

In this Issue: **New Online Training Center, Recent Presentations & More**

EARN IN ACTION



Dinah Cohen

Introducing the EARN Online Training Center

This month EARN is pleased to unveil a new resource – the *Dinah Cohen Training Center for Disability Employment and Inclusion*. This one-stop resource for comprehensive, curated multimedia training on disability inclusion offers a wide range of turn-key presentations developed by EARN that employers can use to implement virtual or live disability inclusion training in their workplaces. It is named in honor of Dinah Cohen, a former EARN trainer and long-time leader in the disability employment arena who passed away last year. [Visit the EARN Training Center.](#)

Inclusion in the Sunshine State

Last month, EARN Consultant Derek Shields was in South Florida, where he joined representatives from the Job Accommodation Network (JAN) to educate more than 50 employers on the value of a disability-inclusive workplace and steps they can take to recruit and retain qualified people with disabilities. Like EARN, JAN is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. The presentation was organized by CareerSource Palm Beach County (PBC), the county's arm of Florida's statewide workforce policy and investment board. [Learn more about CareerSource PBC's employer services.](#)

Disability-Inclusive Training

EARN Consultant Derek Shields was recently interviewed by the Human Resources Certification Institute (HRCI) for an article about how employers can ensure their commitment to disability inclusion goes beyond just recruitment and hiring to encompass all aspects of the employment lifecycle, including training and professional development opportunities. In the article, Shields and other experts outline steps employers can take to make training programs accessible and inclusive, and how the two concepts both differ and overlap. [Read the HRCI article.](#)

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT IN THE NEWS

Disability Employment at Davos

As part of the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting in Davos last month, Thorkil Sonne, Chairman of Denmark's Council for Corporate Responsibility and founder of the Specialisterne Foundation, penned an op-ed explaining why people with disabilities represent an untapped talent-source for employers. In the piece, Sonne details how workers with disabilities offer companies the innovative thinking and resilience they need to gain a competitive edge in today's global, knowledge-based economy, often referred to as the "Fourth Industrial Revolution." [Read Sonne's WEF op-ed.](#)

"Working Works" Posters

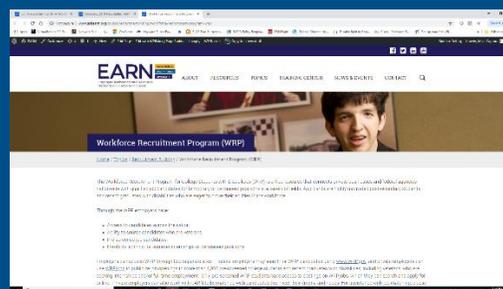
As part of its new "Working Works" public service announcement (PSA) campaign, the Campaign for Disability Employment developed a series of posters that employers can display to emphasize their commitment to helping people stay at or return to work following injury or illness. Funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, the CDE is a collaborative effort among several disability and business organizations – including EARN – that is working to change attitudes about disability and employment. [Order or download a poster.](#)

Vocational Rehabilitation "In Focus"

The Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) recently launched a newsletter called "In Focus." Published quarterly, this newsletter highlights innovative ways vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies are fulfilling their charge as core members of state workforce systems by serving both individual and employer customers, collaborating with public agencies and community partners, and helping inform and shape federal and state policy and practices. View the [January 2019 issue](#) or [subscribe to the newsletter.](#)

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ASK EARN



Q: We are starting to advertise and interview for our summer internship program and hope to attract some qualified college students with disabilities. Do you have tips on how to do so?

A: Yes! It is great that you are thinking about this early in the process. As you likely know, internships are an effective way to not only fill anticipated short-term staffing needs but also evaluate potential future employees. If they are inclusive, internships can also help diversify your workforce. To get started, you might want to contact the disability student services offices of local colleges and universities. You can also take advantage of the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP), which helps match employers with college students and recent graduates with disabilities seeking internships. [Learn more about the WRP.](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 12, 2019, 2:00 p.m. ET

Webinar: Current Events in Accommodation

Presented by the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), this webinar will feature Principal Consultant/Legislative Specialist Linda Carter Batiste and Principal Consultant/Technical Specialist Beth Loy, who will discuss timely trends and topics in workplace accommodations. It is part of JAN's monthly webinar series; future topics include assistive technology, autism at work and the Americans with Disabilities Act, among others. [Register for the Feb. 12 webinar.](#)

March 1, 2019

Deadline: Disability Employment Tracker

The deadline to complete the 2019 Disability Employment Tracker™ is March 1. Sponsored by the National Organization on Disability (NOD), this tool provides companies a confidential assessment of their disability inclusion policies and practices. Completion is required to be considered for DiversityInc's annual list of *Top 10 Companies for People with Disabilities*, and top scorers have the opportunity to earn an NOD "Leading Disability Employer Seal." [Learn more about the Tracker.](#)

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EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



Streetcar 82 Brewing Co.

Using improvements in technology to facilitate better communication, people who are deaf are increasingly starting their own businesses, and in so doing, encouraging other employers to become more accessible and welcoming to customers and employees who are deaf. Streetcar 82 Brewing Co. in Hyattsville, MD is one example. It was co-founded by three former Gallaudet University classmates who are deaf and share a passion for making beer – and bringing people, both deaf and hearing, together. [Learn more about the company and other businesses owned by entrepreneurs who are deaf.](#)

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The Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN) is a resource for employers seeking to recruit, hire, retain and advance qualified employees with disabilities. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy under a cooperative agreement with The Viscardi Center. For more information, visit AskEARN.org

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