

# Monthly news & updates

CenterForDisabilityInclusion.org

*Partnering for Workplace Solutions*



January 2022

## expand your disability inclusion knowledge



### *Learning Sessions*

**January 12 - 8:00-9:30 am CST**  
**"The Power of Disability ERGs:  
Influencing Inclusion & Intersectionality  
in Hybrid Workplaces"**

Presenters: Josh Tripp, Mayo Clinic; Kelly  
Risser, US Bank; Dawn Peck, Best Buy.

Hosted by Disability:IN Minnesota.

[More info and register](#)

**February 17 - 11:30 am CST**  
**"DEI Trends in the Workplace - Holistic  
Perspectives"**

Presenters: Claudia Schabel, President and  
CEO, Schabel Solutions and Darla Wilkerson,  
CEO, Center for Disability Inclusion.

[Learn more and register](#)



### *Disability Inclusion Network*

Meetings are 3rd Tuesday of month at 9:00 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.

[Learn more and register](#)

**January 18 - Garmin / Workforce Partnership**  
**February 15 - Great Southern Bank / LMV**  
**March 15 - Missouri Dept of Mental Health**

## message from our CEO



*Darla Wilkerson, CEO*

A shout out to all who journeyed with us in 2021, thank you for your continued engagement in disability inclusion and your support for the Center for Disability Inclusion. Our new brand was announced in September at our annual conference and we have had nothing but amazingly favorable feedback. This allows us to continue to expand our services across the country. As we all work together with sheer determination not to let disability inclusion be pushed aside or ignored, I am gratefully for the togetherness I see and tenacity it is taking to keep our focus. Thank you!

Our 2021 Year in Review will be out soon. This is a way for us to highlight accomplishments and promote our partners who continue to team up with us to elevate disability inclusion in the workplace, as well as those who have joined us this past year.

As we enter a new year with new opportunities, I wanted to thank our outgoing board of director members, Donna Ward with Federal Reserve Bank of KC and Cecily Bee now with Henderson Engineering, for their years of service to this organization. Both Donna and Cecily have contributed their time and energy to helping advance disability inclusion. We truly appreciate them and recognize their contributions. Also, I want to thank George Calvert with Jack Henry & Associates for his service as board president the past two years. George's leadership has been instrumental in our growth. Each of the board members contribute their time and talents to ensure we stay mission driven and continue to help advance disability inclusion in the workplace and marketplace. I also want to thank our leadership team; each of you display great strength in carrying out this work and I value you and all your accomplishments.

I am excited about 2022 and the continued possibilities for growth. I look forward to working closer together with each current partner and those yet to join us. Together we ARE making a difference.



## did you know

### Plans to Launch New "Boost Your Job Search" Program

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 one candidate to attend by covering costs for meeting space, instructor time and transportation.** We're inviting individuals, foundations and corporate donors 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 exciting new initiative!

### 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 with CDI](#) or [contact Darla](#).

### Shop Amazon and Support the Center for Disability Inclusion

AmazonSmile is a program for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no extra cost to you. When shopping AmazonSmile, select the Center for Disability Inclusion as your charity of choice and we'll receive 0.5% of each purchase. For more information about AmazonSmile visit <http://amzn.to/2vMHosh>

## thank you to our partners!



Over 60 brands in Partnership



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