Ollie Webb CENTER, INC.
Enriching Lives, Influencing Attitudes
Serving Career Solutions, Inc. & The Arc of Omaha

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Join Career Solutions, Inc. in Observing National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October

Each October is ***National Disability Employment Awareness Month*** by Congressional designation. The 2008 theme for this observance is **"America's People, America's Talent... America's Strength!"** "Full access to community life for Americans with disabilities is an imperative and this year's theme conveys the tremendous contributions that these Americans can make in the workplace," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao.

"It is important to note that having people with disabilities in the workplace is valuable to the individual and to businesses," said Neil Romano, assistant secretary for the Labor Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy. "People with disabilities are the next great wave of diversity, and diversity fosters innovation to drive our economy and our nation into the future."

Suggested activities:

- Patronize businesses which employ people with disabilities and thank the manager or owner for doing so. Local businesses include Bag 'N Save, Baker's, Burger King, Holiday Inn, Home Depot, Hy-Vee, Krispy Kreme, McDonalds, No Frills, Panera Bread, Pizza Hut, Target, Wal-Mart and Wendy's.

- Hire employees who have disabilities if you are a manager or business owner.

- Be a "natural support" for a coworker with disabilities by providing job-related assistance.

- Invite a representative of Career Solutions, Inc. to share a presentation at your school, service club, business, or place of worship. Call 342-4418 to make arrangements.

- Visit a website to be better informed of the issues:
  www.dol.gov/odep
  www.disabilityinfo.gov
  www.diversityworld.com
  www.jan.wvu.edu
  www.worksupport.com

- Watch the movie *Music Within* (2007, available on DVD) with a group of family or friends.

- Get involved – share your time and/or a monetary donation with Ollie Webb Center, Inc. or another organization serving individuals with disabilities.

Note: Career Solutions, Inc. at the Ollie Webb Center does not endorse the content or opinions expressed in the above movie or websites but offers them to initiate conversations about people who experience developmental disabilities.