

## Center for Disability Inclusion Monthly News & Updates for February 2022

Expand your disability inclusion knowledge with Webinars and Learning Sessions.

- **February 9** from 8:00 to 9:30 am CST. "Disability Inclusion Bite-Sized Learning Modules for Employers: Recognizing and Implementing a Request for Reasonable Accommodation and Project Search-Journey to Work". Offered by Disability:IN Minnesota. Learn more and register at <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Please-Join-Us-for-Our-February-Member-Meeting.html?soid=1105271777014&aid=0ifw8jqu0w4>
- **February 17** from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm CST. "DEI Trends in the Workplace - Holistic Perspectives". Presenters: Claudia Schnabel, President and CEO, Schabel Solutions and Darla Wilkerson, CEO, Center for Disability Inclusion. Learn more and register at <https://www.centerfordisabilityinclusion.org/webinars.html>
- **February 24** from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm CST. "Using a Sourcing Network to Drive Disability Employment". Offered by Disability:IN Wisconsin Learn more and register at <https://disabilityinwisconsin.org/event/using-a-sourcing-network-to-drive-disability-employment/>
- **March 9** from 10:00 to 11:00 am CST. "Stand Up and Be Counted: Strategies to Increase Self-Identification". Presenter: Michael Murray, GT Independence. Learn more and register at <https://www.centerfordisabilityinclusion.org/webinars.html>

**Disability Inclusion Network meetings are 3rd Tuesday of month from 9:00 to 10:00 AM CST.** Features 1-2 partner spotlights sharing about their disability inclusion efforts, insights, challenges and successes. Free for partners; prospective partners may attend 2x as guest. Upcoming meetings and speakers are:

- February 15 - Great Southern Bank and LMV Automotive.
- March 15 - Missouri Dept of Mental Health and Burns & McDonnell.
- April 19 – Hallmark

Learn more and register at <https://www.centerfordisabilityinclusion.org/upcoming-events.html>

### Message from our CEO Darla Wilkerson.

This year I want to be intentional in my efforts and hope each of you will want the same. Being intentional is about **bringing commitment, focus and attention** to something important to you. Being intentional helps us become more present and achieve bigger and better goals in our work and life. When we are intentional, we bring a clear purpose, structure, and positive mindset to our work.

Everyone has great influence no matter what position we hold. We can be intentional with that influence in our own behavior and in encouraging others around us. We can create positive, inclusive work cultures that promote a sense of belonging for all people with disabilities. The Center for Disability Inclusion has an exciting year planned for elevating disability inclusion conversations and practices and

we want you to be as involved as possible. We are looking forward to connecting with you this year and encourage you to get intentional by attending our professional development opportunities. We have plenty for you to choose from, as well as consultation that can be customized to your business.

I invite you to get registered for our upcoming webinars and monthly Network meetings. You can gain a great deal by just being present and engaged in the conversation. Be Intentional!

Congrats to our 2022 Board.

- Kathleen Cooper, President - Enterprise Bank & Trust
- Michael Murray, Vice President – GT Independence
- Kathy Smith, Treasurer - Children's Mercy Hospital of KC
- Jennifer Hertha, Secretary - UMB
- George Calvert, Past President - Jack Henry & Associates
- Teresa Salinas, Director - Cerner Corporation
- Larisa Brown, Director - Hallmark
- Derrick Nelson, Director - St. Luke's Health Systems, Boise
- Mike Wiley, Director - The Whole Person
- Silas Dulan, Director - Evergy
- Caroline Magruder, Director - Rediscover

We're proud to announce the Center for Disability Inclusion has earned the GuideStar 2021 Platinum Seal of Transparency! Now, everyone can see our strategy, metrics, and achievements. Check out our GuideStar profile at <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/26-4700449>

Our 2021 Year in Review can be viewed in several formats including alt-text version on our website at <https://www.centerfordisabilityinclusion.org/2021-year-in-review.html>

Did You Know?

- Plans are in the works to launch our new "Boost Your Job Search" program for candidates with disabilities to guide them in building their profile on JobsAbility to maximize their online presence and employment opportunities. Every \$35 donation pays for a candidate to attend by covering costs for meeting space, instructor time and transportation. We're inviting you to help us raise \$4,500 to connect more candidates with partner employers who are hiring. Make a donation here and watch our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages for updates and ways you can continue to support this impactful initiative!
- **New Resource for 2022.** The **2022 Calendar of Disability Awareness-Related Dates** will help you stay up-to-date on important events and be intentional and proactive in your disability events planning for the year. Located on the [Resources](#) page of our website.

- Tiered Partnership Options for Business and Community Agencies. CDI offers a variety of tiered options that allow you to partner at whatever level best fits your organization. If your 2022 plans include advancing your disability inclusion efforts, we would welcome the opportunity for an exploratory conversation. Check out your Partnership options at <https://www.centerfordisabilityinclusion.org/options--benefits-detail.html> or contact Darla at [dwilkerson@centerfordisabilityinclusion.org](mailto:dwilkinson@centerfordisabilityinclusion.org)

Thank you to the 60+ business brands in partnership with us. Renewing this month is JE Dunn. New this month is Madonna School & Community-Based Services.

Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn. More information and resources on our website at [www.CenterforDisabilityInclusion.org](http://www.CenterforDisabilityInclusion.org)