Putnam County Disability Mentoring Day October 17, 2012





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CAREER EXPLORATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

National Disability Mentoring Day began in 1999 as part of a White House effort to increase the profile of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), celebrated every October.

The goals of Disability Mentoring Day are:

- To enhance internship and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
- To promote disability as a central component of diversity recruitment for a more inclusive workforce.
- To dispel employers' fears about hiring people with disabilities.
- To increase confidence among students and job seekers with disabilities.
- To launch a year-round effort to foster mentoring opportunities.

On October 17th, Putnam County residents with disabilities who are interested will be matched with mentors. Participants will explore careers through hands-on experience and on-site job shadowing to learn about jobs that interest them and how to prepare to enter the workforce. Employers/supervisors gain an increased awareness that people with disabilities represent an overlooked talent pool.

The Putnam County Executive's Office has committed to providing up to 12 mentoring opportunities this year in varied departments throughout the county.

Tina Cornish-Lauria, Executive Director of CAREERS for People with Disabilities Inc. and Steve Unger, Chairman of the Putnam County Coordinating Council for People with Disabilities, will coordinate matching participants with county positions.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in participating in Putnam County's Disability Mentoring Day to start exploring local career opportunities, please call Tina Cornish-Lauria at CAREERS at (845) 225-8007 x102 or e-mail <u>CAREERS forPeople@aol.com</u>.