE will also maintain a quality program evaluation system to include an external evaluator and a core team of representative consumer advocacy stakeholders. The evaluation function will provide opportunities for correction and redirection as the program development process unfolds.

Community Served: The State of New Mexico.

Barriers/Target Group: This project targets all working-age individuals with disabilities in the state of New Mexico.

Partnerships: The New Mexico Technology Assistance Program (NTAP), Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) in the New Mexico Department of Education, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, working with the New Mexico Workforce Development Board is leading this project. The New Mexico One (NMONE) Project is submitted in collaboration with the State Workforce Development Board and includes all its WIA partners.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: Illinois Department of Human Services
623 East Adams, P.O. Box 19929
Springfield, IL 62794-9429

Contact: Carl Suter
Phone: (217) 782-2094

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Illinois Department of Human Services is leading this proposal for creating the "Access to Employment Network," a statewide infrastructure that will facilitate a fully accessible One-Stop system. Along with its consortium partners, DHS will form network teams comprised of members of the various consortium partners' agencies. These teams will collaborate to accomplish four main tasks: training, technical assistance, outreach/marketing, and One-Stop certification process. Training programs, which will be primarily targeted towards One-Stop staff and employers, will build local capacity by facilitating an ongoing information exchange regarding core disability awareness, benefits planning, assistive technology, and other issues. A wide range of technical assistance, including an Internet-based technical assistance program, will be made available to One-Stops, local employers, community providers, and citizens. Outreach and marketing, as well as a multi-media campaign, will be targeted to customers, employers, and communities. Finally, the network will facilitate full physical and informational accessibility of all One-Stops by developing and implementing a component in the One-Stop certification process and by providing basic assistive technology to meet minimum accessibility needs.

Community Served: The State of Illinois.

Barriers/Target Group: This project has been developed in coordination with a Benefits planning proposal to the Social Security Administration. Because people with disabilities may choose not to pursue employment without accurate information about the impact of employment on their benefits and health care, this project will also include a provision for benefits planning, in case the SSA grant is not awarded. Also, this program will seek to identify and provide service to individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families who may have hidden disabilities.

Partnerships: The Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) is making this proposal in partnership with: Illinois Department of Human Services/Office of Rehabilitation Services; Illinois Workforce Investment Board; all 26 Local Workforce Investment Boards/One-Stops; Illinois Department of Employment Security; Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living/all 24 Centers for Independent Living; SSI Coalition For a Responsible Safety Net; Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois; Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois; Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Illinois Assistive Technology Project; Great Lakes Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center; and the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Iowa Workforce Development
150 Des Moines Street
Des Moines, IA 50309**

Contact: **Irene Shultz**
Phone: **(515)281-9095**

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This Work Incentive Grant project will focus on identifying and eliminating physical, procedural, training, and policy barriers within the State's regional One-Stop Center system. This state-wide project will develop resource teams--consisting of local service providers and state partner organizations' staff who have expertise in addressing specific barriers to employment--which will work with the regional workforce investment boards to identify possible solutions, and then to implement locally-selected changes using Workforce Investment Grant funds. This project is innovative in its wide scope from grassroots focus groups to statewide collaborations. A SSA proposal is being submitted, concurrently with this proposal, to expand the provisions of benefits planning within Iowa for individuals with disabilities. With the additional complementary grants from Rehabilitation Services Administration and Social Security Administration to address community collaboration-related barriers and employer-related barriers, respectively, this Work Incentive Grant project will fulfill an essential piece in the delivery of a seamless employment and training service delivery system through each regional One-Stop Center system in the state of Iowa.

Community Served: All sixteen regions of the State of Iowa.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target the employment and training needs of persons with disabilities, including beneficiaries of SSI and SSDI, in the State of Iowa.

Partnerships: Iowa Workforce Development is serving as applicant on behalf of the project partners, which, in addition to IWD, include the State Workforce Investment Board, the Iowa Department of Human Services, the Iowa Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, the Iowa Department for the Blind, the Iowa Department of Human Rights (Division of Persons with Disabilities), the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, Iowa CEO, Inc., University of Iowa Law Center/DBTAC, Drake University Rehabilitation Institute, Centers for Independent Living, and the Iowa Association for Community Providers.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: Michigan Works! Association
2500 Kerry Street, Suite 210
Lansing, MI 48912

Contact: Kay Penner
Phone: (517) 371-1100

Proposed Award Amount: \$980,385

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This Work Incentive Grant project is designed to develop and market information about employment opportunities for people with disabilities, and to build a central information clearinghouse for the employer community on the value of hiring people with disabilities. Key components include needs assessment; compilation of a resource directory for Michigan Works! Center staff; a resource directory for employers; information for employers on incentives such as Ticket to Work and the Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIIA); extensive training to staff and subcontractors; the development of a catalogue of assistive technology products which will be available to both Michigan Works! Centers and employers; and finally, extensive marketing to both the disability community and employers.

Community Served: The State of Michigan.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target both people with disabilities in the State of Michigan, and the employer community.

Partnerships: Michigan Works! Association is the membership association for Michigan's 25 Workforce Development Boards, Local Elected Officials, and Michigan Works! Agencies organized under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Michigan Works! Association is the lead member of a consortium that includes the Governor's Workforce Commission (Michigan's State Workforce investment Board); the State Departments of Career Development, Education, Social Services, Transportation, and Community Health (incorporating mental health and public health); Michigan Rehabilitation Services; Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns; Michigan Commission for the Blind; Social Security Administration; and Great Lakes Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grants**

Awardee: **Full Employment Council, Inc.**
 1740 Paseo
 Kansas City, MO 64108

Contact: Clyde McQueen
 Phone: (816) 471-2330, ext.256

Proposed Award Amount: \$624,025

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Full Employment Council, Inc., a WIA Fiscal Agent and One- Stop Operator, with consortium partners listed below, will establish a system to provide for a seamless delivery of employment and training service to clients with disabilities at the four One-Stop Centers in the Kansas City and Vicinity and East Jackson County local workforce investment areas. Innovative components of the project include: evaluation of assessment tools and point of usage; development of system for referral of clients to Community Rehabilitation Programs, development of system to access interpreters; coordination of services provided with partners and cross training of staff; implementation of assistive technology at One-Stop Centers; development of automated MIS system and case management system to track clients served and services provided clients; identification of necessary accommodations at training facilities, schools, places of employment; researching effects of employment on benefits including transportation, health insurance, housing, and other entitlements; development/updating directory of services; evaluation of the program; and examination of the sustainability of the system.

Community Served: The Missouri Local Workforce Investment Areas of Kansas City, Missouri, and Vicinity, and East Jackson County, which includes the counties of Cass, Clay, Platte, Ray, and Jackson, and the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

Barriers/Target Group: People with disabilities served by the One-Stop Operator (Full Employment Council, Inc.) and partner organizations.

Partnerships: Consortium partners include: Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Helping Hand of Goodwill Industries, the Rehabilitation Institute, Jewish Vocational Service, the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, and the Local Investment Commission (a designated representative of the Missouri Division of Family Services). Additionally, the advisory committee will coordinate information on barriers to employment with the SSA grant recipient and HHS Medicaid Infrastructure grant recipient.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
1016 West 6th, Suite 205
Anchorage, AK 99501**

Contact: **Jim Beck**
Phone: **(907) 269-3569**

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The proposed project markets the One-Stop system to the disability community, while at the same time building the capacity of the system to better serve individuals with disabilities in a competent, respectful manner with consumer choice at its foundation. Components of the project include hiring Resource Specialists to provide training and technical assistance on disability and employment issues; coordination with Alaska's HHS Medicaid Infrastructure grant; and employment of a Program Manager to oversee activities including Assistive Technology capacity assessment and reporting, establishing statewide marketing initiatives, compiling and adapting training curricula relevant to persons with disabilities using One-Stop Job Centers, and compiling and adapting existing disability-specific screening tools working towards their implementation statewide in Job Centers. Additionally, this project will support the Job Centers in enhancing their capacity to become Employment Networks under the Ticket to Work program. This project will also assist in the procurement of services from qualified benefits counselors. As well, through this project the applicants will publish a reference manual for Job Center staff about disability-related needs and services, with concrete answers to common situations.

Community Served: The State of Alaska.

Barriers/Target Group: The proposed project provides wraparound services to individuals with disabilities as they move through the One-Stop system.

Partnerships: Along with the Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), partner agencies include: the Alaska Division of Public Assistance (DPA); the Alaska Division of Employment Security (ES); Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation programs; Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education (GCDSE); and area non-profit organizations and local business entities.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grants**

Awardee: **South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency**
 SE 2750 Old Olympic Highway
 Shelton, WA 98584

Contact: **Amadeo T. Tiam**
 Phone: **(360) 426-3990**

Proposed Award Amount: \$900,000

Project Emphasis: Native American individuals with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This project involves the development and implementation of a model One-Stop Center for delivering employment training services to Native Americans, with an emphasis on individuals with disabilities, within the 5 Tribe service area. The 5 member Tribes and SPIPA, who have previously collaborated on vocational rehabilitation and Welfare to Work programs, utilize an innovative service delivery system in which technical assistance, data collection, collaboration, evaluation, and administrative services are centralized at the SPIPA headquarters. Additionally, at the tribal sites located on each reservation, on-site counselors provide outreach, intake, service plan development, and case plan implementation and follow-up services. This Work Incentive Grant project will entail the employment of a project coordinator, a training resource/technology specialist, and 5 tribal job counselors/coordinators to encompass all employment training, counseling, and related services under an intertribal service delivery umbrella.

Community Served: The project service area includes the 5 member Tribes' reservations, plus the tribal services areas encompassing Thurston, Mason, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Lewis, and portions of Pierce Counties in the State of Washington, South Puget Sound region.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will serve Native Americans with disabilities who reside in the project service areas. The applicants expect to provide employment and training services to more than 360 Native Americans within the service area over the 30 month period.

Partnerships: The applicant, South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA), represents an Intertribal Consortium whose members include: Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation; Nisqually Indian Tribe; Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe; Skokomish Indian Tribe; and the Squaxin Island Indian Tribe.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **Nashville Career Advancement Center
621 Mainstream Dr., Suite 210
Nashville, TN 37228-1210**

Contact: Lisa Pote
Phone: (615) 862-8890 ext.277

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Nashville Career Advancement Center (NCAC), the lead agency of Local Workforce Investment Area 9 in Middle Tennessee, is applying for this grant. This project will improve access to One-Stop services for customers with disabilities in several ways. The project will hire several "Special Services Facilitators" whose responsibility will be to serve as gatekeepers for Federally funded employment and training benefits programs, and the community based organizations that serve individuals with disabilities with employment and training services. The grant will allow for improvement of coordinated employment opportunities through the development of an employment council for people with disabilities. Further, the applicant will develop an Individual Training Account (ITA) system for customers with disabilities who would need specialized employment and training services, in preparation for the Ticket to Work system.

Community Served: *(illegible from Fax-- waiting for info from grant office)*

Barriers/Target Group: Although the current One-Stop system in Middle Tennessee does provide services to people with disabilities, duplication and gaps in service do exist. For example, although the NCAC is fortunate to have a partner in Vocational Rehabilitation, many disabled customers do not qualify or choose away from these benefits. This project is targeted at filling those gaps in service and eliminating duplication.

Partnerships: The Nashville Career Advancement Center is partnered with Vocational Rehabilitation, the Department of Human Services, and the Tennessee Board of Regents.

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **State of Vermont**
 P.O. Box 488
 5 Green Mountain Drive
 Montpelier, VT 05601-0488

Contact: **Bill Cormany**
 Phone: **(802) 828-4355**

Proposed Award Amount: \$831,431

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The Vermont Human Resources Investment Council, with its consortium partners, proposes to implement a project that seeks to realize the potential of the Workforce Investment Act by defining and providing a coordinated continuum of services to enhance the employability and careers of people with disabilities. This project, called Vermont Works, will provide training, technical assistance, strategic planning, outreach, assessment, benefits planning, information and referral, as well as direct services to people with disabilities, providers of services, advocates, and employers. This proposal will develop systemic and individualized strategies to provide a seamless service delivery system for individuals with disabilities, including: Community Collaboration Forums, an analysis of current services which will reveal existing gaps in service; Consumer Peer Group Program, a peer group program to provide guidance people with disabilities in identifying barriers to employment and developing strategies to overcome them; Benefits Planning, Outreach, and Assistance; and Evaluation, a consumer-tested evaluation of both policies and programs.

Community Served: The State of Vermont.

Barriers/Target Group: This group is targeted towards consumers with disabilities in the state of Vermont. The core delivery sites for this services continuum will be the department of Employment and Training's One-Stop Career Resource Centers.

Partnerships: The Vermont Human Resources Investment Council is applying for this grant in partnership with the Department of Employment and Training (DET), the Agency of Human Services (AHS), Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL).

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: Montana Job Training Partnership, Inc.
302 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 409
Helena, MT 59601

Contact: Sue Mohr
Phone: (406) 444-1330

Proposed Award Amount: \$824,112

Project Emphasis: Individuals with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: This project will focus on providing capacity-building activities to enhance Montana's One-Stop delivery system. The comprehensive service strategy encompasses that the applicants will (1) establish a benefits Analysis certification program for One-Stop staff and partner agency staff; (2) provide professional development and technical assistance on topics including Workforce Investment Act, ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (TWWIIA), Medicaid and health issues, Social Security work incentives, Plans to Achieve Self Support (PASS) job development and job carving methods, supported employment, assistive technology, assessment/screening issues, and self-employment for people with disabilities; (3) market workforce investment programs to other state and local entities such as Vocational Rehabilitation and others; (4) create an Assessment Task Force charged with testing assessment and diagnostic tools used in the One-Stop Centers, developing guidelines for services provided for people with learning and other disabilities, identifying training opportunities for the identification of hidden disabilities for front-line staff in the workforce investment system; and (5) convene a statewide conference to highlight such issues as health care, transportation, technology, housing, employment and training, school-to-work, work incentives, Ticket to Work, and the Workforce Investment Act.

Community Served: The State of Montana.

Barriers/Target Group: This project will target people with disabilities who are served through the One-Stop system in the State of Montana. The applicants note that a central part of providing seamless service delivery includes educating front-line staff about the identification and screening of hidden disabilities in the consumers.

Partnerships: Montana Job Training Partnership, Inc., which is the administrative entity/grant recipient for Montana's workforce areas, is applying for this Work Incentive Grant in consortium with: State Workforce Investment Board; Balance of State Joint Council; Concentrated Employment Program Workforce Investment Board; and the University of Montana Rural Institute on Disabilities (a university-affiliated program).

**Department of Labor
Work Incentive Grant**

Awardee: **New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council, Inc.**
 64 Old Suncook Road
 Concord, NH 03301

Contact: Jackie Heuser
 Phone: (603) 229-3470

Proposed Award Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Emphasis: People with disabilities.

Summary Paragraph: The New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council and its One-Stop partners seek to enhance and strengthen NH's seamless service delivery within a One-Stop delivery system for people with a wide range of disabilities. The partners also seek to create a referral source of diverse services and information that commonly impact the employability of people with disabilities. One-Stop service delivery will be improved through the implementation of availability of comprehensive services and programs; fully accessible technology and/or other accommodations; knowledgeable and skilled staff; Work Incentives and Employment Counseling to One-Stop customers with disabilities; outreach to the disability community; establishment of linkages and technical assistance to public and private providers of service to people with disabilities; leveraging available funds and services available to people with disabilities; and the facilitation of One-Stops in becoming Employment Network providers. Further, this program will ensure that all One-Stop services are accessible for people with "hidden" disabilities; will assist individuals with disabilities to become more financially independent through the development of an Individual Development Account (IDA) savings and capital acquisition infrastructure, and will create a youth pilot program that provides outreach, mentoring, and employment and training services to youth with disabilities.

Community Served: The State of New Hampshire.

Barriers/Target Group: This proposal targets people with disabilities, including people with "hidden disabilities," in the state of New Hampshire.

Partnerships: The New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council (NHWOC), in conjunction with Governor Jeanne Shaheen and the NH One-Stop System Partners and the Governor's Task Force on Employment and Economic Opportunity, is the applicant for this project. Consortium partners include: NH Employment Security (Wagner Peyser and Unemployment Insurance); NH Department of Education, Division of Adult Education and Rehabilitation (Adult Education, School-to-Work, Vocational Rehabilitation, Vocational Education, and WIA Title I Youth); NH Community-Technical College System; and the NH Association of Community Action Programs (WIA Title I - Adult and Dislocated Worker, Welfare-to-Work, Food Stamp Employment and Training, and one of three partners in delivery of NH Employment Program (TANF)).

Dear Mr. President,

As CEOs of leading American businesses, one of our biggest challenges is recruiting and retaining workers with the skills needed for our firms to compete and win in the global marketplace. We believe that one of the ways to meet this challenge is to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities, especially since new information and communications technologies will make it even easier for people with disabilities to participate in the workforce. We are therefore proud to commit ourselves to promoting the recruitment, hiring, and promotion of candidates and employees with disabilities.

People with disabilities also represent an untapped resource that can help fill the need for qualified and highly skilled employees. A 30-year Dupont study, for example, has indicated that employees with disabilities have above average records in job performance, dependability, attendance, and safety. Today's information technologies provide an unprecedented opportunity for people with disabilities to expand the scope of their contributions -- and for our companies to meet the growing demand for workers. To make concrete progress toward increasing the employment of people with disabilities, complementing the Federal government's recent hiring commitment, and to help our businesses grow, we will work to take the following steps:

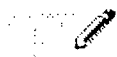
- Target disability in our diversity recruitment goals as we do for minorities and women, including, wherever appropriate, specific hiring targets;
- Promote the recruitment of youth with disabilities through summer internships, mentoring programs, "career awareness" activities, and community education programs that provide employment and leadership training;
- Create partnerships with disability organizations to identify barriers to employment for people with disabilities and to identify job candidates;
- Include disability issues as part of our company's diversity training for all employees;
- Incorporate images of disability in our company's internal and external promotional and marketing materials;
- Ensure that equal access to all company programs, including social activities, is incorporated into the early planning of those programs; and
- Develop and promote reasonable accommodations policies, including the availability of assistive technologies.

This is important both to reach the inclusion goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act and to sustain our national economy. Despite historic economic growth, people with disabilities remain unemployed at rates unacceptably high -- several times that of the general population. Becoming gainfully employed gives people the economic means to become more fully integrated into our society and enhances one's sense of dignity. By

hiring people with disabilities in our companies we can help change the social attitudes that continue to stand in the way of full inclusion of people with disabilities.

Thank you for your leadership in this area; we look forward to working with you on this important issue.

10/23/2000 03:54:26 PM



Jonathan M. Young
10/23/2000 03:54:26 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: FW: mentoring day press release

Is this okay? Should their release mention all the states? Does that preempt our announcement?

----- Forwarded by Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP on 10/23/2000 03:53 PM -----



Sheehy Jennifer <sheehy-jennifer@dol.gov>
10/22/2000 03:56:40 PM

Record Type: Record

To: "Horne, Richard" <horne-richard@dol.gov>, Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: FW: mentoring day press release

Richard, Jonathan I wanted to send you this draft press release so you could keep track of all the companies involved in disability mentoring day. I don't know of all their activities but I can send them and email and make sure that they let us know details.

> -----

> From: Sheehy Jennifer
> Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2000 3:39 PM
> To: Moran Sherrie
> Cc: 'Ogle, Becky'; 'McKinnon, Bill'; Gamble Bennett
> Subject: mentoring day press release

>

> Sherrie,
> Please take a look at this press release regarding Disability Mentoring
> Day on Wednesday, October 25th. we would like to send this out as soon as
> possible Monday morning. let me know if I can answer any questions for
> you. Thank you for your help!

>

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> <<Mentori2.doc>>

>

>

> Jennifer Sheehy
> Senior Policy Adviser

> Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities
> 202-693-4940
> fax: 202-693-4929
> Sheehy-Jennifer@dol.gov
>



- Mentori2.doc



**CORPORATIONS AND DISABILITY ORGANIZATIONS
JOIN FORCES TO PROMOTE
NATIONAL DISABILITY MENTORING DAY, OCTOBER 25**

For Release: October 23, 2000

*Contact: Jennifer Sheehy, Presidential Task Force
on Employment of Adults with Disabilities,
202/693-4940, TDD 202/693-4920
sheehy-jennifer@dol.gov*

WASHINGTON – The Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities is joining forces with businesses, federal agencies and organizations in California, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington state and the District of Columbia to collaborate on National Disability Mentoring Day: Career Development for the 21st Century, to be held on October 25. This effort will provide young people with disabilities the opportunity to experience a variety of work environments, as they consider their own career development.

Disability Mentoring Day is a key component of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, proclaimed each October by every president since Harry Truman in 1947. Modeled after February Groundhog Job Shadow Day, the event provides a chance for young people with disabilities to gain insight into career options and their own personal goals. In Washington, D.C., federal agencies and the White House will host more than 100 students with disabilities. Across the country, corporate mentors will have an opportunity to experience firsthand the contributions the future talent pool can bring to businesses.

Bank of America, HBO, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, Lucent Technologies, Microsoft, McDonald's, MTV, New York Life, Nickelodeon, Northrup Grumman, PBS, RR Donnelley, Verizon and Xerox will participate in this year's Disability Mentoring Day. "I am encouraged by the number of corporations taking the lead in Disability Mentoring Day," said Becky Ogle, Executive Director of the Task Force. "Strong business partnerships can stimulate interest among young people with disabilities and give them exposure to a number of occupations. While students with disabilities are the participants of Disability Mentoring Day, all America will benefit."

Disability Mentoring Day has special significance this year as it falls between the 10th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 26, 2000 and the 25th Anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) on November 29, 2000. The sponsors of Disability Mentoring Day include the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and the American Association of People with Disabilities.

The year 2000 is turning out to be a celebration of youth with disabilities, beginning with First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton's announcement of a series of steps to help young people successfully transition from education to employment during the 10th Anniversary of the ADA, and expansion of the Presidential Task Force's youth initiatives. In Iowa, Governor Thomas J. Vilsack became the first governor to proclaim October 25, 2000 as Disability Mentoring Day in his state. Youth with disabilities are finding their way into entertainment as well. On the eve of Disability Mentoring Day, Nickelodeon will debut "Pelswick" created by syndicated cartoonist John Callahan -- the first animated series about a 13 year old boy who uses a wheelchair, and attends his neighborhood school.

The Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities was established by executive order of President Clinton in March of 1998 to create a coordinated and aggressive policy to increase the employment of people with disabilities to a rate as close as possible to that of the general population. Secretary Alexis Herman of the Department of Labor chairs the task force which consists of the heads of 18 government agencies. Tony Coelho serves as vice chair.

For more information on Disability Mentoring Day, contact Jennifer Sheehy at the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, 202/693-4940 or sheehy-jennifer@dol.gov and visit the website, www.disability.gov.

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**PRESIDENT CLINTON CELEBRATES NATIONAL DISABILITY
MENTORING DAY THROUGH ACTIVITIES EXPANDING EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

October 25, 2000—DRAFT 10/23 9pm

Today, President Clinton will celebrate National Disability Mentoring Day and National Disability Employment Awareness month by applauding the mentoring activities that public and private employers will be hosting throughout the Administration and across the nation to help expand employment opportunities for young people with disabilities. The President will also announce several steps that the Clinton-Gore Administration will take to help persons with disabilities enter the workforce. These steps include grants to advance the goals of the landmark Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act, partnerships to close the digital divide for persons with disabilities, and progress in both federal and private sector initiatives to hire more persons with disabilities.

Second Annual Disability Mentoring Day. The Administration will be hosting a day-long program for more than 100 high school and college-age people with disabilities, including a White House opening session, after which participants will be matched with their volunteer mentors throughout the Administration to discuss and experience employment in the Federal government. The day will conclude with a State Department reception celebrating these young people and efforts to improve their employment opportunities. The President will also recognize the winners of the Disability Mentoring Day Essay Contest as well as 14 states, plus the District of Columbia, and 15 companies for their participation in Mentoring Day and their support for increasing employment opportunities for young people with disabilities.

Grants Enhancing Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities. The President will announce several Administration grant programs to enhance employment opportunities for people with disabilities and to carry out key aspects and goals of the Ticket to Work and Workforce Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIIA)

- The Social Security Administration (SSA) is awarding \$8 million in Benefit Planning Grants to 43 non-profit organizations and/or state agencies in 26 states and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Island for benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are attempting to return to work.
- The Department of Labor (DOL) is issuing \$20 million in Work Incentive Grants to ensure that people with disabilities have access to the full range of employment and reemployment services under the Workforce Investment Act. Grantees will be responsible for working with the One-Stop operators to augment their capacity to provide the full range of effective employment and training services to people with disabilities
- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is awarding its first Medicaid demonstration grants under the Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment program. These demonstration projects will help working individuals with chronic or progressive conditions remain competitively employed by giving them access to health benefits in order to prevent or delay further deterioration or relapse.

- HHS is releasing \$17 million in Medicaid Infrastructure Grants to help 24 states and the District of Columbia build the systems they need to provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to purchase health coverage through Medicaid. These grants encourage states to help individuals with disabilities return to work without fear of losing health coverage.

Public Private Partnerships to Bridge the Digital Divide. Building on his recent visit to Flint, Michigan highlighting the need to create digital opportunity for people with disabilities, the President will announce new public-private partnerships to bridge the digital divide so that more individuals with disabilities can participate fully in the workforce and in the nation's public life.

- The Veterans' Administration is forming a public-private partnership with SAIC and Verizon to help ensure that our Nation's disabled veterans have access to computers and the Internet.
- DOL and the Bureau of Indian Affairs are launching a partnership with the Information Technology Association of America and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute for increasing technology access for Native Americans with disabilities.
- Microsoft's Accessible Technology Group is awarding \$250,000 in grants to nine programs to provide people with disabilities, especially young people, with greater opportunities in access to technology, employment, and entrepreneurship. These grants include support of two newly-created High School/High Tech projects, which are sponsored by the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

Progress in Initiatives to Increase Hiring of Persons with Disabilities. Finally the President will commend both the public and private sectors for important progress in improving opportunities for persons with disabilities to be employed in the federal government, or in private companies.

- CEO's of leading companies are pledging to promote the recruitment, hiring, and promotion of individuals with disabilities as part of their diversity goals. In a letter to the President the "[check with JY] CEO's commit to working toward full inclusion of people with disabilities through steps such as the development of reasonable accommodations policies, including the availability of assistive technology.
- The Office of Personnel Management is reporting that the Administration is on course to meet the goal of President Clinton's July 25th Executive Order calling on federal agencies to hire 100,000 more people with disabilities over a 5-year period.

Building on the Clinton-Gore Record of Expanding Economic Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities. Today's announcements continue the Clinton-Gore Administration's strong commitment to improving employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. Key accomplishments include:

- Creating the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, charged with developing a coordinated and aggressive national policy to bring adults with disabilities into gainful employment at a rate that is as close as possible to that of the general adult population

- Signing the landmark Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIIA) which enhances employment-related services for individuals with disabilities and enables Americans with disabilities to retain their Medicare or Medicaid coverage when they go to work.
- Mobilizing public and private efforts to create digital opportunity for people with disabilities and increase their ability to participate in the workforce. Initiatives to improve technological access for persons with disabilities include securing commitments from high tech companies, research firms, and non-profit organizations to help improve the accessibility and affordability of technology for persons with disabilities.
- Making the federal government a model employer by directing agencies to increase efforts to recruit and hire people with disabilities, by expanding hiring opportunities for people with psychiatric disorders, and calling for Mental Health Parity for federal employees.
- Increasing the Substantial Gainful Activity cap to encourage individuals with disabilities to return to work without fear of losing critical benefits.

Revised Draft

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2000

Contact: HCFA Press Office
(202) 690-6145

**HHS ANNOUNCES NEW INITIATIVES
TO ENABLE MORE DISABLED PERSONS TO WORK**

The Department of Health and Human Services today announced two new initiatives to enable people with disabilities to become and stay competitively employed. Of the two grant programs announced today, one will fund cutting-edge demonstrations that enable people with chronic, disabling conditions to get medical benefits without having to quit their jobs to obtain needed care. The other will assist states to increase services and supports to those who work, as well as help others return to work without the fear of losing health coverage.

Both the grants and the demonstrations help advance the goals of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIA), a law passed by Congress to encourage people with disabilities to work without fear of losing their Medicare, Medicaid or similar health benefits.

The Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment is a new approach for the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), which administers the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The demonstration will allow states to provide health care services and supports to working individuals that they need to manage the progression of their diseases. The program will help people remain competitively employed by preventing or delaying the deterioration or a relapse of their condition. Qualified enrollees will be those with conditions where individuals usually experience progressive deterioration or periodic setbacks in their health and their ability to work.

“By helping employed individuals better manage their own chronic health conditions while they are working, we hope to prolong a healthy, productive work life,” said Secretary Donna E. Shalala. “We think it makes great sense to assist these workers to stay healthy and employed as long as possible for the benefit of the person and society. I am proud of this administration’s long record of assisting people with disabilities to support themselves and live independently.”

Two states, Rhode Island and Mississippi, will be the first recipients of TWWIA grants for the Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment. All states are eligible to apply for the grants, a program Congress authorized for six years at a spending level of \$250 million over the six years.

Rhode Island will receive approximately \$2 million over six years. The state plans to provide a package of services equivalent to those provided under Medicaid to individuals who have been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis but are not yet too disabled to work. The state will also include key services such as case management, personal assistance services, pharmaceutical copayments and other employment supports. Qualified individuals will be those working at least 40 hours each month. Rhode Island officials expect that many people enrolled in the demonstration will have employer-sponsored coverage. They will use the added services to "wrap around" that coverage to make it more effective in preventing deterioration of the person's condition.

Mississippi will use its \$27.5 million grant award with additional state funds to cover 500 persons with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS, who work or who PLAN to return to work. The state's program will mirror the full Medicaid benefits and services. The project will be implemented in nine counties in the Mississippi Delta where there is a relatively high rate of HIV/AIDS and limited health care resources for people with this condition.

"Our goal with these grants is to see if getting health care to people earlier than traditional Medicaid rules allow will actually lower long-term costs and increase a person's work life and the quality of that life," said Michael Hash, HCFA's acting administrator.

The second grant program announced today would assist 24 states and the District of Columbia in improving their ability to help people with disabilities hold down a job and maintain their health coverage. Congress approved the Medicaid Infrastructure Grants Program for 11 years with \$150 million appropriated for the first five years of the program. States will share about \$17 million for the first year.

The Medicaid Infrastructure Grants will help states build the systems they need to allow individuals with a disability to purchase health coverage through Medicaid. People with a disability often cite the fear of losing health coverage as one of the major barriers to a possible return to work. "Seventeen states have taken the lead to enact legislation that enables people with a disability to purchase health coverage through Medicaid at affordable rates," said Hash. "We want to help any state that wishes to improve its economy and its workforce by enlisting the talents of people who have a disability."

Grant monies will help enhance systems that provide personal assistance and supports. Such assistance can include help with bathing, dressing and other activities at home or on the job. States can also use the funds to assist employers to gain better access to this underused pool of workers, conduct outreach to people with a disability, train staff in new employment possibilities, and improve transportation or other supports upon which people with a disability rely.

States receiving this first round of awards include: Alabama, Alaska, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.



News Release

SOCIAL SECURITY

President Clinton Announces Grant Awards To Organizations Assisting Persons with Disabilities Attempting to Return to Work

President Bill Clinton announced today that the Social Security Administration is awarding \$8 million in grants to 43 non-profit organizations and/or state agencies in 26 states and two territories to provide benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are attempting to return to work. These grants are part of The Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act, which the President signed last year.

These are the first round of grants to be issued. The organizations, which will be expected to be providing service in early 2001, will be awarded grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$300,000. When fully implemented, grants will be awarded to organizations and/or state agencies in every state. Additional grants will be issued later once the Social Security Administration has its appropriation for Fiscal Year 2001.

POTUS QUOTE

“These grants will begin an important partnership between the Social Security Administration and local community organizations,” commented Kenneth S. Apfel, Commissioner of Social Security. “We want persons with disabilities to have organizations in their community that will help them navigate the system and successfully return to work.”

The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 was designed to help persons with disabilities who want return to work. The act increases beneficiary choice in obtaining rehabilitation and vocational services, removes barriers that require people with disabilities to choose between health care coverage and work and assures that more Americans with disabilities have the opportunity to participate in the workforce and lessen their dependence on public benefits.

The benefit planners will provide direct advice and assistance to Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries who want to work. As one of the first partner agencies, these agencies will work closely with beneficiaries to explain SSA's work incentives, inform them of the effects of work on benefits and provide information on other supports available, such as vocational rehabilitation. SSA will provide training and technical assistance to

these organizations under new contracts recently awarded to Cornell University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of Missouri.

FY 2000 Awards

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission \$297,297

Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Essex, Nantucket, Norfolk,
Plymouth, Suffolk and Somerville in Middlesex County

The project proposes a Statewide project to disseminate accurate information to beneficiaries with disabilities about work incentives and related benefit programs.

Massachusetts Project with Industry, Inc. \$209,046

8 counties (Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampton,
Franklin, Worcester, and Middlesex (excluding Somerville))

This project proposes to outreach to large numbers of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries, including youth and minorities, and to provide high-quality benefits planning and assistance services aimed at helping beneficiaries to make informed choices about employment.

VERMONT

Vermont Center for Independent Living \$50,000

This project proposes to offer Statewide access to the information and support people need to make informed choices about work and benefits; increase the availability of accurate, effective and accessible consumer education materials and services; and promote partnership between self-help and advocacy programs and the State's work incentives programs for SSA beneficiaries.

NEW YORK

Resource Center for Independent Living \$198,822

25 counties in Central and Northern New York

This project proposes to work in collaboration with 2 other New York providers to conduct outreach to SSI/SSDI beneficiaries with disabilities in Queens and the Bronx.

Independent Living, Inc. \$194,718

13 county area of the Hudson Valley Region

Project's intention is to implement a multifaceted, collaborative approach to benefit planning and assistance, and to the dissemination of accurate information about work incentives programs and issues related to such programs.

DELAWARE

United Cerebral Palsy of Delaware, Inc. \$51,090

This project proposes to provide Statewide benefits planning to all individuals who request assistance.

FLORIDA

Center for Independent Living in Central Florida, Inc. \$158,561

Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole, and Sumter Counties

The project proposes to empower beneficiaries with disabilities to make informed choices about work through the Benefits Planning, Assistance, and Outreach.

Abilities, Inc., of Florida \$242,630

Levy, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties

This project proposes to provide beneficiary planning, assistance, and outreach to beneficiaries with disabilities.

Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, Inc. \$300,000

St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, and Dade, and
Monroe Counties

This project proposes to develop a comprehensive outreach and recruitment program to access individuals not presently aware of the various work incentives available to them.

ILLINOIS

Department of Human Services/Office of Rehabilitation \$300,000

3 ZONES

This project proposes to offer Benefits Planning and Assistance services to all potential ORS customers via orientations prior to application for services.

City of Chicago, Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities	\$230,129
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Metropolitan Chicago

This project proposes to assist Chicago SSI and SSDI beneficiaries with disabilities in obtaining accurate and pertinent information on various city, state, and federal work incentive programs and other related supports necessary to facilitate their transition into employment.

Department of Human Services / Office of Mental Health \$280,708

3 ZONES

This project proposes to provide accurate information regarding State and federal benefits and work incentive programs.

WISCONSIN

Riverfront Activity Center, Inc	\$67,519
---------------------------------	----------

33 Counties

The purpose of this project is to provide planning and assistance to those who decide to pursue a work goal.

Employment Resources, Inc \$139,122

North and Eastern Counties in Wisconsin

The purpose of this project is to fulfill the labor needs of Wisconsin businesses and to assist Wisconsin citizens in attaining full employment.

IndependenceFirst \$115,765

Milwaukee, Waukesha, Ozaukee and Washington Counties

This project proposes to provide benefits assessments and planning to all SSDI/SSI beneficiaries in 4-county service area and conduct outreach to SSDI/SSI beneficiaries and their families, collect data on program participants.

OKLAHOMA

University of Oklahoma College of Continuing Education \$252,309

This Statewide project proposes to provide persons with disabilities options for employment and self-sufficiency through provision of benefits planning and assistance.

KANSAS

Black Hawk Center for Independent Living \$174,730

This Statewide project proposes to assure benefits planning services to all SSI/SSDI beneficiaries with disabilities in Iowa.

UCP of Colorado \$219,224

This Statewide project proposes to obtain employment for its participants, increase utilization of work incentives, and reduce dependence on public benefits.

ARIZONA

Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) \$300,000

This Statewide project proposes a collaborative project to provide statewide benefits planning, assistance, and outreach to the 156,855 residents who receive SSI and/or SSDI benefits.

WASHINGTON

Positive Solutions \$91,946

King County

Positive Solutions will target King County to provide benefits education/planning, increase community awareness of benefits programs and facilitate client referral to employment related services.

Employment Security Department \$256,833

As part of Washington Work Incentives Consortium, this project proposes to create a seamless Statewide Workforce development system to meet the workforce development needs of people who have disabilities.

PUERTO RICO

Movimiento Para el Alcance de Vida Independiente \$50,000

This project proposes to provide individualized benefit planning and assistance services, as well as, conduct ongoing outreach efforts on Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

WEST VIRGINIA

Division of Rehabilitation Services \$261,426

The purpose of this Statewide project is to establish community-based benefits planning and assistance services. Their goal is to increase the number of beneficiaries who return to work.

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services \$300,000

This project will create a Statewide program to increase assistance/support for individuals with disabilities to make informed choices regarding work.

ALASKA

University of Alaska Anchorage \$50,000

This project proposes to develop a Statewide system of benefits planning and assistance services.

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico State Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Special Services Unit \$129,759

Project WIN will develop Consumer Information Centers, establishing a Statewide system of expert wage/benefits planning assistance to facilitate greater consumer choice and direction in career planning.

NEBRASKA

Easter Seals Society of Nebraska, Inc. \$89,616

This project proposes to provide Statewide benefits planning and assistance services and outreach by employing state-of-the-art customer services strategies.

KANSAS

Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas, Inc. \$152,356

In collaborate with Statewide coalitions, this project proposes to provide comprehensive benefits and work incentives information and a rich offering of links to rehabilitation programs and resources throughout the state.

RHODE ISLAND

Department of Human Services--Office of Rehabilitation Services \$86,527

Project will provide Statewide access to knowledgeable and coordinated resources to enable them to make informed decisions regarding work and its impact on the quality of their lives.

ARKANSAS

Sources for Independent Living, Inc. \$280,349

This project proposes to provide Statewide benefits planning and assistance, advocacy and protection, and outreach for youth and adults with disabilities.

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Department of Social Services \$199,374

Project will provide Statewide benefits planning and assistance to SSI/SSDI beneficiaries with disabilities.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Granite State Independent Living Foundation \$70,486

This Statewide project proposes to create a cadre of senior work incentives specialists and build a network of qualified, regional work incentives specialists.

MONTANA

Montana Outreach \$60,456

This Statewide project proposes a project to establish benefits, planning, assistance, and community-based outreach to Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities.

IDAHO

Idaho Employment Initiative

\$71,058

This Statewide project proposes a coordinated system of benefits planning, assistance and outreach for Social Security beneficiaries, at both the State and local levels.

KENTUCKY

Center for Accessible Living, Inc.

\$274,630

Western Counties including: Adair, Allen, Anderson, Ballard, Barren, Boone, Boyle, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Butler, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Carroll, Casey, Christian, Clinton, Crittenden, Cumberland, Daviess, Edmonson, Franklin, Fulton, Gallatin, Grant, Graves, Grayson, Green, Hancock, Hardin, Hart, Henderson, Henry, Hickman, Hopkins, Jefferson, Kenton, Larue, Lincoln, Livingston, Logan, Lyon, McCracken, McLean, Marion, Marshall, Meade, Mercer, Metcalfe, Monroe, Muhlenberg, Nelson, Ohio, Oldham, Owen, Pulaski, Russell, Shelby, Simpson, Spencer, Taylor, Todd, Trigg, Trimble, Union, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Webster

The Center for Accessible Living will provide work incentives planning and assistance in the western area of Kentucky to beneficiaries with disabilities to improve their understanding of options for work.

Independence Place, Inc.

\$266,173

Eastern Counties including: Bath, Bell, Bourbon, Boyde, Bracken, Breathitt, Campbell, Carter, Clark, Clay, Elliott, Estill, Fayette, Fleming, Floyd, Garrard, Greenup, Harlan, Harrison, Jackson, Jessamine, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lewis, McCreary, Madison, Magoffin, Martin, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Owsley, Pendleton, Perry, Pike, Powell, Robertson, Rockcastle, Rowan, Scott, Whitley, Wolfe, Woodford

Independence Place, Inc. will provide benefits planning assistance and outreach to beneficiaries in the eastern counties of Kentucky. They will partner with the Center for Accessible Living to assure Statewide coverage.

Project will work closely with six other lead agencies in New York to provide statewide coverage in providing community-based benefits planning, assistance, and outreach to SSDI and SSI beneficiaries with disabilities.

Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc. \$261,213

Brooklyn, New York and Kings County

Brooklyn Works will provide benefit advisement service and outreach to an estimated 102,013 disabled SSI/SSDI individuals living in Kings County. Group will coordinate existing assistance and partnering with major State and local agencies and offices.

Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc. \$223,652

15 counties in Western New York

Project will do extensive outreach, provide beneficiaries and provider agencies with user-friendly, accurate information about how work will impact benefits, and how work incentives can be used by beneficiaries.

Abilities Inc., of the National Center for Disability Services \$159,587

Nassau & Suffolk Counties of Long Island NY

Organization will have a four-tiered implementation strategy that includes island-wide outreach and information dissemination. Will have one stop Centers that will service SSI and SSDI beneficiaries.

Barrier Free Living, Inc. \$173,432

New York and Richmond County (Staten Island)

Organization will be working in collaboration with other organizations through the New York Works. The group will be responsible for providing benefits advisement services to all beneficiaries representing all disabilities in the region with special emphasis on back-to-work age youth.

Queens Independent Living Center, Inc. \$300,000

Bronx and Queens NY

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Public Liaison

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 1999

WHITE HOUSE AND OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT HOST MENTORING DAY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

On October 27, 1999, more than three dozen high school and college-age youth with disabilities participated in a mentoring day designed to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The day-long program was a part of the Clinton-Gore Administration's efforts to heighten the profile of National Disability Employment Awareness month in October and to promote the employment of people with disabilities.

The day began with a plenary briefing in the Old Executive Office Building with White House and Administration officials. Afterward, the group was dispatched to offices in the White House, the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Labor, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Justice, where they were paired up with volunteer mentors to discuss and experience employment in the Federal government.

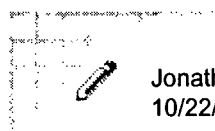
The day concluded with a reception at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). OPM highlighted the release of *Accessing Opportunity: The Plan for the Employment of Persons with Disabilities in the Federal Government*. The plan serves as a framework for Federal departments and agencies to use as they create strategies and initiatives to recruit, hire, develop, and retain more employees with disabilities.

The goal of the mentoring day was to expose young people with disabilities to a variety of career options, and to provide Federal agencies with an opportunity to connect with a talented pool of future professionals. A number of corporations and non-profit organizations also sponsored similar mentoring day activities around the country.

Other activities hosted by the Administration in celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness month included: a press briefing on disability and access issues with members of the media from disability outlets; a briefing for organizations in the disability community, during which Vice President Gore gave remarks and witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and Social Security Administration to promote employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for people with disabilities receiving government benefits; a visual arts exhibit and live performance featuring artists with disabilities; and a discussion on the future success of disability sports, including the Paralympics. The sports discussion was preceded by a wheelchair basketball, wheelchair racing, and adaptive climbing demonstration on the Ellipse, located between the White House

and the Washington Monument.

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Jonathan M. Young
10/22/2000 09:08:40 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP, Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Microsoft \$250,000

This is the Microsoft piece

----- Forwarded by Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP on 10/22/2000 09:04 PM -----



Ellen Mosner <ellenm@microsoft.com>
10/19/2000 11:47:56 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: "'einsofcom@earthlink.net'" <einsofcom@earthlink.net>, Ellen Mosner <ellenm@microsoft.com>

Subject: RE: [MD] Final List of Mentoring Day Participants

You bet. Its in draft form but I gues it'll be fine. IF this is too long,
then you can remove the recipients if you wish.

Microsoft Furthers Commitment to Employment of People with Disabilities Through \$250,000 in Grants. The latest round of grants will bring technology and training to innovative projects focused on employment issues for individuals with disabilities. The grant program, will award \$250,000 to nine organizations across the country that are working in the area of employment for people with disabilities. These organizations, which focus on employment opportunities in entrepreneurship, youth, and training, recognize that technology plays an important part in their success. The grant, awarded through Microsoft's Accessible Technology Group, in conjunction with Microsoft's Community Affairs department, has been awarded to the following programs:

1. Community Options Inc.'s Entrepreneurs with Disabilities: Technology Business Incubator
2. Colorado High School/High Tech, a project of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities -
3. Los Angeles High School/High Tech, a project of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities - LA County Office of Education & Screen Actor's Guild Foundation
4. World Institute on Disabilities' Ticket to Work/Work Incentives

**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE
WORKING ON BEHALF OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES
ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT A GLANCE**

July 26, 2000

Creating the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities - Two years ago, President Clinton created the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, chaired by Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, and charged the Task Force with developing a coordinated and aggressive national policy to bring adults with disabilities into gainful employment at a rate that is as close as possible to that of the general adult population. The heads of 18 cabinet and sub-cabinet agencies sit on the Task Force, and President Clinton and Vice President Gore have given its work the highest priority through accepting all the recommendations in the first and second reports from the Task Force.

Signing the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIA)

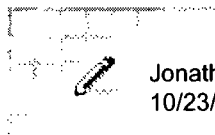
President Clinton supported and signed this landmark legislation, which creates two new options for states to offer the Medicaid buy-in for workers with disabilities and provides \$150 million in grants to encourage states to take this option; creates a new \$250 million Medicaid buy-in demonstration to help people whose disability is not yet so severe that they cannot work; extends Medicare coverage for an additional 4-and-a-half years for people in the disability insurance system who return to work; and enhances employment-related services for individuals with disabilities through the new "Ticket to Work" Program.

Signing the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 - President Clinton signed WIA, which provides the framework for a unique national workforce preparation and employment system designed to meet both the needs of the nation's businesses and the needs of job seekers and those who want to further their careers. It also included reauthorization of the Rehabilitation Act, adding stronger linkages between the vocational rehabilitation system and the general workforce development system so that people with disabilities have increased employment training and job options. Changes to Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act also strengthened the obligations of the Federal government to provide accessible information technology to their employees and customers, thus leveraging the Federal government's considerable purchasing power to encourage private industry to develop universally designed technology that is accessible to almost everyone.

Ensuring a Quality Education for Children with Disabilities - In 1997 President Clinton enacted an improved and stronger Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The new law focused attention not merely on ensuring access to public schools for the nation's six million students with disabilities, but also on ensuring that these students are held to the same high standards as their peers. Today, state grants to support IDEA implementation have increased by 143 percent and record numbers of students with disabilities are now learning alongside non-disabled students in thousands of classrooms across the nation.

Making the Federal Government a Model Employer - President Clinton directed Federal agencies to increase efforts to recruit and hire people with disabilities which resulted in OPM

issuing “Accessing Opportunity: The Plan for Employment of People with Disabilities in the Federal Government” to serve as a framework for Federal departments and agencies to use in creating strategies and initiatives to recruit, hire, develop, and retain more persons with disabilities. President Clinton also signed an Executive Order ensuring that individuals with psychiatric disabilities are given the same Federal hiring opportunities as persons with significant disabilities and mental retardation. Furthermore, the President directed OPM to make mental health coverage more affordable and accessible for all Federal employees by ensuring that by 2001 Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) plans provide coverage for clinically proven treatments for mental illness and substance abuse in a manner identical to coverage for other medical conditions.



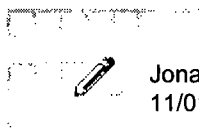
Jonathan M. Young
10/23/2000 09:47:49 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Press Release: Disability Mentoring Day

from last year

----- Forwarded by Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP on 10/23/2000 09:47 AM -----



Jonathan M. Young
11/01/99 12:26:53 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Press Release: Disability Mentoring Day

Below please find a White House press release about last week's mentoring day for people with disabilities. Many thanks to the participating Federal agencies, local disability organizations who coordinated the participation of high school and college-age young adults, and several corporations across the country who took the lead in organizing a mentoring day with such short notice.

I am delighted that so many people -- public and private -- took such a tremendous interest in this opportunity. Based on feedback so far, the day was a big success -- in part because we kept the scope manageable. Now I look forward to promoting a mentoring day next year with more widespread participation here and across the country. I will be coordinating with Federal agencies and other groups to identify the date of next year's mentoring day, and then look to your leadership to facilitate mentoring experiences in your local communities. We will try to settle on a day far in advance to provide maximum time for planning. The ultimate goal is to have mentoring experiences translate into job and internship opportunities. In addition to providing employment experiences for young adults, moreover, the mentoring day can help public and private employers come to a better recognition of the talents and capabilities of people with disabilities, and discover new pools of job candidates.

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Improvement Act Employment Project (TWWIA)

5. Alliance for Technology Access

6. Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST) and CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM) - Accessible Training and Education on the Web: A Path to Independence and Success -

7. National Business and Disability Council (NBDC) -

8. National Organization of Disability's Start on Success: Student Internship Program (SOS)

9. Ovation Fund, a nonprofit venture philanthropy fund investing exclusively in exceptional entrepreneurs with disabilities.

-----Original Message-----

From: Jonathan_M._Young@who.eop.gov

[mailto:Jonathan_M._Young@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2000 7:21 PM

To: Ellen Mosner

Subject: RE: [MD] Final List of Mentoring Day Participants

do you have a paragraph about the \$250,000?

(Embedded

image moved Ellen Mosner <ellenm@microsoft.com>

to file: 10/19/2000 09:19:13 PM

pic27243.pcx)

Record Type: Record

To: Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: "'Horne-Richard@dol.gov'" <Horne-Richard@dol.gov>,

"'einsofcom@earthlink.net'" <einsofcom@earthlink.net>, Ellen Mosner
<ellenm@microsoft.com>

Subject: RE: [MD] Final List of Mentoring Day Participants

Jonathan: It was so great to catch up with you yesterday.

During our meeting, you indicated that you would include our thumbnail that we sent you? (It was in Tari Hartman's email) So does that mean that Washington should be included as well?

Please advise. All the information that you asked for was included in the

thumbnail. BUT just in case I am sending it again.

We hope that we can be included in his important announcement.

Contact name: Mylene Padolina 425-882-8080

135 kids and will be included along with a teacher, parent, or attendant.

Here is the thumbnail including the public organization we are working with:

Microsoft Corporation recognizes their responsibility to reach out, educate and equip the community with access to technology. In a response to a need raised by the Washington State Governor's Task Force on the Employment of Adults with Disabilities, Microsoft has planned two events to encourage high school students with disabilities to pursue careers in Computer Science and other related technical fields. Microsoft will be hosting a career day for Puget Sound area high school students with disabilities on November 14, 2000. This event will include presentations on the future of accessible technology and assistive devices, a panel discussion with Microsoft employees with disabilities and keynote speeches from key directors with the organization. In addition, Microsoft has partnered with local learning institutions to provide exhibits regarding technical education programs. Shortly afterwards, a job shadow day will be held to ensure that careers in technology stay in the forefront of the students' minds. The goal of this event is to expose students up-close to the practical use of technology and better prepare them for the future.

-----Original Message-----

From: Jonathan_M._Young@who.eop.gov
[mailto:Jonathan_M._Young@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2000 11:01 AM
To: Jonathan_M._Young@who.eop.gov; horne-richard@oa.eop.gov
Subject: [MD] Final List of Mentoring Day Participants

MEMORANDUM To all Disability Mentoring Day collaborators:

We are in the process of finalizing press releases about your participation in Disability Mentoring Day activities, and want to confirm that we accurately include everyone who has activities planned and not mistakenly announce participants that are not confirmed. It is very important that we receive the following information, TODAY if possible, so that we can complete the press releases.

So far, we believe that the following states are participating: Minnesota, New York, Illinois, Texas, Florida, Georgia, California, Missouri, and Iowa.

We are not certain that the following states are participating, although in previous calls they indicated that they were: Alaska and Tennessee

If you would like your participation mentioned in the press releases, we need the following information. Even if you have already submitted prior descriptions of your activity, please submit it again in this format to both Richard and I (Richard's email is Horne-Richard@dol.gov):

1. Contact information for person(s) coordinating the activities (e.g., name, contact information, etc.)
2. Where your activity is planned.
3. When your activity is planned (date)
4. What business or public agencies are providing mentors.
5. How many people are involved.

Once we have a draft of the press release we will send it to you. Thanks again.



Valerie Tully <vtully@os.dhhs.gov>

10/23/2000 12:13:26 PM

Please respond to vtully@os.dhhs.gov

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Fwd: twwia release

Comments:

Attached is the draft release HHS will issue on Wednesday. We will also have Q&As, but they're not drafted yet. We can get them to you when they are...maybe tomorrow.

As for the HCFA fact sheets that I mentioned, it's not certain at this point whether they will be issued. If so, it would be two fact sheets (one on each program) and they would be at the HCFA level - not the HHS level.

----- Original Message -----

To: Valerie Tully@ASPA@OS.DC

From: Campbell Gardett@ASPA@OS.DC

Date: Friday, October 20, 2000 at 4:10:36 pm EDT

Attached: C:\data\Word\twwia.doc



- twwia.doc

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS—MAY NOT BE READY FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

- Formation of Disability Employment Partnership Board. [STATUS: COULD BE READY WHEN BUDGET IS COMPLETE] This Council would be part of the new Assistant Secretary-level Office of Disability Planning Evaluation and Technical Assistance (ODP) that would be situated within DOL. The money to create ODP is currently in the Labor-HHS conference agreement. Once a Labor-H bill is signed into law, the new Office can be announced, along with this new Board within the Office. The Partnership Board would serve to facilitate employment for people with disabilities by forming public private partnerships, serving as a link to the private sector, and improving the access for people with disabilities to financial institutions and commercial and business enterprises.
- Welfare-to-Work Partnership Disability Guide. [STATUS: PROBABLY WON'T BE READY] The Disability Guide will provide information to front-line workers on hidden disabilities, concentrating on learning disabilities, mental retardation, and mental illness. This information will include resources on each of the disabilities mentioned and how to create a comprehensive approach to assist someone with these disabilities find a job and keep it. The Departments of Labor and Education worked together to create the guide with the help of many other non-profit organizations and associations. The WtW Office has estimated that the guide should be finished by the end of the month but it has not yet gone into Departmental clearance and everything about this product has taken longer than expected.
- Raising the Income Ceiling for Federal Matching on Medicaid for the Medically Needy. [STATUS: OMB CLEARANCE] Currently States can provide Medicaid to the medically needy no matter what their income, but federal matching funds are only given for the medically needy whose incomes are below 133% of the federal poverty line. HCFA has proposed a regulatory change that would raise that income cap so that more state expenditures for the medically needy would qualify for a federal match. Many people with disabilities could benefit from this change.
- Ticket to Work Rule. [STATUS: PROBABLY WANT TO AVOID PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT] The NPRM to implement the Ticket to Work Program portion of the TTWWIIA may be ready soon. Under this program, SSA will issue tickets enabling people with disabilities to contract for employment support services. Providers of these support services receive payments for their work with individuals with disabilities, and can receive additional payments if these individuals return to work and come off the Social Security rolls.

Youth to Work Initiative. [STATUS: IN CLEARANCE, BUT SINCE THIS WAS ANNOUNCED ON 7/25, WE SHOULDN'T REPEAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT]. This amends the EO on the President's Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities to include a focus on assisting youth in successfully transitioning from school to postsecondary education and work.

6. Technology Access Partnership for Native Americans. [STATUS: READY] DOL and the Bureau of Indian Affairs are launching a partnership with the Information Technology Association of America (ITAA) and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) for increasing technology access for Native Americans with disabilities.
7. CEO letter to increase employment of people with disabilities [STATUS: WAITING ON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]. Currently, about a dozen CEO's have signed onto this letter agreeing to target disability as part of their diversity recruitment goals, making assistive technology available to their employees, and promoting the recruitment of youth with disabilities through internships and mentorships. OPL is currently working on getting seeing whether this effort could be done under the auspices of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.
8. OPM Statistics on Federal Hiring Commitments. [STATUS: WILL BE READY] Following the Executive Order encouraging 100,000 more federal hires of persons with disabilities, OPM has some preliminary information on commitments with agency breakdown.

Burston
Maysala
work

a) Microsoft grants
\$750,000
high school high
tech.

Flint → 4 new states

Lucent
Johnson +
Johnson
Company
Smith-Kline

10) Cartoonist

→ Cats marks disabilities
in +



Raj Adlakha

10/20/2000 12:26:55 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc:
bcc:
Subject: Re: Today's Call 

sure
Christina S. Ho

Christina S. Ho

10/20/2000
12:25:04 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Raj Adlakha/WHO/EOP@EOP, Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc: jonathan m. young/who/eop@eop, Julie T. Bosland/OPD/EOP@EOP
bcc:
Subject: Re: Today's Call 

Thanks Raj! Is there anyway that State Dept could be on the call as well, since they're hosting a closing reception for Mentoring Day? We have a quick question to ask them...
Raj Adlakha



Raj Adlakha

10/20/2000 11:35:05 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP, Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Today's Call

We've set up a conference call for you at 4:00 p.m. The dial-in number is 757-2104, and the code is 0707. We have contacted the HHS, DOL, SSA, and VA contacts to be on the call, although VA might not be able to make it. I'll try to talk to someone else at VA to cover. Also, we have encouraged the principals from the participating agencies to do a drop-by and, if possible, a photo with the students on Wednesday. Let me know if there's anything else that you need.

Potential Announcements for National Disability Mentoring Day

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and October 25 marks the first National Disability Mentoring Day. At the White House we'll be having about 75 young folks in from the Washington Metropolitan area for a morning plenary session at the White House (9:00 - 10:30). The young people move on to participating federal agencies for lunch with high-level officials followed by one-on-one mentoring from 11:30 to 3:30. The day will conclude with an afternoon reception at the State department from 4:00 to 5:00.

In addition to announcing the winners of the Disability Mentoring Day Essay contest and recognizing the states and companies participating in National Mentoring Day, we could make the following announcements focusing on employment for persons with disabilities and the implementation of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TTWWIIA).

1. SSA Benefits Outreach/Counseling Grants. [STATUS: READY] The Social Security Administration is about to award \$8 million in grants to about 43 non-profit organizations and/or state agencies in 26 states and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to provide benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are attempting to return to work. These grants, ranging from \$50,000 to \$300,000, are the first round to be issued under this portion of the TTWWIIA. Note: if the FY 2001 budget passes by 10/25, grants to the remaining states could be announced as well at that time.
2. DOL Work Incentive Grants. [STATUS: READY] The Department of Labor will be issuing \$20 Million in grants to ensure that people with disabilities have access to the full range of employment and reemployment services in the new workforce development system established by the Workforce Investment Act. These grants, while not a part of the TTWWIIA, were designed to complement the Ticket to Work efforts. Grantees will be responsible for working with the One-Stop operators to augment their capacity to provide the full range of effective employment and training services to people with disabilities. *23 states* *→ Congressional districts* *→ IGA* *calls to award winners*
3. HHS Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment. [STATUS: READY] Under section 204 of TTWWIIA, HHS is giving grants to 5 states to establish Medicaid demonstration programs for workers with physical or mental impairments that, without medical intervention, have the potential to result in disability. This program could help prevent people from joining the disability rolls through early intervention.
4. HHS Medicaid Infrastructure Grant Program. [STATUS: READY] Under Section 203 of TTWWIIA, DHHS is releasing 27 grants (\$16 million) for the design, establishment, and operation of State infrastructures that provide items and services to support working individuals with disabilities.

5. VA Technology Access Partnership for Disabled Veterans. [STATUS: READY] VA has formed a public-private partnership with SAIC and VERIZON to ensure our Nation's disabled veterans have access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively to fully participate in America's economic, political and social life. This follows on the heels of VA's immensely successful private-public partnership, PT Phone Home and PT Phase II, in which VERIZON, then Bell Atlantic, equipped VA medical centers with bedside telephones and established computer labs in medical facilities across the country.

Pat O'Neill

fax to Day 273-5993

DOL EDITS MARK10/20/00

Executive Order

AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 13078, TO EXPAND THE ROLE OF
THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON EMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS
WITH DISABILITIES TO INCLUDE A FOCUS ON YOUTH

By authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States, and in order to provide for improved access to employment and training for youth with disabilities, it is hereby ordered that the Executive Order 13078 is amended by adding to Section 2 of that order the following new subsection to read as follows:

“(h) To ensure improvement in the education, transition, employment, health and rehabilitation, and independent living outcomes of young people with disabilities, all Federal agencies will coordinate and cooperate with the Task Force to:

“(1) strengthen interagency research, demonstration, and training activities ~~relating to young people with disabilities;~~

“(2) create a public awareness campaign focused access to equal opportunity for young people with disabilities;

“(3) ~~promote the inclusion of~~ ensure that young people with disabilities are included in the planning and implementation of all youth programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998;

“(4) increase access to health care and resources for young people with disabilities through an Interagency Council called Healthy and Ready to Work;

“(5) increase participation of young people with disabilities in postsecondary education and training; and

“(6) create a Youth Advisory Council to assist the Task Force in conducting these and other appropriate activities.”.

Executive Order

AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 13078, TO EXPAND THE ROLE
OF THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON EMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS
WITH DISABILITIES TO INCLUDE A FOCUS ON YOUTH

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United states, and in order to provide for improve ^{prospect} ~~access~~ to employment and training for youth with ^{by including a} ✓

disabilities, it is hereby ordered that the Executive Order 13078 is amended by adding to Section

2 of that order the following new subsection to read as follows: "(h) To ^{improve employment outcomes for} ~~ensure~~ improvement in ^{persons w/ disabili-}

^{by addressing among other things} the education, transition, employment, health and rehabilitation, and independent living

^{for} ~~outcomes of~~ young people with disabilities, Federal agencies will coordinate and cooperate with

the Task Force to: (1) strengthen interagency research, demonstration, and training activities; (2) ^{relating to young people w/ disabilities}

create a public awareness campaign focused on access to equal opportunity for young people

with disabilities; (3) ensure that young people with disabilities are included in the planning and

implementation of all youth programs mandated under the Workforce Investment Act; (4)

increase access to and utilization of health insurance and health care through the establishment of

the Federal Healthy and Ready to Work Interagency Council; (5) increase participation ^{of young people} in ^{timely}

postsecondary education and training, and (6) create a ^{nationally representative} Youth Advisory Council to ^{provide advice that} assist the Task

Force in conducting these and other appropriate activities.

(balancing disability type,
gender, regions and
cultural diversity factors)

THE WHITE HOUSE,

funded & chaired
by the DOL.



EXECUTIVE ORDER

INCREASING EMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to increase the employment of adults with disabilities to a rate that is as close as possible to the employment rate of the general adult population and to support the goals articulated in the findings and purpose section of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Establishment of National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities.

(a) There is established the "National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities" ("Task Force"). The Task Force shall comprise the Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Education, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Secretary of Health and Human Services, Commissioner of Social Security, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Transportation, Director of the Office of Personnel Management, Administrator of the Small Business Administration, the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Chairperson of the National Council on Disability, the Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and such other senior executive branch officials as may be determined by the Chair of the Task Force.

(b) The Secretary of Labor shall be the Chair of the Task Force; the Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities shall be the Vice Chair of the Task Force.

(c) The purpose of the Task Force is to create a coordinated and aggressive national policy to bring adults with disabilities into gainful employment at a rate that is as close as possible to that of the general adult population. The Task Force shall develop and recommend to the President, through the Chair of the Task Force, a coordinated Federal policy to reduce employment barriers for persons with disabilities. Policy recommendations may cover such areas as discrimination, reasonable accommodations, inadequate access to health care, lack of consumer-driven, long-term supports and services, transportation, accessible and integrated housing, telecommunications, assistive technology, community services, child care, education, vocational rehabilitation, training services, job retention, on-the-job supports, and economic incentives to work. Specifically, the Task Force shall:

(1) analyze the existing programs and policies of Task Force member agencies to determine what changes, modifications, and innovations may be necessary to remove barriers to work faced by people with disabilities;

(2) develop and recommend options to address health insurance coverage as a barrier to employment for people with disabilities;

(3) subject to the availability of appropriations, analyze State and private disability systems (e.g., workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, private insurance, and State mental health and mental retardation systems) and their effect on Federal programs and employment of adults with disabilities;

(4) consider statistical and data analysis, cost data, research, and policy studies on public subsidies, employment, employment discrimination, and rates of return-to-work for individuals with disabilities;

(5) evaluate and, where appropriate, coordinate and collaborate on, research and demonstration priorities of Task Force member agencies related to employment of adults with disabilities;

(6) evaluate whether Federal studies related to employment and training can, and should, include a statistically significant sample of adults with disabilities;

(7) subject to the availability of appropriations, analyze youth programs related to employment (e.g., Employment and Training Administration programs, special education, vocational rehabilitation, school-to-work transition, vocational education, and Social Security Administration work incentives and other programs, as may be determined by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Task Force) and the outcomes of those programs for young people with disabilities;

(8) evaluate whether a single governmental entity or program should be established to provide computer and electronic accommodations for Federal employees with disabilities;

(9) consult with the President's Committee on Mental Retardation on policies to increase the employment of people with mental retardation and cognitive disabilities; and

(10) recommend to the President any additional steps that can be taken to advance the employment of adults with disabilities, including legislative proposals, regulatory changes, and program and budget initiatives.

(d) (1) The members of the Task Force shall make the activities and initiatives set forth in this order a high priority within their respective agencies within the levels provided in the President's budget.

(2) The Task Force shall issue its first report to the President by November 15, 1998. The Task Force shall issue a report to the President on November 15, 1999, November 15, 2000, and a final report

on July 26, 2002, the 10th anniversary of the initial implementation of the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The reports shall describe the actions taken by, and progress of, each member of the Task Force in carrying out this order. The Task Force shall terminate 30 days after submitting its final report.

(e) As used herein, an adult with a disability is a person with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits at least one major life activity.

Sec. 2. Specific activities by Task Force members and other agencies.

(a) To ensure that the Federal Government is a model employer of adults with disabilities, by November 15, 1998, the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Labor, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission shall submit to the Task Force a review of Federal Government personnel laws, regulations, and policies and, as appropriate, shall recommend or implement changes necessary to improve Federal employment policy for adults with disabilities. This review shall include personnel practices and actions such as: hiring, promotion, benefits, retirement, workers' compensation, retention, accessible facilities, job accommodations, layoffs, and reductions in force.

(b) The Departments of Justice, Labor, Education, and Health and Human Services shall report to the Task Force by November 15, 1998, on their work with the States and others to ensure that the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act is carried out in accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, so that individuals with disabilities and their families can realize the full promise of welfare reform by having an equal opportunity for employment.

(c) The Departments of Education, Labor, Commerce, and Health and Human Services, the Small Business Administration, and the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities shall work together and report to the Task Force by November 15, 1998, on their work to develop small business and entrepreneurial opportunities for adults with disabilities and strategies for assisting low-income adults, including those with disabilities to create small businesses and micro-enterprises. These same agencies, in consultation with the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, shall assess the impact of the Randolph-Sheppard Act vending program and the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act on employment and small business opportunities for people with disabilities.

(d) The Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development shall report to the Task Force by November 15, 1998, on their examination of their programs to see if they can be used to create new work incentives and to remove barriers to work for adults with disabilities.

(e) The Departments of Justice, Education, and Labor, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Social Security Administration shall work together and report to the Task Force by November 15, 1998, on their work to propose remedies to the prevention of people with disabilities from successfully exercising their employment rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 because of the receipt of monetary benefits based on their disability and lack of gainful employment.

(f) The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor and the Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce, in cooperation with the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services, the National Council on Disability, and the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities shall design and implement a statistically reliable and accurate method to measure the employment rate of adults with disabilities as soon as possible, but no later than the date of termination of the Task Force. Data derived from this methodology shall be published on as frequent a basis as possible.

(g) All executive agencies that are not members of the Task Force shall: (1) coordinate and cooperate with the Task Force; and (2) review their programs and policies to ensure that they are being conducted and delivered in a manner that facilitates and promotes the employment of adults with disabilities. Each agency shall file a report with the Task Force on the results of its review on November 15, 1998.

Sec. 3. Cooperation. All efforts taken by executive departments and agencies under sections 1 and 2 of this order shall, as appropriate, further partnerships and cooperation with public and private sector employers, organizations that represent people with disabilities, organized labor, veteran service organizations, and State and local governments whenever such partnerships and cooperation are possible and would promote the employment and gainful economic activities of individuals with disabilities.

Sec. 4. Judicial Review. This order does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.

William Clinton

THE WHITE HOUSE,

March 13, 1998.



Andrew J. Scott
10/20/2000 05:09:55
PM

Record Type: Record

To: McGavock D. Reed/OMB/EOP@EOP

cc: Jeffrey A. Farkas/OMB/EOP@EOP, Barry T. Clendenin/OMB/EOP@EOP

Subject: Comments on Amendment to Executive Order #13078

The following are the Health Division's comments on the amendment to Executive Order 13078, "To Expand the Role of the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities to Include a Focus on Youth."

1. We note that the amended order creates both a "Federal Healthy and Ready to Work Interagency Council" and a "Youth Advisory Council." However, the original task force has a "Health Care and Income Support Committee" as well as a "Subcommittee on Expanding Employment Opportunities for Young People with Disabilities." Would the new councils be duplicative of the structure that already exists? What functions will these new entities perform that the committees were unable to do? Who will serve on the new councils?

2. Is the Federal Healthy and Ready to Work Interagency Council intended to focus only on youth access to and utilization of health insurance and health care, or the disabled population as a whole?

3. Is "youth" defined anywhere? Does it refer to disabled individuals under 18 years old?

**NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY**

An independent federal agency working with the President and the Congress to increase the inclusion, independence, and empowerment of all Americans with disabilities.

Facsimile Transmission

Date: 10-20-00

To: Robert H. Tamura, General Counsel

From: Ethel D. Breggi

Message: Attached comments on
Proposed Amendment to ED 13078

Number of pages including cover sheet: 3

1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1050
Washington, DC 20004-1107
202-272-2004
202-272-2074 TT
202-272-2022 Fax
www.ncd.gov



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

An independent federal agency working with the President and Congress to increase the inclusion, independence, and empowerment of all Americans with disabilities.

October 20, 2000

TO : Robert G. Damus, General Counsel
White House Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Marca Bristo, Chairperson *E. Briggs*
National Council on Disability *Marca Bristo*

SUBJECT: Response to Proposed Executive Order, *Amendment to Executive Order 13078, to Expand the Role of National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities to Include a Focus on Youth*

The National Council on Disability appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed amendment to the Executive Order 13078.

The following comments are NCD's recommendations for changes.

Line 2: change "improve" to **improved**

Line 6: change "of" to **for**

Line 13: change Item # (h)(6)

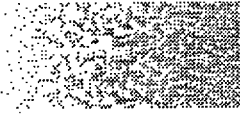
Old: create a Youth Advisory Council to assist the Task Force in conducting these and other appropriate activities.

New: create a **nationally representative Youth Advisory Council—balancing disability type, gender, regions, and cultural diversity factors—to provide timely advice that assists the Task Force in conducting these and other appropriate activities.**

We have also attached a mark-up that includes handwritten comments on the document. Please feel free to contact Ethel D. Briggs, Executive Director, if you have questions or need further clarification.

Thank you.

Attachment: Executive Order mark-up



Lisa B. Fairhall

10/20/2000 05:17:08 PM

Record Type: Record

To: McGavock D. Reed/OMB/EOP@EOP
cc: Meredith G. Benson/OMB/EOP@EOP
Subject: Re: EO on Expanding 13078

Thanks. We may try to get more background, but we were most interested in getting our comments on the draft (more implementation and structure - related than policy) to help you in the clearance draft EO, since there was a deadline of cob today.

----- Forwarded by Lisa B. Fairhall/OMB/EOP on 10/20/2000 05:12 PM -----

Meredith G. Benson

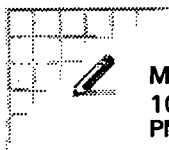


▲ 10/20/2000 05:04:57 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Lisa B. Fairhall/OMB/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Re: EO on Expanding 13078

----- Forwarded by Meredith G. Benson/OMB/EOP on 10/20/2000 05:06 PM -----



McGavock D. Reed
10/20/2000 05:04:24
PM

Record Type: Record

To: Meredith G. Benson/OMB/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Re: EO on Expanding 13078

Meredith, Barbara Chow sent a cover memo to Jack about this (Ann O'Leary), is her contact on this, but the person who knows most about it is Richard Horne at the National Disability Council (693-4923). Please give him a call. I have been trying to reach him too. Thank you, Mac

10/20/00

TO: MAC REED OMB/GC

Fax 202-395-7244

Phone 202-395-3563

FROM: MARK MOSEY DO L

Phone 202-8065 X 109

Can pls 1 ps:

DO L proposed edits.

Only substantive edit is to paragraph (3), where we believe it is appropriate to "promote" rather than ~~to~~ "ensure" the inclusion of your unit's activities in the State and local planning and implementation processes under WIA.



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL
(LEGISLATION, LITIGATION & REGULATION)

1500 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
ROOM 1417
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

FAX: (202) 622-1188

VOICE: (202) 622-0650

DATE: October 20, 2000

PAGES TO FOLLOW: _____

TO: Mac Reed

FAX: _____

TO: _____

FAX: _____

TO: _____

FAX: _____

TO: _____

FAX: _____

FROM: Karen Dorsey

SUBJECT: Draft Executive Order: Amendment to Executive Order 13078...
Employment of Adults with Disabilities....

COMMENTS/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Treasury has no comments.

To: Mac Reed

From: DOT

October 19, 2000

**MEMORANDUM FOR DESIGNATED AGENCY HEADS
(SEE ATTACHED DISTRIBUTION LIST)****FROM:** Robert G. Damus *RGD*
General Counsel**SUBJECT:** Proposed Executive Order Entitled "Amendment to Executive Order 13078, to Expand the Role of the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities to Include a Focus on Youth"

Attached is a proposed Executive order entitled "Amendment to Executive Order 13078, to Expand the Role of the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities to Include a Focus on Youth," that was prepared by White House Domestic Policy Council's Office.

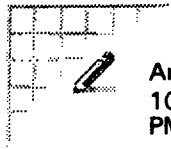
On behalf of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, I would appreciate receiving any comments you may have concerning this proposal. If you have any comments or objections, they should be received no later than close of business Friday, October 20, 2000. Please be advised that agencies that do not respond by the deadline will be recorded as not objecting to the proposal.

Comments or inquiries may be submitted by telephone to Mr. Mac Reed (202-395-3563) of this office or fax to 202-395-7294.

Thank you.

**Attachments - Distribution List
Proposed Executive Order****cc:** Jack Lew
Sylvia Mathews
Josh Gotbaum
Sally Katzen
Robert Kyle
Ken OscarMichael Deich
Wesley Warren
Joe Minarik
John Spotila
Linda Ricci
Barbara ChowJeanne Lambrew
Dick Emery
Michael Barr
Anil Kakani
Adrienne Erbach
Vikki Wachino

DOT: - 10/20/00
- no objection
- Tom Herlihy



Andrew J. Scott
10/20/2000 05:09:55
PM

Record Type: Record

To: McGavock D. Reed/OMB/EOP@EOP
cc: Jeffrey A. Farkas/OMB/EOP@EOP, Barry T. Clendenin/OMB/EOP@EOP
Subject: Comments on Amendment to Executive Order #13078

The following are the Health Division's comments on the amendment to Executive Order 13078, "To Expand the Role of the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities to Include a Focus on Youth."

1. We note that the amended order creates both a "Federal Healthy and Ready to Work Interagency Council" and a "Youth Advisory Council." However, the original task force has a "Health Care and Income Support Committee" as well as a "Subcommittee on Expanding Employment Opportunities for Young People with Disabilities." Would the new councils be duplicative of the structure that already exists? What functions will these new entities perform that the committees were unable to do? Who will serve on the new councils?
2. Is the Federal Healthy and Ready to Work Interagency Council intended to focus only on youth access to and utilization of health insurance and health care, or the disabled population as a whole?
3. Is "youth" defined anywhere? Does it refer to disabled individuals under 18 years old?



**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL**

FACSIMILE FROM: CHRISTINA Ho
 OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 207
 WASHINGTON, DC 20502

VOICE: (202)456- 1959 FAX: (202)456- 7431

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 11

DATE:

TO:

VOICE:

FAX:

- [] FOR YOUR REVIEW
[] PER MY E-MAIL OR VOICE-MAIL MESSAGE TO YOU
[] PER YOUR REQUEST

COMMENTS: _____



SOCIAL SECURITY

Office of the Commissioner

October 18, 2000

*Informal to
CH
no reply needed*

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-99)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages 4

TO/Agency	FROM
2002 456-7431	Gene Chough
410 965-3436	Phone #
410 965-3433	Fax #
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION	

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE JOHN PODESTA

FROM : Kenneth S. Apfel *Kenneth S. Apfel*
Commissioner of Social Security

SUBJECT: Social Security Administration's Weekly Report—October 23 – November 3
--INFORMATION

KEY AGENCY NEWS

SSA Sponsors International Disability Law and Policy Symposium: On October 22 – 26, SSA, in partnership with the Presidential Task force on Employment of People with Disabilities, President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, Department of State, Center for Mental Health Services, National Council on Disability, U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Information Agency and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, is sponsoring an international disability law and policy symposium in Washington, D.C. The Symposium, "From Principles to Practice," will include leading law and policy advocates and people with disabilities from over 40 countries who will examine international developments related to disability legislation and discuss issues and strategies for future reform.

SSA's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to Hold Identity Theft Prevention Workshop: On October 25, SSA's Office of the Inspector General will hold an identity theft prevention workshop. The workshop, which will be held in Washington, D.C., will be the second in a series of three workshops following up on the work begun at the National Summit on Identity Theft hosted by the Treasury Department last March. The Federal Trade Commission will hold a workshop on victim assistance October 23 - 24 and the Department of Justice and the U.S. Secret Service will co-host a later session on identity theft law enforcement. Topics that will be addressed at the OIG Workshop include identity theft prevention in the workplace, prevention of the use of the Internet to access personal information and commit identity theft crimes, and recently proposed legislation to combat identity theft. Industry, consumer representatives, law enforcement, the academic community, the private bar, and the public have been invited to participate in the workshop. Speakers will include SSA Deputy Commissioner William A. Halter and SSA Inspector General James G. Huse, Jr.

AGENCY WORK ON PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES

Efforts to Increase Hispanic Representation at SSA: Over the last three fiscal years, SSA has been very successful in its efforts to eliminate the under-representation of Hispanics in the Agency's workforce. During that time SSA has hired over 1,700 Hispanics, increasing their representation in the Agency workforce from 6.5 percent to 10 percent. Hispanics are well represented at all grade levels, including approximately 9 percent of SSA's Senior Executive Service. SSA has also worked with the Office of Personnel Management to help encourage other agencies in their efforts to improve the representation of Hispanics government wide.

SSA Participation In the National College Week Initiative: During the next two weeks, SSA staff in its headquarters and regional offices will participate in several National College Week events. These events include lectures at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD and Howard University in Washington, D.C. by Carolyn Colvin, SSA's Deputy Commissioner for Operations, on October 25 and November 1, respectively. On October 25 – 26, SSA will participate in a focus group discussion on the benefits of education, employment with SSA, and Social Security programs at the University of the District of Columbia. In SSA's regional offices, the Kansas City office will participate in a panel discussion on diversity and changing demographics at Avila College in Kansas City, MO on October 26. The Atlanta Regional office will participate at the Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Management Intern Educational Technical Expo in Atlanta, GA from October 29 – November 1. The National College Week initiative asks college and university presidents and Federal agency executives to visit middle and/or high schools to encourage young people to seek a college education.

OTHER AGENCY NEWS

Lamaze Publishing Company Joins Social Security in Enumeration at Birth Initiative: SSA has entered into a partnership with the Lamaze Publishing Company to help educate expectant parents about applying for a Social Security number for their baby while they are still in the hospital. Lamaze will: include the leaflet, *Social Security—Numbers for Children* in the packet of materials given to expectant mothers; produce a video segment about getting a Social Security number for a child in their *You and Your Baby* video; and run a public service announcement on the Newborn Channel. Over the next year, more than 3 million expectant mothers will receive the informational packets and see the video when they attend childbirth education classes. For every mother who applies for a number at the hospital, SSA saves about \$10--the cost to process an application directly from the hospital is \$1.77, compared to \$12 for processing an application taken through a Social Security office.

SSA's New York Region Sponsors Hassle Free Community Project Event: On October 24, SSA's New York Regional Office, in cooperation with the New York City Federal Executive Board, the New York City Department for the Aging, and the New York City Human Resources Administration, will sponsor its seventh Hassle Free event in New York City. The Hassle Free Community Project is an initiative that provides "one-stop service" so members of the community are able to conduct business with a variety of government agencies in one location at the same time. The project is part of a wider national initiative undertaken by the Vice-

President's Partnership for the Reinvention of Government to make government more efficient and responsive to its customers. Several hundred people are expected to participate at this event. The regional office will provide staff bilingual in Spanish and numerous Chinese dialects.

COMMISSIONER'S SCHEDULE

- On October 24 – 26, Commissioner Apfel will visit Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati, OH. Commissioner Apfel will meet with executives at Commercial Data Center, Inc., where the Social Security Statement is printed and visit employees in local Social Security offices to discuss future workload challenges and strategies. Commissioner Apfel will also participate in various television, radio and print media interviews on the "Future of Social Security," including interviews with the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, WSMV-FM, Ohio News Network, the *Cincinnati Herald*, and the Oxford Press.
- On October 26, Commissioner Apfel will visit Miami University of Ohio in Oxford, OH where he will participate in a public discussion and question and answer session on Social Security issues with students and faculty. Commissioner Apfel will also participate in an interview with the student newspaper.
- On November 3, Commissioner Apfel will travel to Amherst, MA where he will address students and academicians from the University of Massachusetts' five-college system. Commissioner Apfel will receive the Chancellor's Medal from the University's College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S SCHEDULE

- On October 23, Deputy Commissioner William Halter will be in Albuquerque, NM where he will visit employees in local Social Security offices to discuss the Agency's 2010 vision and participate in media events to publicize SSA's Internet services and Social Security solvency.
- On October 27, Deputy Commissioner William Halter will travel to Milwaukee, WI where he will visit Social Security employees in local field offices to discuss the Agency's 2010 vision and participate in media events to publicize SSA's Internet services and Social Security solvency.
- On October 30 – 31, Deputy Commissioner William Halter will travel to Geneva, Switzerland to attend a meeting of the International Social Security Association. ISSA is a non-profit international non-governmental organization consisting of over 263 institutions administering social security programs in 135 countries.
- On November 1, Deputy Commissioner William Halter will travel to Stuart, FL to address a meeting of the State Disability Determination Services Administrators. Mr. Halter will also visit employees in local Social Security offices and participate in media interviews on Social Security Internet services and Social Security solvency.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- On October 21, Yvette Jackson, SSA's Deputy Commissioner for Finance, Assessment and Management, will present a workshop entitled "A Conversation with Yvette Jackson, What You Need to Know About Social Security" at the Third Annual Intelligent Investing Conference in Philadelphia, PA. About 5,000 people are expected to attend this conference, which is sponsored by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.
- On October 23 – 27, John Dyer, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner, will lead the SSA delegation to the joint meeting of the International Social Security Association and the Interamerican Social Security Conference (CISS) in San Jose, Costa Rica. Mr. Dyer will participate in a panel discussion on Organizational Change and Information Technology and chair the meeting of the Commission on Organization and Administrative Systems, a technical working group of the CISS.
- On October 23 – 24, Carolyn Colvin, SSA's Deputy Commissioner for Operations will travel to Daytona Beach, FL to visit employees in the Daytona Beach Social Security office. Ms. Colvin will also participate in several media interviews with media outlets in the North Florida area, including the *Daytona Beach News Journal* and WESH TV (NBC affiliate). Ms. Colvin will discuss solvency of the Social Security program, Social Security and women, electronic service initiatives and Agency efforts to prevent fraud and misinformation.
- On October 26, Mike Greenberg, SSA's Deputy Associate Commissioner for Employment Support Programs, will be a presenter at the Third Annual Seattle Business Leadership Network 2000 Summit in Seattle, WA. Mr. Greenberg will discuss the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 and how employers can participate. The topic, "Ticket from a Business Perspective" will focus on how the Ticket process will enable employers to tap into this expanding workforce. Between 500-700 businesses from across the country are expected to attend the Summit.
- On October 31, Mike Greenberg, SSA's Deputy Associate Commissioner for Employment Support Programs, will address the National Guardianship Association Conference 2000 in Albuquerque, NM. Mr. Greenberg will discuss the latest information on the "Ticket to Work" legislation and Social Security service delivery initiatives. About 300 guardians and other human service workers from across the country are expected to attend the conference.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 30, 2000

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH, 2000

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the 10th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These two landmark civil rights laws have opened the doors of opportunity for people with disabilities and increased our awareness of the enormous contributions that Americans with disabilities can make to our national life.

A decade ago, when we were debating the Americans with Disabilities Act, critics said that making workplaces, public transportation, public facilities, and telecommunications more accessible would be too costly and burdensome. But they have been proved wrong. Since passage of the ADA in 1990, more than a million men and women with disabilities have entered the labor force and, as tax-payers, consumers, and workers, they are contributing to a period of unprecedented prosperity and record employment in our country.

Throughout my Administration, we have worked hard to break down the barriers that people with disabilities continue to face on a daily basis. In 1998, I signed the Workforce Investment Act, requiring that information technology purchased by the Federal Government be accessible to people with disabilities. In 1999, I was proud to sign the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act, which enables Americans with disabilities to retain their Medicare or Medicaid coverage when they go to work, because no one should have to choose between health care and a job. We are also dramatically expanding the income students with disabilities can earn while retaining access to disability benefits; and to lead by example, we are hiring more people with disabilities throughout the Federal Government.

Today's revolution in information and communications technology offers us powerful new tools to expand employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities. Whether translating web pages aloud for people who are blind or visually impaired, creating captioning for those who are deaf or hard of hearing, or enabling people with physical disabilities to control a computer through eye movement and brain waves, these technologies show enormous potential for increasing access to employment and full participation in society. We are exploring ways that Medicare and Medicaid can be enhanced to cover the cost of assistive technology so that people can live and work more independently in the communities of their choosing. And I was pleased to announce on September 21 that dozens of corporate leaders from the technology sector and the presidents of many of America's leading research universities have pledged to make their products and services accessible to and usable by people with disabilities.

A new generation of young people with disabilities is growing up in America today -- graduating from high school, going to college, and preparing to participate fully in the workplace. They have a right to

make the most of their potential, and our Nation must make the most of their intellect, talents, and abilities. By working together to break down barriers for Americans with disabilities, we will keep our economy growing, make a lasting investment in the future of our country, and uphold our fundamental commitment to justice and equality for all our people.

To recognize the enormous potential of individuals with disabilities and to encourage all Americans to work toward their full integration into the workforce, the Congress, by joint resolution approved August 11, 1945, as amended (36 U.S.C. 121), has designated October of each year as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 2000 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. I call upon Government officials, educators, labor leaders, employers, and the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that reaffirm our determination to fulfill the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

#

Smoke Shops

Band made a big deal when VA HUD
1st came up. 4.2 million for 6
Smoke Shops. His concern targeted
to tribes

Supported lang.
Barring → What's the language

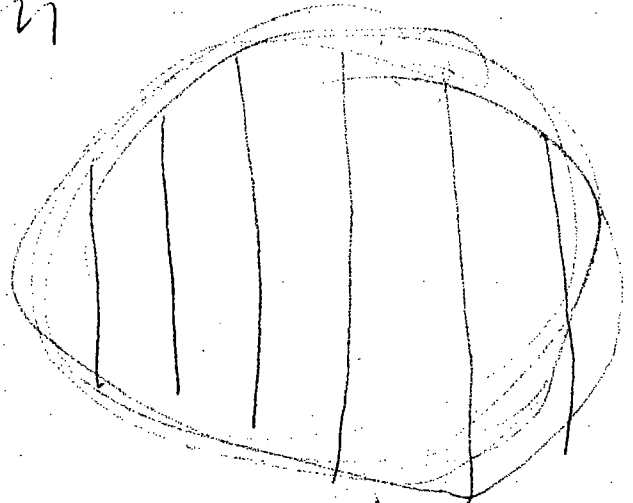
→ Tony Coelho
President's Committee

→ DOL Cleared

✓ - No one at
- Lisa Brown knows about it.
- ONPS ~~etc~~ has signed off

Committee → programmatic v.
policy
→ Duplication

disability.gov.





MEMORANDUM:

TO: Becky Ogle
Executive Director

FROM: the Committee on Access to Employment and Lifelong Learning, Inter-Agency
Work Group on Native Americans with Disabilities

SUBJECT: Proposed Program/policy changes and Recommended Presidential Directives

In the course of the past year, the Task Forces' American Indian and Alaska Native workgroup has held consultations and roundtable discussions with Native Americans with disabilities, Tribal government representatives, service providers and Federal agency representatives to determine the scope of need, identify barriers to employment, and recommend possible solutions to the extraordinarily high unemployment rate of the Native population with disabilities. It is estimated that fully 1 in 4 of the population has a work related disability.

The workgroup assessed the complexity of the unique status of Tribal governments and the need for an approach that respected their sovereignty. As a result, an effort was made to communicate our efforts to both the United and Southeastern Tribes (USET) and the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) through their respective disability sub-committees. The outcome of this education and outreach was a series of resolutions passed, through both organizations membership, that support the efforts of the Task Force and its AI/AN workgroup.

The Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities and its interagency Native American Work Group has looked specifically at employment barriers facing Native

Americans and Alaska Natives with Disabilities over the past year. The Work Group has received numerous recommendations from tribal leaders, tribal members with disabilities, service providers and advocates about how best to address the extraordinarily high unemployment rate of Native Americans with disabilities; current estimates are that one in four Native Americans have a work-related disability. For these reasons we set forth five proposed recommendations:

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS:

Proposed Recommendation #1 - Responding to the recommendations of the Task Force Work Group and its consultations with tribal leaders and members, I am excited to announce today that the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of Labor will work with the Information Technology Association of America (representing 26,000 member and affiliate information technology businesses) and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) to establish a new public-private partnership to close the digital divide in Indian Country -- **CONNECT: Circle Offering Native Americans with Disabilities Networking, Employment and Community through Technology**.

Proposed Recommendation #2 - The Work Group recommends that the American Indian Technical Assistance Center (AIDTAC), funded through the Department of Education, establish a component of its information dissemination program supporting employing adults with disabilities in Native American communities through two existing, Internet-based systems operated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. These systems, the Native American Economic Development Access Center (Native eDGE) which links fourteen federal agencies to entrepreneurs and their partners seeking economic development in Indian Country, and CodeTalk, an interagency website for Native American communities, would facilitate the development of opportunities to employ Native Americans with disabilities, particularly through new business enterprises.

Proposed Recommendation# 3 - The Work Group recommends that the Task Force conduct a program review and analysis of the American Indian Rehabilitation projects under the Rehabilitation Act to determine opportunities to increase their effectiveness. The review would include looking at the legislative authority, the service statistics and the discretionary grant policies of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) to identify legislative, administrative and programmatic barriers to adequate Vocational Rehabilitation services for Native Americans with disabilities. Based on this review, the Task Force can then make recommendations to ensure that Native Americans with disabilities who want to work receive high quality, culturally appropriate rehabilitation and employment services under the VR program.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS & BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Proposed Recommendation #1 - Responding to the recommendations of the Task Force Work Group and its consultations with tribal leaders and members, I am excited to announce today that the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of Labor will work with the Information Technology Association of America (representing 26,000 member and affiliate information technology businesses) and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) to establish a new public-private partnership to close the digital divide in Indian Country -- **CONNECT: Circle Offering Native Americans with Disabilities Networking, Employment and Community through Technology**.

Background:

One of the key issues raised again and again by all stakeholders is the enormous digital divide facing Native American communities in general, and tribal members with disabilities in particular. According to the Department of Commerce report *Falling Through the Net*, Native Americans and Alaska Natives rank far below the national average in their access to telephones, computers and the Internet. With Federal agency support and resources and ITAA's expertise and business/employer relationships, SIPI -- using its experience with technology transfer and training and building on its existing relationship with 106 tribes -- will serve as the hub of the partnership. **CONNECT** will reach into even the most remote and isolated areas of the country to deliver web-based education and job training, increase access to accessible technology and the Internet, develop culturally appropriate technology curriculum for use by tribal colleges, create distance learning and telecommunications infrastructure and delivery capability, and eventually expand this collaborative model throughout Indian Country.

We anticipate other Federal agencies joining with BIA, DOL and the technology industry, as they work in consultation with tribal governments to actively and creatively address the digital divide and expand the circle of employment opportunities for Native Americans with disabilities.

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Background:

Native eDGE and CodeTalk can play a major role in establishing and assisting with the operation of AIDTAC's Native American disability technical assistance network.

Native eDGE, operated by HUD's Office of Native American Programs (ONAP), maintains a web site at **nativeedge.hud.gov/**. Through the web site, call center and other services, Native eDGE links 14 federal agencies so that Native Americans, lending institutions, non-profits, foundations, and private businesses can collaborate to achieve sustainable economic development in Indian Country. As part of the AIDTAC, Native eDGE can provide access to contacts, information, and partnerships for employing Native American adults with disabilities within programs such as rural economic and community development, small business development, self-employment and entrepreneurship, one-stop career centers and workforce development incentives.

CodeTalk, also operated by ONAP, is found at **www.codetalk.fed.us/**. This web site delivers a broad range of electronic information on issues and events, and provides links to other resources and tools of value to the Native American community. CodeTalk can be a conduit for information dissemination on a wide variety of developments impacting the concerns of Native American individuals and communities regarding disabilities.

These Internet-based systems will assist the AIDTAC in disseminating a broad range of technical assistance on disability programs, services, policies and laws to governments of the 557 Federally-recognized American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages, as well as private and Federal partners involved in economic development and entrepreneurial activity in Indian Country.

Proposed Recommendation# 3 - The Work Group recommends that the Task Force conduct a program review and analysis of the American Indian Rehabilitation projects under the Rehabilitation Act to determine opportunities to increase their effectiveness. The review would include looking at the legislative authority, the service statistics and the discretionary grant policies of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) to identify legislative, administrative and programmatic barriers to adequate Vocational Rehabilitation services for Native Americans with disabilities. Based on this review, the Task Force can then make recommendations to ensure that Native Americans with disabilities who want to work receive high quality, culturally appropriate rehabilitation and employment services under the VR program.

Background:

Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) programs are authorized under Part C - Section 121 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Current funding for the Tribal VR programs is based on a set aside, authorized under Section 110© of the Act. Section 121(a) authorizes the Commissioner of RSA to make grants to governing bodies of Indian tribes and Section 121 (b)(3) states any approved application shall be effective for not more than 60 months, except as determined otherwise by the Commissioner pursuant to prescribed regulations.

This funding mechanism for Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation services has resulted in significant instability within the programs. Programs are forced to re-compete every five years and, although preference is supposed to be given to existing programs, some successful programs fail to be re-awarded. The effect of the current funding language on VR services for individual Native Americans with disabilities is devastating. When a program is does not receive renewed funding, individuals are abruptly terminated from the tribal VR services they had been receiving. The state VR systems are often unable to assume the cases of these Native American clients and state VR agencies report that the increased burden on their agencies when a Tribal project is de-funded creates significant resource short falls resulting in decreased services to all individuals with disabilities residing in their State. In addition, the inability of the Section 121 programs to effectively predict their continuance results in significant reduction in available services toward the end of their funding cycle. Their limited resources are focused on developing a winning proposal.

Permanent formula funding for these projects could alleviate the additional burden associated with conducting grant competitions and free up scarce RSA resources to more effectively administer the programs.



Jonathan M. Young
10/19/2000 08:34:38 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Christina S. Ho/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: FW: email the digital thing to Jonathan

This is what they recommended for Flint

----- Forwarded by Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP on 10/19/2000 08:34 AM -----



Cooper Randy <cooper-randy@dol.gov>
09/12/2000 10:08:59 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP
cc:
Subject: FW: email the digital thing to Jonathan

Jonathan,

Attached for your review is a draft proposed announcement for the President's Disability Digital Divide Tour scheduled for September 21, 2000.

The proposed public-private partnership and inter-agency announcement highlights the importance of including Native Americans with Disabilities in this tour .

If you are unable to open this document you may call me at (202) 693 4928. Becky will give you a call to explain the announcement in greater detail. If you haven't spoken to her by the end of the day, please let me know. She is on travel, but I understand the short time-frame we are under.

<<Indian Poletch 9-12-00>>

Thank you Randy Cooper

> -----
> From: Ogle Becky
> Sent: Monday, September 11, 2000 1:34 PM

> To: Cooper Randy
> Subject: email the digital thing to Jonathan
>
> Jonathan_Young@who.eop.gov
>
> tell him I will call him to explain what's up with this. I think its
> probably too late, but we'll send it his way anyhow.
>

|  - Indian Polettech 9-12-00.wpd

**PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT
SEPTEMBER 21, 2000
DISABILITY DIGITAL DIVIDE TOUR**

I am proud to announce the development of an inter-agency collaborative public - private partnership to assist Native Americans with Disabilities overcome the "Digital Divide". In collaboration with the Presidential Task Force on the Employment of Adults with Disabilities and tribal governments, the Departments of Interior, Commerce, Agriculture, Housing and Urban Development, Health & Human Services, Education, Labor, and the Social Security Administration will establish a comprehensive public - private partnership on Information Technology at the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute to assist all tribal nations. In partnership with the Information Technology Association of America (ITAA), this initiative will begin to address "digital divide" challenges facing Native Americans with Disabilities. This public - private partnership will provide a platform for delivery of web-based training, education, and employment opportunities to Native Americans with disabilities.

The Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) is a national American Indian community college currently serving 106 tribes throughout the United States. SIPI already provides technology transfer and training to tribal nations in Geographic Information Systems, distance learning, classes in early childhood, computer training, and extension programs for nutrition and diabetes. In keeping with its mission to provide educational opportunities and increase employment opportunities throughout the national Indian community, SIPI's executive leadership and staff will expand its current capabilities to build a distance learning and telecommunications infrastructure and delivery capability that will bridge the digital divide that exists for Native Americans with disabilities, particularly in rural areas.

With this public - private partnership, SIPI will serve as the hub for a national information technology network that will reach into even the most remote and isolated areas of the country to provide improved access to web-based education, training, and employment opportunities for Native Americans with disabilities.

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TO: Jack Lew
Director, Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Barbara Chow
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy & Director, DPC

DATE: October 18, 2000

SUBJECT: Executive Order Regarding Individuals with Disabilities

We request expedited clearance of the attached Executive Order creating an Employment Partnership Board within the Department of Labor's Office of Disability Policy. This new Board would serve to foster public-private partnership activities to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities, and improve access to financial institutions and commercial and business enterprises.

We would like to have this cleared for announcement on October 25, 2000, which marks National Disability Mentoring Day.

CC: Mac Reed, OMB General Counsel

Potential Announcements for National Disability Mentoring Day

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and October 25 marks the first National Disability Mentoring Day. At the White House we'll be having about 75 young folks in from the Washington Metropolitan area for a morning plenary session at the White House (9:00 - 10:30). The young people move on to participating federal agencies for lunch with high-level officials followed by one-on-one mentoring from 11:30 to 3:30. The day will conclude with an afternoon reception at the State department 4:00 to 5:00.

In addition to announcing the winners of the Disability Mentoring Day Essay contest and recognizing the states and companies participating in National Mentoring Day, we could make the following announcements focusing on employment for persons with disabilities and the implementation of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TTWWIIA).

letter #15
Benefits Outreach/Counseling Grants. The Social Security Administration is about to award \$7.5 million in grants to about 35 non-profit organizations and/or state agencies in 25 states to provide benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are attempting to return to work. These grants, ranging from \$50,000 to \$300,000, are the first round to be issued under this portion of the ~~Work Incentives Improvement Act~~ *law*. When fully implemented, grants will be awarded to organizations and/or state agencies in all 50 states in accordance with the law. Grants to the remaining states will be issued later in the fall once the Social Security Administration has its appropriation for Fiscal Year 2001.

Ticket to Work Rule. The NPRM to implement the Ticket to Work Program portion of the TTWWIIA may be ready to announce. Under this program, SSA will issue tickets enabling people with disabilities to contract for employment support services. Providers of these support services receive payments for their work with individuals with disabilities, and can receive additional payments if these individuals return to work and come off the Social Security rolls.

10/25 do a flyer for themselves
Work Incentive Grants. The DOL will be issuing \$20 Million in grants to ensure that people with disabilities have access to the full range of employment and reemployment services in the new workforce development system established by the Workforce Investment Act. These grants, while not a part of the TTWWIIA, were designed to complement the Ticket to Work efforts. Grantees will be responsible for working with the One-Stop operators to augment their capacity to provide the full range of effective employment and training services to people with disabilities.

10/25 do a flyer for themselves
Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment. Section 204 of TTWWIIA directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to establish a demonstration under the Medicaid Program for workers with physical or mental impairments that, without medical intervention, have the potential to result in disability. The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) is the designated DHHS agency with administrative responsibility for this grant program.

Medicaid Infrastructure Grant Program. Section 203 directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to establish a grant program for the design, establishment, and operation of State infrastructures that provide items and services to support working individuals with disabilities. The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) is the designated DHHS agency with administrative responsibility for this grant program.

10/25 do a flyer for themselves

\$50 million → system change grants

all 50 states budget is done. complicated by leak.

only approved 57 m of the 40 m available

6 **Tech Access for Disabled Veterans.** VA has formed a public-private partnership with SAIC and VERIZON to ensure our Nation's disabled veterans have access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively to fully participate in America's economic, political and social life. This follows on the heels of VA's immensely successful private-public partnership, PT Phone Home and PT Phase II, in which VERIZON, then Bell Atlantic, equipped VA medical centers with bedside telephones and established computer labs in medical facilities across the country.

7 **Tech Access for Native Americans.** DOL Partnership for increasing technology access for Native Americans with disabilities.

Formation of DOL Business Leadership Council. This Council would be part of the new Assistant Secretary-level Office of Disability Planning Evaluation and Training situated within DOL.

for the 25th

coordinating task force

✓ EO → ~~mission~~ Youth Task Force.

✓ C90 letter - a dozen chambers to Able to Work Release.

EXECUTIVE ORDER

THE PRESIDENT'S DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP BOARD

By authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, and in order to promote the employment of people with disabilities, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Establishment and Composition of the Board.*

(a) There is hereby established the President's Disability Employment Partnership Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board).

(b) The Board shall be composed of not more than 15 members who shall be appointed for terms of 2 years by, and serve at the pleasure of, the President. The members may be reappointed by the President. The membership shall include individuals who are representatives of employers, labor organizations, State or local governments, disabled veterans, individuals with disabilities, organizations serving individuals with disabilities, and researchers or academicians focusing on issues relating to the employment of individuals with disabilities.

(c) The President shall designate a Chairperson from among the members of the Board.

Sec. 2. *Functions of the Board.*

(a) The Board shall provide advice and information to the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of Labor, the Office of Disability Policy in the Department of Labor and other appropriate Federal officials designed to facilitate employment for people with disabilities, and shall carry out other activities that promote the formation of public-private partnerships, the use of economic incentives, the provision of technical assistance regarding entrepreneurship, and other actions that may enhance such employment opportunities.

(b) In carrying out paragraph (a), the Board shall:

(i) develop and submit to the Office of Disability Policy in the Department of Labor a comprehensive plan for joint public-private efforts to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities and improve access to financial institutions and commercial and business enterprises;

(ii) identify strategies that may be used by employers, labor unions, national and international organizations, and Federal, State and local officials to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities; and

(iii) work with the Office of Disability Policy in the Department of Labor in promoting the organization of public and private resources, including those of the Department of Labor, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Federal Communications Commission, and with the office of small, disadvantaged business utilization in each Department and agency of the United States, to assist people with disabilities in the formation and expansion of small business concerns and in enhancing their access to Federal procurement and other relevant business opportunities.

(c) The Board shall report annually to the President, who may apprise Congress and other interested organizations and individuals, on the activities of the Board and the progress and problems relating to maximizing employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

(d) The Chairperson shall serve as a member and the Vice Chair of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities established under Executive Order 13078.

Sec. 3. Administration of the Board.

(a) The Board shall meet on call of the Chairperson, at a time and place designated by the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall call at least two meetings per calendar year. The Chairperson may form subcommittees or working groups within the Board to address particular matters.

(b) The Chairperson may from time to time prescribe such rules, procedures, and policies relating to the activities of the Board as are not inconsistent with law or with the provisions of this Order.

(c) Members of the Board shall serve without compensation but shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in Federal service (5 U.S.C. 5701-5707).

(d) The Department of Labor is requested to make available appropriate support to assist the Board in carrying out the activities described in section 2, including necessary office space, equipment, supplies, and services. The estimate of appropriations for the operation of the Board shall be included within the framework of the appropriations structure of the Department of Labor.

(e) The heads of executive agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide the Board such information as it may require for purposes of carrying out the functions described in section 2.

Sec. 4. Prior Orders and Transition.

(a) Executive Order 12640 relating to the establishment of the President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities is hereby rescinded. The employees, records, property, and funds of the Committee shall become the employees, records, property and funds of the Department of Labor.

(b) Executive Order 13078 is amended—

(i) in section 1(a), by striking “Chair of the President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities” and inserting “Chairperson of the President’s Disability Employment Partnership Board”; and

(ii) in section 1(b), by striking “Chair of the President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities” and inserting “Chairperson of the President’s Disability Employment Partnership Board”.

THE WHITE HOUSE

(e) The heads of executive agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide the Board such information as it may require for purposes of carrying out the functions described in section 2.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Potential Announcements for National Disability Mentoring Day

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and October 25 marks the first National Disability Mentoring Day . At the White House we'll be having about 75 young folks in from the Washington Metropolitan area for a morning plenary session at the White House (9:00 - 10:30). The young people move on to participating federal agencies for lunch with high-level officials followed by one-on-one mentoring from 11:30 to 3:30. The day will conclude with an afternoon reception at the State department from 4:00 to 5:00.

In addition to announcing the winners of the Disability Mentoring Day Essay contest and recognizing the states and companies participating in National Mentoring Day, we could make the following announcements focusing on employment for persons with disabilities and the implementation of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TTWWIIA).

1. SSA Benefits Outreach/Counseling Grants. [STATUS: READY] The Social Security Administration is about to award \$8 million in grants to about 43 non-profit organizations and/or state agencies in 26 states and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to provide benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are attempting to return to work. These grants, ranging from \$50,000 to \$300,000, are the first round to be issued under this portion of the TTWWIIA. Note: if the FY 2001 budget passes by 10/25, grants to the remaining states could be announced as well at that time.
2. DOL Work Incentive Grants. [STATUS: READY] The Department of Labor will be issuing \$20 Million in grants to ensure that people with disabilities have access to the full range of employment and reemployment services in the new workforce development system established by the Workforce Investment Act. These grants, while not a part of the TTWWIIA, were designed to complement the Ticket to Work efforts. Grantees will be responsible for working with the One-Stop operators to augment their capacity to provide the full range of effective employment and training services to people with disabilities.
3. HHS Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment. [STATUS: READY] Under section 204 of TTWWIIA, HHS is giving grants to 5 states to establish Medicaid demonstration programs for workers with physical or mental impairments that, without medical intervention, have the potential to result in disability. This program could help prevent people from joining the disability rolls through early intervention.
4. HHS Medicaid Infrastructure Grant Program. [STATUS: READY] Under Section 203 of TTWWIIA, DHHS is releasing grants for the design, establishment, and operation of State infrastructures that provide items and services to support working individuals with disabilities.
5. VA Technology Access Partnership for Disabled Veterans. [STATUS: READY] VA has formed a public-private partnership with SAIC and VERIZON to ensure our Nation's disabled veterans have access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively to fully participate in America's economic, political and social life. This follows on the heels of VA's immensely successful private-public partnership, PT Phone Home and PT Phase II, in which VERIZON, then Bell Atlantic, equipped VA medical centers with bedside telephones and established computer labs in medical facilities across the country.

6. DOL Technology Access Partnership for Native Americans. [STATUS: DPC IS CHECKING] DOL Partnership for increasing technology access for Native Americans with disabilities.
7. CEO letter to increase employment of people with disabilities [STATUS: WAITING ON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]. Currently, about a dozen CEO's have signed onto this letter agreeing to target disability as part of their diversity recruitment goals, making assistive technology available to their employees, and promoting the recruitment of youth with disabilities through internships and mentorships. OPL is currently working on getting seeing whether this effort could be done under the auspices of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.
8. OPL Statistics on Federal Hiring Commitments. [STATUS: OPL IS CHECKING ON THIS] Following the Executive Order encouraging 100,000 more federal hires of persons with disabilities, OPM has some preliminary information on commitments with agency breakdown.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS—MAY NOT BE READY FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

- Formation of Disability Employment Partnership Board. [STATUS: COULD BE READY WHEN BUDGET IS COMPLETE] This Council would be part of the new Assistant Secretary-level Office of Disability Planning Evaluation and Technical Assistance (ODP) that would be situated within DOL. The money to create ODP is currently in the Labor-HHS conference agreement. Once a Labor-H bill is signed into law, the new Office can be announced, along with this new Board within the Office. The Partnership Board would serve to facilitate employment for people with disabilities by forming public private partnerships, serving as a link to the private sector, and improving the access for people with disabilities to financial institutions and commercial and business enterprises.
- Welfare-to-Work Partnership Disability Guide. [STATUS: DPC IS CHECKING] The Disability Guide will provide information to front-line workers on hidden disabilities, concentrating on learning disabilities, mental retardation, and mental illness. This information will include resources on each of the disabilities mentioned and how to create a comprehensive approach to assist someone with these disabilities find a job and keep it. The Departments of Labor and Education worked together to create the guide with the help of many other non-profit organizations and associations. The WtW Office has estimated that the guide should be finished by the end of the month but it has not yet gone into Departmental clearance and everything about this product has taken longer than expected.
- Raising the Income Ceiling for Federal Matching on Medicaid for the Medically Needy. [STATUS: OMB CLEARANCE] Currently States can provide Medicaid to the medically needy no matter what their income, but federal matching funds are only given for the medically needy whose incomes are below 133% of the federal poverty line. HCFA has proposed a regulatory change that would raise that income cap so that more state expenditures for the medically needy would qualify for a federal match. Many people with disabilities could benefit from this change.
- Ticket to Work Rule. [STATUS: PROBABLY WANT TO AVOID PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT] The NPRM to implement the Ticket to Work Program portion of the TTWWIIA may be ready soon. Under this program, SSA will issue tickets enabling people with disabilities to contract for employment support services. Providers of these support

services receive payments for their work with individuals with disabilities, and can receive additional payments if these individuals return to work and come off the Social Security rolls.

- Youth to Work Initiative. [STATUS: IN CLEARANCE, BUT SINCE THIS WAS ANNOUNCED ON 7/25, WE SHOULDN'T REPEAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT]. This amends the EO on the President's Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities to include a focus on assisting youth in successfully transitioning from school to postsecondary education and work.