Resource for Creating Inclusive Service Programs

Center for Persons With Disabilities

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The December 2009 issue of the Champions for Inclusive Communities Newsletter highlights a resource that trains service programs- local, state, and national- how to create an inclusive atmosphere and environment that will encourage the employment of persons with disabilities.

The Handbook for the Inclusion of People with Disabilities in National and Community Service Programs is published by The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), an organization that was created in 1993 and engages more than 2 million Americans annually in improving communities through service. The Handbook provides information on how to make national and community service programs more inclusive for persons with disabilities.

Inclusive services start with program managers who exhibit positive attitudes that ensure the respect and dignity of individuals with disabilities by using appropriate language and behavior. Inclusive services look at the physical environment for accessibility, as well as accommodations that will facilitate employing persons with disabilities.

This Handbook includes references on how to create inclusive environments, disability-related laws, and recruitment and outreach tactics. It will assist providers to fully and meaningfully include individuals with disabilities in national and community service programs.

Upon request, this material can be made available in alternate formats for people with disabilities.