

Mass Workforce Issuance

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Policy Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Board Chairs
Workforce Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: September 10, 2015

Subject: **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

Purpose: To notify local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce development partners that October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Background: Held annually during the month of October, National Disability Employment Awareness Month is led by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, but its true spirit lies in the many observances held at the grassroots level across the nation every year. The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

Employers of all sizes and in all industries and all American Job Centers are encouraged to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month. For specific ideas about how Career Centers can support National Disability Employment Awareness Month, visit the [ODEP website](#).

This year's theme is: *My disability is one part of who I am*. Suggestions range from simple, such as putting up a poster, to comprehensive, such as implementing a disability education program. Posters in English and Spanish and other resources can be ordered directly from <http://promotions.usa.gov/odep.html>. All such initiatives play an important part in fostering a more inclusive workforce; one where every person is recognized for his or her abilities – every day of every month.

Action

Required: Please make this information available to all Career Center staff.