



DisAbility Monthly

January 2008

Serving Knox County
Local Workforce Investment Area 3

New year, same goal : employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Results FY 2007: from the Tennessee Association of **Community Action**

- Over 7,380 Tennesseans obtained employment after participating in a community action employment initiative;
- Over 4,980 Tennesseans obtained pre-employment skills required for employment, ABE/GED, and/or post-secondary education and received training program certificate or diploma in order to acquire or maintain employment;
- Over 11,985 TN families obtained care for a child or other dependent in order to acquire or maintain employment;
- Over 8,810 TN families obtained reliable transportation in order to acquire or maintain employment;
- Over 2,200 TN families participated in community action tax preparation activities and received over \$1.85 million in tax credits and savings.
- Over 31,500 disabled persons in TN were able to maintain an independent living situation as a result of receiving comprehensive services from community action.

The Knoxville Area Employment Consortium invites you to a presentation by:

Sherion Holmes, Senior Stakeholder Relationship Tax Consultant for the IRS

Tuesday, January 15 2008 from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Tennessee Career Center at 1610 University Avenue, Knoxville, TN

The Internal Revenue Service is reaching out to educate and inform people with disabilities, caregivers, and the organizations that serve them regarding the interaction of public benefits and the receipt of federal tax credits, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Seating is limited. Please R.S.V.P to Warren Secrest, 865-594-2756.

THINK GLOBALLY: “You can steer yourself....any direction you choose.” Dr. Seuss, Oh the Places You’ll Go!

The mission statement of the Council on International Educational Exchange is, "to help people gain understanding, acquire knowledge, and develop skills for living in a globally interdependent and culturally diverse world." The CIEE entices you to “Make the World Your Laboratory,” and manages 97 study abroad programs in 35 countries in 40 different subject areas. And they actively solicit students and teachers with disabilities to enroll in the programs, by “working closely with disabled participants, resident directors and community and campus disability organizations to ensure appropriate and effective accommodations.” www.ciee.org/program_resources/knowledge/disability.aspx



This and that:

→ Reminder: Knox County **Schools will reopen Tuesday, January 8**. Please drive carefully. ←

For the job placement wizards out there, try this job search crawler..... www.indeed.com

From the Department of Health and Human Services and the National Institutes of Health comes a handy dandy **Body Mass Index** calculator that can help us lead a healthier lifestyle: www.nhlbisupport.com/bmi

“Parents, educators, advocates, and attorneys come to Wrightslaw for accurate, reliable information about special education law, education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities.” Volumes of information is available about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (**IDEA**), Individual Education Plans, Section 504, transition issues, parental protection, advocacy, and many other topics. www.wrightslaw.com

Have a question about Tennessee’s Labor Laws? Visit the TN Department of Labor and Workforce Development ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ site at: www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/lisques.html

The TN Microboards Association, Inc. would like to invite you and other interested community members to a meeting to learn more about **Microboards**. The meeting will be at Panera Bread at 205 N. Peters Road, Knoxville, TN from 10:00 am until noon, Saturday January 26, 2007. It is accessible by bus and has free parking. Their phone number is 865-769-4292. If you have questions, please contact Lorre Leon Mendelson, Statewide Field Organizer for the TMA at 615-594-5899 or lorreleon@bellsouth.net For more info about the Microboard alternative for self-directed and participatory managed care, see: www.tnmicroboards.org

Workforce Development: This past year, Tennessee ranked 3rd in the nation in regards to federal performance standards for the Workforce Investment Act, and the state was granted a \$1.7 million incentive award.

The next East Region Employment Consortium meeting will be Wednesday, January 23rd from 10am-12n at the Tennessee Career Center on University Avenue. Bill Reynolds of Adult Community Training in Loudon County will speak about the successes of the organization’s job placement activities.

Mobility, communication, self-care, self-direction, interpersonal skills, work tolerance, and work skills are..??

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development has an online registration procedure for job seekers. The process allows customers to create their own account with the ability to save and review all of their job search results. <https://ecmats.state.tn.us/eCMATS/>

For information about your Local Workforce Development System and Career Center partners please visit: <http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/cc/ccpartners.htm>

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This project is funded by the Department of Labor and the Social Security Administration, and administered by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The Tennessee Career Centers are an equal opportunity program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. kif