

In this Issue: **Brewing Inclusion in Milwaukee, Workforce Recruitment Program & More**

WHAT'S NEW

Brewing Inclusion in Milwaukee

Last week, members of the EARN team were in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where they had the opportunity to hear and learn from local employers about their experiences recruiting and retaining people with disabilities and discuss strategies for improving education around the issue in the state. The event, which included representation from Baird, Manpower and Aurora Health Care, among others, was organized in collaboration with the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce and TransCen, Inc., a disability employment and training service provider with offices in Milwaukee as well as Washington, D.C. and San Francisco. Learn more about the [Wisconsin LGBT Chamber](#) or [TransCen, Inc.](#)

Workforce Recruitment Program

In a recent U.S. Department of Labor blog post, Lauren Karas, a business development specialist in the Office of Disability Employment Policy, shared how the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP) helped launch her federal career – and that of many young students and recent graduates with disabilities from colleges and universities across the country. She also explained how the program benefits employers, both federal agencies and private-sector, by connecting them with highly qualified students and recent graduates and offering the opportunity to assess the skills and abilities of potential future hires. Read the [blog post](#) or learn more about the WRP for [federal](#) or [private](#) employers.

American Heart Month

Fittingly, February is American Heart Month, a national annual campaign that educates about heart disease and how to prevent or manage it. As such, the month is also an opportune time to learn about workplace accommodation ideas for employees who may have heart conditions. As part of its Accommodation and Compliance Series, the Job Accommodation Network (JAN) offers a wealth of information on the topic. Like EARN, JAN is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. Learn more about [accommodations for people with heart conditions](#) or [American Heart Month](#).

Thinking Accessible

A new video put out by BuzzFeed News educates about how people who are blind or visually impaired, including one of BuzzFeed's News Editors, use and interact with different types of technologies. It also illustrates how technology – if it's accessible – can drastically enhance life and workplace productivity for people with a range of disabilities, just like it does for all people. Fully captioned and audio described, the video itself is also an example of accessible technology in action. [View the video](#) or learn more about [workplace accessible technology](#).

ASKEARN.ORG SPOTLIGHT



Employer Financial Incentives

A variety of federal and state government financial incentives can help employers capitalize on the skills and talents people with disabilities. This section of the EARN website helps employers understand these different incentives by outlining federal and state tax benefits, including many that support worksite accessibility enhancements and accommodations, as well as several initiatives specific to veterans and return-to-work/stay-at-work programs. [Visit the Employer Financial Incentives webpage.](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 15, 2018, 2:00 p.m. ET

Virtual Talk: Facebook and the Accessible Workplace

In this installment of the Partnership on Employment and Accessible Technology's (PEAT) monthly *PEAT Talks* series, Facebook's Director of Accessibility Jeff Weiland and Director of Policy Monica Desai will discuss why and how the company has made accessibility a priority and provide an overview of accessibility features on Facebook as well as its popular enterprise collaboration software, Workplace. [Learn more about the February 15 PEAT Talk.](#)

February 22, 2018, 1:00 p.m. ET

Webinar: Intro to Accessibility: What Employers Need to Know to Create a Technology-Accessible Workplace

Today, technology is one of the central drivers of productivity, for all workers. But when technology isn't accessible, it can cause employers to miss out on potential talent. In this webinar, EARN and the Partnership on Employment & Accessible Technology (PEAT) will discuss the basics of accessible workplace technology and strategies for integrating accessibility standards and best practices into the workplace, as well as tips for creating accessible documents and websites. [Register for the February 22 webinar.](#)

March 1, 2018

Deadline: Disability Employment Tracker

The deadline to participate in the 2018 Disability Employment Tracker™ is March 1, 2018. Sponsored by the National Organization on Disability (NOD), this tool provides companies a confidential assessment of their disability inclusion policies and practices, providing tailored reports in four areas. By completing the 2018 survey, companies may be eligible to compete for the 2018 "NOD Leading Disability Employer Seal" and the 2018 DiversityInc Top 50 Companies for Diversity. [Learn more about the Disability Employment Tracker.](#)

[Back to Top](#)

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



Marriott

Global hotel conglomerate Marriott International recently added to its “#GoldenRule” media campaign with a 30-second advertisement based on a true story of a hotel associate who took steps to learn American Sign Language in order to communicate with guests who use it. Titled “A Wonderful Day,” the spot adds to a collection of clips illustrating Marriott’s commitment to making guests feel welcome through exemplary customer service. [View the Marriott ad.](#)

[Back to Top](#)

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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