

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Counsel Office

Series/Staff Member: Jonathan Young

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 40205

FolderID:

Folder Title:

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities

Stack:

S

Row:

112

Section:

1

Shelf:

9

Position:

2

1-VP
1-POTUS
location: Flexible
like oral office
with or sign of receipt

5/17 - Jmg - Follow-up with Lisa

(A) Fax 3 press releases
(w) Jennifer Kagan business card
to →
① KM Fax address 66771
② Jne Fax 65709

(B) Call Dana Dovich or x23
Jennifer Kemp
PCEPD 376-6200
at Fri. 6/4

Event at 2:00 pm, East Room
We need
① physical description of the award
② genesis of the award
③ logistics of how the award is
presented (with the award)
presented by POTUS or Chairman of PCEPD
* Fay to my ASAP
456-6218



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

June 15, 1999

Mr. Jonathan Young
Associate Director of Disability Outreach
White House Office of Public Liaison
122 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Jonathan:

It is my pleasure to share with you a copy of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities' 1999 Educational Kit. The theme for this year's program, "Think Ability," conveys a simple yet critical message: Attitude is the key to raising the level of employment for people with disabilities. As we round the last lap toward the next century, hurdling attitudinal barriers remains our greatest challenge.

The 1999 Educational Kit has been constructed to give the reader materials to conduct year-round programs to ensure that persons with disabilities are part of the diversified workforce of this nation. You may find these materials of value during the July 26, 1999, celebration of the ninth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and in October when National Disability Employment Awareness Month is observed.

By breaking down attitudinal barriers and opening doors to ability, our government and private sector employers will gain the skills and talents of persons with disabilities. The 54 million Americans with disabilities are ready to move through the doors and make significant contributions to society.

If you need additional copies of this information, please contact Faith Kirk at 202/376-6200, Ext. 13, or by E-mail at <kirk-faith@pcep.gov>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Coelho", is located below the word "Sincerely,".

Tony Coelho
Chairman

1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107

202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6219 (FAX)
202-376-6205 (TDD)

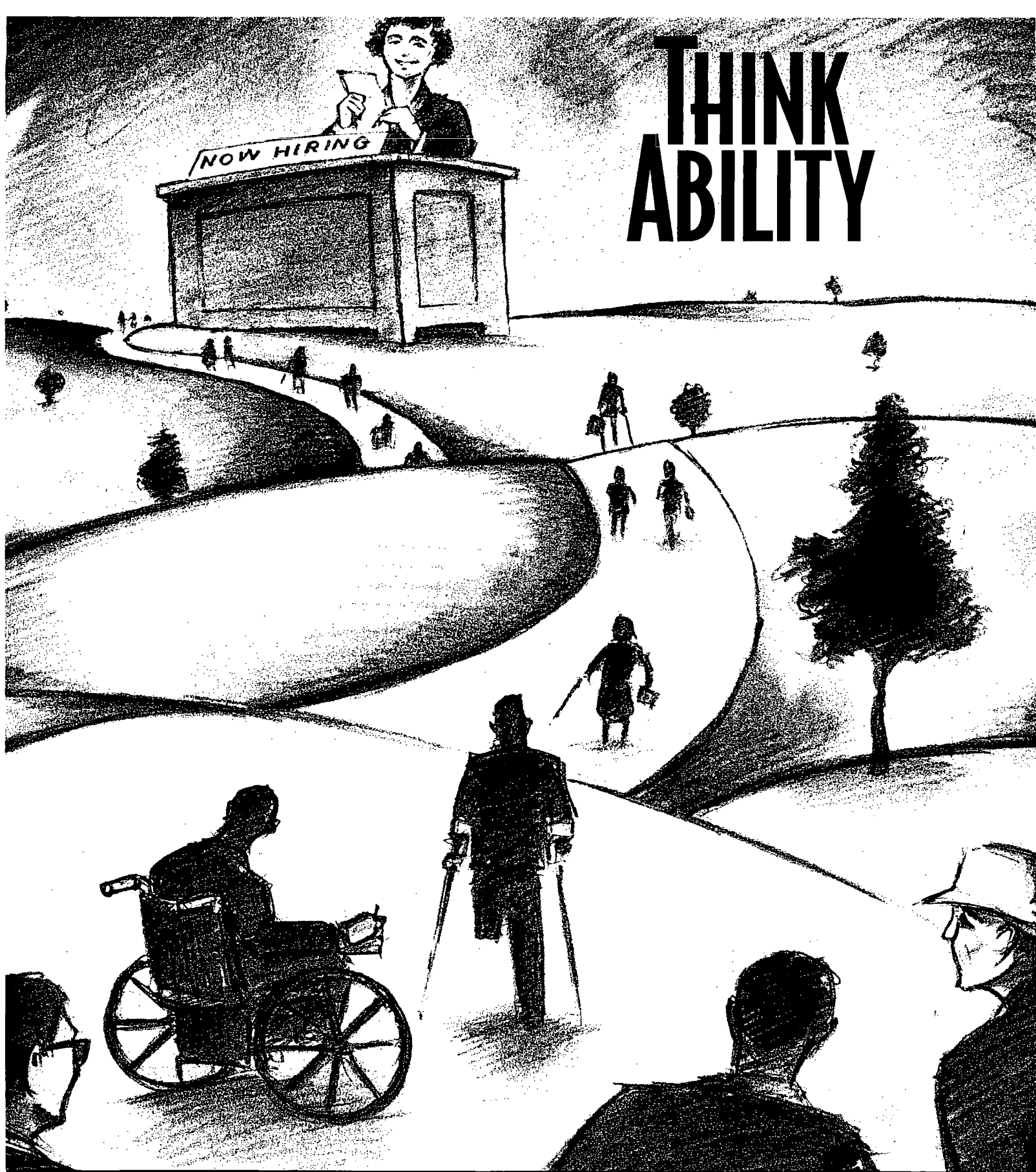
Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

THINK ABILITY



PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
EDUCATIONAL KIT 1999

ROUTING SLIP

DATE: 6/2/99

FROM: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Scheduling

SUBJECT: *Present the President's Award of the President's Committee on
Employment of People with Disabilities*

Virginia Apuzzo	—	Thurgood Marshall Jr.	—
Lisa Berg	—	Minyon Moore	—
Samuel Berger	—	Bob Nash	—
Sidney Blumenthal	—	Jennifer Palmieri	—
Mary Beth Cahill	✓	John Podesta	—
Phil Caplan	—	Clark Ray	—
Davis/Redington	✓	Steve Ricchetti	—
Maria Echaveste	—	Bruce Reed	—
Tim Emrich	✓	Dan Rosenthal	—
George Frampton	—	Charles Ruff	—
Nancy Hernreich	—	Patti Solis-Doyle	—
Mickey Ibarra	—	Doug Sosnik	—
Ron Klain	—	Gene Sperling	—
Neal Lane	—	Larry Stein	—
Lisa Levin	—	Aviva Steinberg	—
Ann Lewis	—	Todd Stern	—
Bruce Lindsey	—	Loretta Ucelli	✓
Joe Lockhart	✓	Melanne Verveer	—
Capricia Marshall	—	Michael Waldman	✓

Jonathan M. Young

FILE: Accept

COMMENTS: 6/4 (T)

Scheduling Proposal

3/29/99

39 MAR 30 10:26

___ACCEPT ___REGRET ___PENDING

TO: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President
Director of Scheduling

FROM: Mary Beth Cahill *mbc/cc*
Jonathan M. Young

REQUEST: To present the President's Award of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (PCEPD) to its 1997 and 1998 recipients, Laura Hershey and James H. Click Jr.

PURPOSE: To honor the recipients' outstanding contributions in advocating for the employment of people with disabilities.

BACKGROUND: The Honorable Tony Coelho serves as Chairman of PCEPD--a small federal agency whose mission is to communicate, coordinate, and promote public and private efforts to enhance the employment of people with disabilities. The Committee provides information, training, and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families, and individuals with disabilities. It also operates the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a toll-free information service on workplace accommodations and the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Tony Coelho also services as Co-Chair of the President's Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities.

Laura Hershey is the interim Executive Director of Denver's Disability Center for Independent Living and a grass roots leader in the national disability community. Her achievements include the mobilization of the PASS Participants Rights Campaign. This is a national coalition to protect the rights of individuals taking part in the Social Security Administration's Plan to Achieve Self-Support. She is also a staunch supporter of women's rights, especially of women with disabilities.

James Click, Jr. is the founder and president of the LINKAGES program. This Tucson-based, non-profit program connects employers with job openings and job seekers with disabilities. As an employer he as placed 35 employees with disabilities in jobs at

his car dealerships in Arizona and California. Since 1988, 80 employers have placed more than 170 individuals.

Hershey and Click were selected from a national selection of nominees to receive these awards.

DATE AND TIME:	TBD
LOCATION:	Flexible: either the Oval Office or the hometown of either recipient (Tuscon or Denver, if POTUS travel coincides).
DURATION:	15 minutes
PARTICIPANTS:	Tony Coelho, Chairman of PCEPD John Lancaster, Executive Director of PCEPD Board Members and/or Vice-Chairs of PCEPD (4) Laura Hershey, with family (4) James Click, Jr., with family (4)
OUTLINE OF EVENTS:	TBD
MEDIA COVERAGE:	TBD
STAFF CONTACT:	Jonathan M. Young x-67032



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

☐ **NORMAL DELIVERY**

☒ **URGENT**

DATE: June 4, 1999
TO: Jonathan Young
FAX NO. 456-6218 TELEPHONE NO. 456-7032
FROM: Nisa Nouri

Total number of pages including this page: 2

Please call 202-376-6200 if all pages in this transaction are not received.

Additional comments or messages:

Per our conversation - work
on the award

1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107

202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6859 (Fax)
202-376-6205 (TDD)



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

TO: Jonathan Young
FROM: Dina Dorich
DATE: June 1, 1999
RE: Inscription on President's Award

The seal of the President's Committee (eagle in center, name of committee around the circle) is within the top third of the crystal.

Immediately below the seal are the following words:

President's Award
1998 (or 1999)
to
(name of award recipient)
for
outstanding service
to America in
improving the lives
of people with
disabilities

Immediately below the inscription is the President's signature, with the word "President" under that.

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M E M O R A N D U M



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

Contact: Jennifer Kaplan
202-376-6200

FOR RELEASE ON MARCH 3, 1999

**ARIZONA BUSINESSMAN JIM CLICK TO RECEIVE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES' TOP HONOR**

(Washington, DC -- March 3, 1999) James H. Click, Jr., founder of Tucson's non-profit LINKAGES program connecting employers and job seekers with disabilities, and owner of the Jim Click Automotive Team, has been selected as a recipient of the 1998 President's Award.

The President's Award is the President's Committee's highest honor for achievement in furthering the employment and empowerment of people with disabilities. Click and Laura Hershey, a Colorado grass roots disability advocate, were selected from a national slate of nominees to receive this honor. The two awards will be presented later this year.

"Jim Click has given the word 'matchmaker' new meaning in Tucson by making it easy for businesses to tap into an often overlooked labor force of skilled, motivated candidates who happen to have disabilities. He had the vision, the commitment and the tenacity to make LINKAGES a model for the nation," said President's Committee Chairman Tony Coelho.

LINKAGES, launched in 1998, provides a one-stop shop for employers who want to hire qualified people with disabilities. An employer with a job opening contacts the program manager, who works with more than two dozen rehabilitation agencies to identify good candidates for the position. Jobs are both part time and full time, and range from entry-level to professional.

Click is president of the LINKAGES board and the program's primary source of funding. He is also a LINKAGES employer, with approximately 35 employees with disabilities working in his car dealership franchises throughout Arizona and California. To date, he has inspired nearly 80 other employers to take part in the program, and some 170 people with disabilities have been placed in jobs.

Click's message to the Tucson employer community has been that hiring people with a variety of abilities is an important part of workforce diversity, and that makes good business sense. He speaks from experience, having actively hired people with disabilities since 1975.

- more -

1

1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107

202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6219 (FAX)
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The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities is a small federal agency based in Washington, DC. The Committee's mission is to communicate, coordinate and promote public and private efforts to enhance the employment of people with disabilities. The Committee provides information, training and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families and individuals with disabilities. It also operates the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a toll-free information service on workplace accommodations and the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additional information about the President's Committee is available on the Internet at www.pcepd.gov.

Contact: Jennifer Kaplan
202-376-6200



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

FOR RELEASE ON MARCH 3, 1999

**PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
NAMES RECIPIENTS OF 1998 PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

(Washington, DC -- March 3, 1999) The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities has selected James H. Click, Jr. of Arizona and Laura Hershey of Colorado as co-recipients of the 1998 President's Award. This award is the President's Committee's highest honor for achievement in furthering the employment and empowerment of people with disabilities.

Click is the founder and president of the Tucson-based, non-profit LINKAGES program, which connects employers with job openings and job seekers with disabilities. An employer himself, Click has placed some 35 employees with disabilities in jobs at his car dealerships throughout Arizona and California. Nearly 80 employers have taken part in the program since 1998, placing more than 170 individuals with disabilities. The program has become a model for the nation.

Hershey is the interim Executive Director of Denver's Disability Center for Independent Living and a grass roots leader in the national disability community. Among her achievements is mobilization of the PASS Participants Rights Campaign, a national coalition to protect the rights of individuals taking part in the Social Security Administration's Plan to Achieve Self-Support. She is a staunch advocate for the civil rights of women, particularly those with disabilities.

"We are pleased this year to honor two outstanding individuals who represent the employer and disability communities. Eradicating the staggering unemployment rate facing Americans with disabilities will depend upon the kind of leadership demonstrated by both Jim Click and Laura Hershey," said President's Committee Chairman Tony Coelho.

Click and Hershey were selected from a national slate of nominees to receive these awards, which will be presented later this year.

The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities is a small federal agency based in Washington, DC. The Committee's mission is to communicate, coordinate and promote public and private efforts to enhance the employment of people with disabilities. The Committee provides information, training and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families and individuals with disabilities. It also operates the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a toll-free information service on workplace accommodations and the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additional information about the President's Committee is available on the Internet at <www.pcepd.gov>.

- 30 -

3

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202-376-6205 (TDD)



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

Contact: Jennifer Kaplan
202-376-6200

FOR RELEASE ON MARCH 3, 1999

**DENVER GRASS ROOTS LEADER LAURA HERSHEY TO RECEIVE PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES' TOP HONOR**

(Washington, DC -- March 3, 1999) Laura Hershey, interim Executive Director of Denver's Disability Center for Independent Living, has been selected as a recipient of the 1998 President's Award. A grass roots leader in the national disability community, Hershey mobilized the PASS Participants Rights Campaign to fight for the rights of people with severe disabilities to pursue employment and maintain their eligibility for Medicaid coverage.

The President's Award is the President's Committee's highest honor for achievement in furthering the empowerment and employment of people with disabilities. Hershey and James Click, founder of an Arizona employer coalition to hire people with disabilities, were selected from a national slate of nominees to receive this honor. The two awards will be presented later this year.

"Laura Hershey has demonstrated tireless leadership in navigating reform in Social Security, housing, transportation and other programs affecting the livelihood of Americans with severe disabilities. She has also been a staunch advocate for the civil rights of women, particularly women with disabilities," said President's Committee Chairman Tony Coelho.

The Social Security Administration's Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) was established to help people with disabilities who rely on monthly cash benefits gain financial independence. When plans in progress were interrupted during a period of reevaluation, Hershey lost her consulting business. Recognizing the widespread consequences of the moratorium on PASS, Hershey created the PASS Participants Rights Campaign, a national coalition to protect the rights of individuals taking part in this work incentive program.

Hershey, who has muscular dystrophy, also serves as a consultant to AccessPlus, which provides research and training services related to disability advocacy issues. Her writings have appeared in a variety of publications including the *Denver Post*, *Ms.* and *New Mobility*.

The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities is a small federal agency based in Washington, DC. The Committee's mission is to communicate, coordinate and promote public and private efforts to enhance the employment of people with disabilities. The Committee provides information, training and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families and individuals with disabilities. It also operates the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a toll-free information service on workplace accommodations and the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additional information about the President's Committee is available on the Internet at www.pcepd.gov.

4



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION☐ NORMAL DELIVERY☐ URGENTDATE: May 26, 1999TO: Jonathan Gung / Liz ChaseFAX NO. 202-454-6218 TELEPHONE NO.FROM: Nicki NouchTotal number of pages including this page: 2

Please call 202-376-6200 if all pages in this transaction are not received.

Additional comments or messages:

FYI - per our conversation.1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6859 (fax)
202-376-6205 (TDD)

DATE: Sept 7, 1994

TO: *Jonathan Young*
John Sutton, White House

FROM: Ellen Daly, Awards Coordinator

SUBJECT: President's Award background

The President's Award (formerly the President's Trophy 1951 to 1993) was first given in 1951 to the Handicapped American of the Year and has been awarded each year since then. In the late 1980's the award was revised and open to any individual regardless of disability and who met the criteria (see attachment 1.)

Based on the information I could locate the presentation of the award was made by the following Presidents:

Eisenhower.....at an Annual Meeting
Kennedy.....in Rose Garden, 1963
Johnson.....at an Annual Meeting
Nixon.....in Rose Garden, 1971
Ford.....in Rose Garden, 1976
Carter.....at Annual Meeting, 1980
Bush.....at Annual Meeting, 1990

Clinton - at White House, 1996
Clinton - at White House 1999
(Note: These were
awards from 1995 to 1996)

The following Vice Presidents presented the award:

Johnson.....at Annual Meeting
Humphrey.....at Annual Meeting, 1966
Ford.....at Annual Meeting, 1974
Bush.....at Annual Meeting, 1983

The President's Award is a handsome piece of crystal inscribed and signed by the President (see attachment 2.)



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION☐ NORMAL DELIVERY☐ URGENT

Urgent

DATE: 3-26-99TO: JonathanFAX NO. 456-6218TELEPHONE NO. 456-2930FROM: Dina DorichTotal number of pages including this page: 2

Please call 202-376-6200 if all pages in this transaction are not received.

Additional comments or messages:

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www.pcepd.gov

F A X



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

March 26, 1999

TO: Jonathan Young
FROM: Dina Dorich *[Signature]*
RE: President's Award

Tony asked that I follow up with you, regarding your recent conversation with him about scheduling the President's Award presentation. As you know, the President's Award "ceremony" is primarily a "photo-op" and does not require much of the President's time. In the past the presentation has taken place in the Oval Office on a weekday, but Tony indicated that a Saturday radio event is also acceptable.

Tony's key goal is to get this done as soon as possible. Please keep in mind that since the honorees are from Arizona and Colorado, we need a little lead time to get them here.

Please keep me posted on progress.

Thanks.

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M E M O R A N D U M



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

October 28, 1998

TO: Jonathan Young
FROM: Dina Dorich *[Signature]*
RE: President's Award

Chairman Tony Coelho has made his decision on the 1998 President's Award winner. As we discussed in our meeting, we also need to present the 1997 President's Award. This award is considered the America's highest honor in recognition of an individual's impact on the empowerment and employment of people with disabilities.

The 1997 award will go to Laura Hershey, advocate and founder of the PASS Participants Rights Campaign, of Denver, Colorado. The 1998 award will go to James H. Click, Jr., a Tucson, AZ, businessman who is also President of Linkages, Inc., which serves as a liaison between businesses with job openings and rehabilitation providers with qualified people with disabilities ready to work.

I am enclosing the nomination packets on both individuals. At this point, neither has been notified of the honor.

While we do not need to have a specific date set for the presentation, it would be valuable to at least inform the honorees of the location of the event. During are meeting, we had discussed several possibilities: (1) White House Oval Office, with the award presented by the President [as has been done with prior honorees]; (2) White House, with the award presented by the Vice President [should President's availability be very limited]; (3) the honoree's hometown/state, to be presented at a time when the President is in that area and a place that would give "local" visibility to the recipient.

Normally, Chairman Coelho sends a letter to the President, requesting that this ceremony take place. I assume we still want to follow that process. However, in order to draft the letter, I need to know whether I should ask only for Option (1) above, ask for Option (1), but be open to other scenarios, or suggest various scenarios. At this point I don't have any information from Tony to indicate his personal preference.

I would appreciate it if you could give me a call, so I know how to proceed in a way that will also make your job of getting it on the calendar as easy as possible. My number is 376-6200, Ext. 23.

Thanks.

cc: John Lancaster

1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107

202-376-6200 (Voice)
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M E M O R A N D U M



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

January 12, 1999

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am very pleased to inform you that the President's Committee has selected two individuals to receive the 1998 President's Award. They are Laura Hershey, a disability advocate and activist from Denver, Colorado, and James H. Click, Jr., a businessman from Tucson, Arizona, who has been instrumental in advancing the employment of people with disabilities in his own businesses and the Tucson community. The recipients were selected from a national slate of 25 individuals nominated by leaders in the disability community.

Former Director of the Denver Commission for People with Disabilities, Ms. Hershey then chose a career as a self-employed consultant and writer, providing training, research and writing services to businesses, agencies and individuals. For four years she wrote a monthly column for the Denver Post on disability rights issues. Her career was abruptly halted when the Social Security Administration revised its PASS Program, and she was no longer eligible to participate in the program. She took action, not only for herself but also for others with disabilities who seek to be self-supporting, tax-paying citizens, by organizing the PASS Participants Rights Campaign. Not only has she been recognized in Colorado for her leadership in enhancing employment for people with disabilities, but she was also recognized nationally by being selected as a representative for disabled women at the International Women's NGO conference in Beijing, China.

Mr. Click, who owns several automobile businesses in the Southwest, is a founder and President of the Board of Directors of Linkages, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to linking employers with individuals with disabilities seeking jobs. He led the way by hiring individuals with disabilities and personally ensuring that the managers of his other companies did the same. While still in a start-up phase and not publicly launched as an organization until April 1998, the partnerships developed through Linkages had already resulted in 155 persons with disabilities gaining employment in various businesses, including health care, retail, banking and landscaping. Mr. Click devotes a great deal of time and energy to numerous organizations that serve the community, including those that serve adults with developmental disabilities, homeless people and battered children.

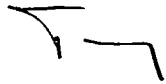
1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107

202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6219 (FAX)
202-376-6205 (TDD)

He is or has been a member of numerous boards and has led fund raising efforts for such organizations as the Handi-Dogs Training Center and the American Cancer Society.

I am enclosing the nomination and supporting documents for Ms. Hershey and Mr. Click. I know you will enjoy meeting both, and look forward to confirming a date and time on your schedule to present the President's Award to these deserving individuals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Coelho', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tony Coelho
Chairman

TC:DD:sm

Scheduling Proposal

3/29/99

☐ ACCEPT ☐ REGRET ☐ PENDING

TO: Lisa Berg
Director of Scheduling and Advance for the Vice President

FROM: Mary Beth Cahill
Jonathan M. Young

REQUEST: To present the President's Award of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (PCEPD) to its 1997 and 1998 recipients, Laura Hershey and James H. Click Jr.

PURPOSE: To honor the recipients' outstanding contributions in advocating for the employment of people with disabilities.

BACKGROUND: The Honorable Tony Coelho serves as Chairman of PCEPD--a small federal agency whose mission is to communicate, coordinate, and promote public and private efforts to enhance the employment of people with disabilities. The Committee provides information, training, and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families, and individuals with disabilities. It also operates the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a toll-free information service on workplace accommodations and the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Tony Coelho also services as Co-Chair of the President's Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities.

Laura Hershey is the interim Executive Director of Denver's Disability Center for Independent Living and a grass roots leader in the national disability community. Her achievements include the mobilization of the PASS Participants Rights Campaign. This is a national coalition to protect the rights of individuals taking part in the Social Security Administration's Plan to Achieve Self-Support. She is also a staunch supporter of women's rights, especially of women with disabilities.

James Click, Jr. is the founder and president of the LINKAGES program. This Tucson-based, non-profit program connects employers with job openings and job seekers with disabilities. As an employer he as placed 35 employees with disabilities in jobs at

his car dealerships in Arizona and California. Since 1988, 80 employers have placed more than 170 individuals.

Hershey and Click were selected from a national selection of nominees to receive these awards.

DATE AND TIME: TBD

LOCATION: Flexible: either the White House or the hometown of either recipient (Tuscon or Denver, if VPOTUS travel coincides).

DURATION: 15 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Tony Coelho, Chairman of PCEPD
John Lancaster, Executive Director of PCEPD
Board Members and/or Vice-Chairs of PCEPD (4)
Laura Hershey, with family (4)
James Click, Jr., with family (4)

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: TBD

MEDIA COVERAGE: TBD

STAFF CONTACT: Jonathan M. Young
x-67032

ROUTING SLIP

DATE: 4/13/99

FROM: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Scheduling

SUBJECT: To present the President's Award of the President's Committee on Employment of people with Disabilities (PCEPD).
Virginia Apuzzo

Virginia Apuzzo	—	Capricia Marshall	—
Lisa Berg	—	Thurgood Marshall Jr.	—
Samuel Berger	—	Minyon Moore	—
Sidney Blumenthal	—	Bob Nash	—
Mary Beth Cahill	✓	Jennifer Palmieri	—
Phil Caplan	—	John Podesta	—
Davis/Redington	✓	Clark Ray	—
Maria Echaveste	—	Steve Ricchetti	—
Tim Emrich	✓	Bruce Reed	—
Jeff Forbes	—	Dan Rosenthal	—
George Frampton	—	Charles Ruff	—
Nancy Hernreich	—	Patti Solis-Doyle	—
Mickey Ibarra	—	Doug Sosnik	—
Ron Klain	—	Gene Sperling	—
Neal Lane	—	Larry Stein	—
Lisa Levin	—	Todd Stern	—
Ann Lewis	✓	Loretta Ucelli	✓
Bruce Lindsey	—	Melanne Verveer	—
Joe Lockhart	✓	Michael Waldman	✓

Johnathan H. Young ✓

FILE: Pending

COMMENTS: _____

99 MAR 30 10:26

☐ ACCEPT☐ REGRET☐ PENDING

TO: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President
Director of Scheduling

FROM: Mary Beth Cahill *mbc*
Jonathan M. Young

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Hershey and Click were selected from a national selection of nominees to receive these awards.

DATE AND TIME: TBD

LOCATION: Flexible: either the Oval Office or the hometown of either recipient (Tuscon or Denver, if POTUS travel coincides).

DURATION: 15 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Tony Coelho, Chairman of PCEPD
John Lancaster, Executive Director of PCEPD
Board Members and/or Vice-Chairs of PCEPD (4)
Laura Hershey, with family (4)
James Click, Jr., with family (4)

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: TBD

MEDIA COVERAGE: TBD

STAFF CONTACT: Jonathan M. Young
x-67032



PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES

June 8, 1999

Mr. Minyon Moore
Assistant to the President & Director for Public Liaison
Public Liaison Office
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., 2/WW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Minyon:

I am pleased to send you this copy of the FY1998 Annual Report of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. *"Real Solutions for Real Needs: Making a Difference in the Workplace"* chronicles twelve months of progress as the Committee has responded to the real problems faced by employers who want to hire people with disabilities. The diversity of the projects shown here underscores the complex nature of the issues employers face and the Committee's commitment to addressing them.

We have continued our work in FY1999, building on the accomplishments of FY1998 and prior years. Project EMPLOY, launched in March, encourages employers to hire persons with cognitive disabilities in jobs with career potential and benefits, instead of dead-end, entry-level jobs. Our rapidly expanding High School/High Tech Program has added ten new sites, bringing the national total to fifty sites. With the cooperation of members of the local Business Leadership Network, the first of four Employment Fairs was held in Washington, D.C., in late April. Over 25 states are planning a Youth Leadership Forum. Ten new states will hold forums this summer, with the remaining states following in the next two years. We will soon have a Small Business Self-employment Service available by telephone and Internet for entrepreneurs with disabilities, and we have been very active in the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities.

An important part of our success has been the support and cooperation we have received from the White House. With your help, we have created a strong record of increasing employment opportunities for the nation's 54 million citizens with disabilities. With your continued support, and that of our other partners, including employers, labor organizations, people with disabilities and federal agencies, we can and must continue to expand employment opportunities for people with disabilities. I am looking forward to working with you as we build on our successes in the coming months and years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tony Coelho", is written over a stylized line graphic.

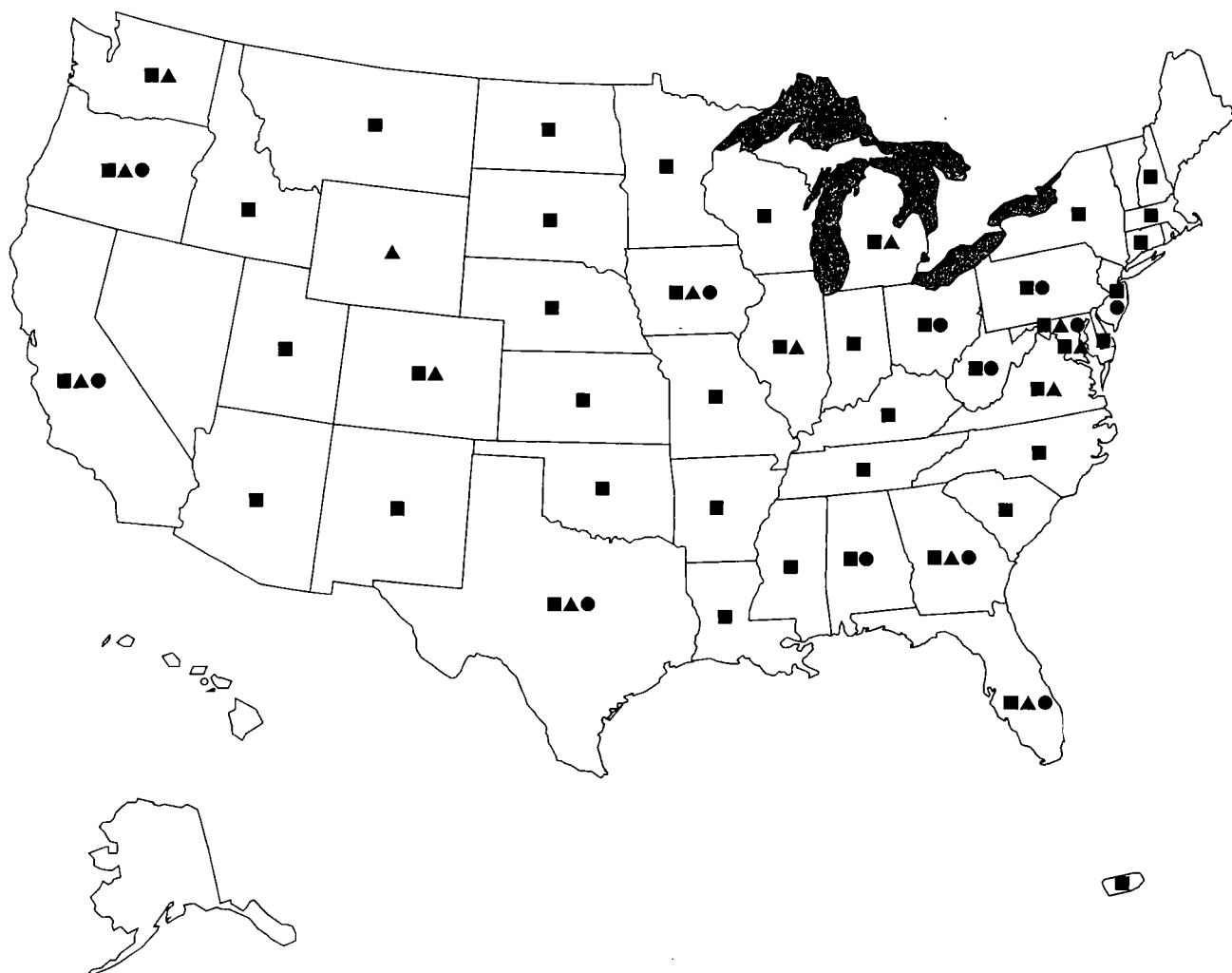
Tony Coelho
Chairman

Enclosure

1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107

202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6219 (FAX)
202-376-6205 (TDD)

REAL SOLUTIONS FOR REAL NEEDS: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORKPLACE



PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 6/3/99

ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY:

ASAP

Subject:

REMARKS: EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE w/ DISAB. AWARDS

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	MOORE	☐	☐
PODESTA	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	REED	☒	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	RUFF	☒	☐
LEW	☒	☐	SOSNIK	☒	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SPERLING	☒	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☒	☐	STEIN	☒	☐
CAHILL	☒	☐	STERN	☐	☐
FRAMPTON	☐	☐	STRETT	☐	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
JOHNSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☒	☐
KLAIN	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
LANE	☐	☐	WALDMAN	☒	☐
LEWIS	☒	☐	YELLEN	☐	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐	<u>JONATHAN YOUNG</u>	☒	☐
LOCKHART	☐	☒	<u>AUDREY HAYNES</u>	☒	☐
MARSHALL	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS:

COMMENTS TO JUNE SHIH

RESPONSE:

Draft 6/3/99 6 pm
Shih

11/11/99 4:10:10

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS FOR PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON
THE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AWARDS
THE WHITE HOUSE
JUNE 4, 1999**

Fifty years ago, President Harry Truman, the very first President to present these awards, set a goal for our nation: To give every American with a disability the chance – and I quote -- “to play their full part in strengthening our nation... [and]to share in the greatest satisfaction of American life – to be independent and self-supporting.”

Today, we gather to honor three Americans whose efforts to bring thousands of men and women with disabilities into the world of work have moved America ever closer to that great -- and just -- goal.

Since the founding of our nation, work has been at the heart of the American Dream. Because millions of Americans have had the opportunity to work and build better lives for themselves and their families, our nation is strong and prosperous. Through work, we reinforce the values that hold our society together – the values of responsibility, perseverance, striving for the future. And in so many ways, we Americans define ourselves, not only by our families and hometowns, but by our work. Often, the first question we ask each other is not “Who are your parents?” or “Where do you live?” but “What do you do?”

Today, there are still too many disabled Americans who have never been allowed to answer that question, who have never had the chance to participate in that essential component of the American Dream. Even as we celebrate more than 18 million new jobs and a nationwide unemployment rate of x percent -- the lowest unemployment in a generation -- 75 percent of Americans with disabilities remain unemployed. And of those unemployed, 72 percent say they want to go to work.

This is not just a missed opportunity for the disabled. It is a missed opportunity for America. In an era of labor shortages, when companies go begging to fill positions they need to stay competitive in our global economy, we cannot afford to ignore millions of potential workers simply because they have a disability. Think of the loss to American industry, the economy, and even our Treasury. Tony Coehlo often likes to say that he represents the only group in America that actually wants to pay more taxes. If we are to sustain and build our prosperity, if we are to uphold our highest ideal of opportunity for all, then we as a nation must work harder to give all Americans the chance to experience the pride of going to work and earning a paycheck.

Today, one of the biggest obstacles to employment for many Americans with disabilities is the fear that they will lose their federal health insurance once they take a job. As many of you know, under current law, people with disabilities cannot work and keep Medicaid or Medicare coverage at the same time. For many disabled Americans, medical bills cost thousands of dollars

beyond what is typically covered by an employer's private insurance. They have no choice but to stay out of the workforce, dependent on federal assistance.

This is not what America is about. This system denies opportunity to millions who are willing to take on the responsibility of work and become full-fledged members of our American community. And we must change it.

Last summer, I called on Congress to free our fellow Americans from this unfair choice between going to work and keeping health insurance. Today, Congress is considering landmark bipartisan legislation to do just that. The Work Incentives Improvement Act, sponsored by Senators Jeffords and Kennedy, has awaited passage in the Senate and the House for months. With more than 75 Senate co-sponsors from both parties, there is no good reason why it should take this long to pass. I have proposed funds in my balanced budget to support this legislation. So I challenge Congress to pass the Jeffords-Kennedy bill right away. Next month, we will mark the ninth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The best way we can celebrate the landmark legislation that literally widened the doors of opportunity for millions is to throw open those doors even wider so that more Americans with disabilities can join the proud ranks of working citizens.

There is much more we can do. In my balanced budget, I am also proposing a \$1,000 tax credit to help people with disabilities afford the specialized transportation, technology, or personal assistance they need to make a successful transition to work. And we must double our efforts to make "assistive technologies" such as voice recognition software, mobile telephones, Braille translators, more widely available to disabled Americans. I challenge Congress to move forward with these proposals.

And today, I am taking immediate action to give more Americans with disabilities the opportunity to become a part of the largest workforce in America. As some of you may know, on Monday, the First Lady, the Vice President and Mrs. Gore and I will be hosting a White House Conference on Mental Health. One of our goals is to help more Americans understand that mental illness is not a character flaw, but a disability. That is why today, I am using my executive authority as President to strip away the outdated barriers that keep people with psychiatric disabilities from serving our nation in the federal government. I am directing all federal agencies to provide applicants with mental illnesses the same opportunities as other applicants with disabilities.

Government must do its part to widen the circle of opportunity to even more Americans with disabilities. But Americans as individuals can also take action. The three citizens we honor today are proof of the difference a single individual can make. I am proud to present these awards to each of them.

First, to Joyce Bender. Fifteen years ago, as Joyce Bender lay in a hospital trauma unit, recovering from a near-fatal cerebral hemorrhage, she made a vow to give something back to the patients who were not so lucky. Through Bender Consulting Services, she has used her own expertise as a professional head-hunter to place people with disabilities in high-wage, high-tech

jobs. Joyce knows that the demand for high-skilled workers will only continue to grow – and she is determined to make sure more people with disabilities will be ready to meet it. To keep her employee roster full, she founded a new program to train even more disabled people in high-tech skills at a local community college. So it is an honor to present this award to Joyce Bender.

Next, to James H. Click, Jr. As the head of nine car dealerships in California and Arizona, Jim Click is an undisputed leader in his field. But he is also unrivaled in his commitment to hiring and extending opportunity to people with disabilities. A few years ago, Jim recognized that he could encourage more businesses to follow his lead by making it easier for them to find workers with the right skills. So he founded Linkages, an organization that brings Tucson businesses and rehabilitation programs together to match qualified people with disabilities to appropriate jobs in the private sector. In a little over a year, more than 170 people have found work through Linkages. It is an honor present this award to Jim Click.

Finally, to Laura Hershey. Laura once said that “disability is not a tragedy... It is powerful.” By speaking her mind, and using her gifts as a writer to point out the shortcomings and possibilities of our society, Laura has found the power to change the world. As the head of a variety of disability organizations and as a private citizen, she has fought to reform our Social Security, housing, transportation systems and other areas to better serve Americans living with disabilities. Economic freedom and self-sufficiency for Americans with disabilities is her goal. I am confident she will not rest until she achieves it. I am proud to present this final award to Laura Hershey.

A high-tech head hunter from Pittsburgh, a car dealer from Tucson, a writer and activist from Denver – our awardees seem to have little in common. But they are bound by their remarkable passion for empowering the disabled. Most of all, each one of them is a true patriot. Harry Truman once said that “we love our country ... because it offers us the chance to lead useful lives and to do what we can for those around us.” I thank each of you for working to give our fellow Americans with disabilities the chance to work and lead useful lives; and in so doing strengthening the ties that bind us all together in love and loyalty to our country.