

# FLORIDA GRANTOR

Official Publication of The Able Trust • [www.abletrust.org](http://www.abletrust.org)

## Fall 2009

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## Celebrating a Decade of Leadership



2009 Youth Leadership Forum delegates participate in "A Day at the Capital".

The 2009 Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) concluded on Sunday, July 26 with heart-felt goodbyes as delegates prepared to make the journey back to their respective homes. Though saddened by the thought of leaving behind new friends, participants took home a fiery determination to embrace the life-changing lessons they learned at YLF and emerge as leaders in their community.

Event highlights included a visit to the Florida Capitol House Chambers, where delegates participated in a mock session, and the annual Career Fair and Mentors Luncheon. More than 20 mentors participated in this year's career fair, representing 13 different vocations ranging from Arts & Entertainment to Sports & Recreation. Mentors spent the morning and early afternoon sharing their experiences and advice on the critical skills necessary to land that dream job.

Delegate Jonathan Heimowitz from Pensacola enjoyed the unique environment provided by the YLF. "It's nice to socialize with people who have the same and different disabilities," he said. "I come here and everyone has something in common with each other."

More than 80 percent of the staffers and facilitators that volunteer their time during the YLF were once delegates themselves. In the spirit of leadership, these individuals return year after year to lend their talents to the next generation. Anthony La Cava, a 2001 alumnus of the YLF, is an example of what delegates can achieve with hard work and dedication. He is now an Apple Certified Network Services Engineer in Boston who returns to the YLF every summer to share his experiences with the new delegates.

His pathway to success began by being vocal about his disability instead of hiding it, a skill he learned from attending the YLF. "I was able to start advocating for myself when I got into college, where you don't have someone there all the time advocating for (you), and then into the work environment," he said.

This year marked the 10th anniversary of the Forum, an event sponsored by The Able Trust. With help from public and private partners, high school students with disabilities from across Florida participated in four days of leadership and social training at no cost to the participants. This marvelous support removed all financial barriers to attendance, and thus opened participation opportunities to everyone.

The 2010 Youth Leadership Forum is scheduled for July 21 - 25. ■

THE  
ABLE  
TRUST™

The Able Trust's mission is to be the leader in providing Floridians with disabilities fair employment opportunities through grant programs, public awareness, education and policy recommendations.

# THE ABLE TRUST™

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We'd love to hear from you! If you would like to share your disability-related story ideas, events, questions, comments, or are more interested in learning about The Able Trust, please call us at (888) 838-2253 or visit our website at [www.abletrust.org](http://www.abletrust.org).

## *A Message from the President Disability Employment Awareness Month Recognized*



Each year for the past several years, Florida has recognized October as Disability Employment Awareness Month. During the month The Able Trust hosts several events and provides support for many others, encouraging all communities and businesses to work together to increase opportunities for employment for people with disabilities. October is special because of its purpose and because of the partnerships it encourages. We are very pleased to work with partners such as the Division for Vocational Rehabilitation, The Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Office of the Governor, and members of the Cabinet, among others.

The road to employment, and for many, self-support, often begins before the age of 18, and we believe that is especially true for young people with disabilities. It is well known that individual ambition and future plans can be encouraged or discouraged at a young age. The young people we work with have had a wide range of support, from well-meaning but limiting protective support to the discouragement of being too ambitious, to full support and a climate of high expectations. The Able Trust believes in this climate of high expectations for young people, and we have put our resources behind that belief. Our Youth Leadership Forum, our Florida High School/High Tech program, and our youth mentoring activities work together to provide the maximum source of information and support available in Florida for young people with disabilities.

This summer, our Youth Leadership Forum hosted 37 new students, brought back 22 student-mentors, and welcomed a number of adult volunteers to four days of intense leadership training. Students are exposed to many career options and taught to set goals, participate in their communities, and learn more about their public responsibility. The participants of the YLF are phenomenal individuals: I met one young man who was fluent in Italian despite his Down's syndrome. Eight young people with various types of autism participated. Several moved with assistive equipment, from wheelchairs to walkers to canes. Some were deaf and some were blind. All grew immensely over the four days, and committed to active pursuit of a productive life beyond high school.

Many of these students are participants in the Florida High School/High Tech (HS/HT) program that is administered through The Able Trust office and financially supported by The Able Trust and the DVR. This program prepares the students for employment in a number of ways including transition skills training, summer internships, and leadership skills education. The success of the HS/HT program is very impressive: More than 100 high schools participated in the program in 36 counties last year. From those HS/HT programs, 239 students secured employment (the work-based learning principle). The program has a much lower than average dropout rate of only 2%, and 86% of the program's graduates moved on to post-secondary education or jobs. The training that the HS/HT program provides to students with disabilities readies them for the world of work like no other program available in Florida. We honor the career plans of these students during Disability Employment Awareness Month. And we also honor and respect the courage and commitment of those wonderful businesses that take a chance on people with disabilities and are willing to share the practical, business rewards of expanding and diversifying their workforce to include all Floridians.

### **Susanne F. Homant**

*President & CEO, The Able Trust*

# Grant Awards for the First Quarter of 2010

## *Sertoma Speech and Hearing Foundation*

The Sertoma Speech and Hearing Foundation will receive \$28,498 for Employer Sensitivity and Awareness Training, to provide disability sensitivity training to employers located in Pasco and Hernando counties and facilitate the placement and job retention rate for individuals with disabilities.

## *The Southwest Florida Job Squad, Inc.*

The Southwest Florida Job Squad, Inc. will receive \$45,000 for Employment Services in order to allow Employment Specialists to assist individuals with disabilities in a five-county area of southwest Florida (Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry).

## *Visual Innovations & Solutions*

Visual Innovations & Solutions will receive \$11,000 for Empowering People with Disabilities Through Adaptive Technology for Employment, to provide assistance in gaining access and training in adaptive technology for individuals with disabilities in Volusia county to succeed in the workplace.

## *Personnel Development Services*

Personnel Development Services will receive \$36,585 for Workforce Introduction Training (WIT), to provide for intensive employment skills training for students with disabilities in Taylor, Madison and Jefferson counties of rural north Florida.

## *Epilepsy Services of West Central Florida*

Epilepsy Services of West Central Florida will receive \$40,800 for Epilepsy Employment Opportunity Program, to provide employment placement services to individuals with epilepsy in Polk, Hardee, Hillsborough and Highland counties in south central Florida.

## *Florida Outreach Center for the Blind, Inc.*

Florida Outreach Center for the Blind, Inc. will receive \$34,994 for Teaching the Skills to Place the Blind on a Career Path, to provide employment skills training encompassing adaptive equipment, mobility instruction and computer training for individuals with visual impairment in Palm Beach County.

## *Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services of Florida, Inc*

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services of Florida, Inc. will receive \$28,000 for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Employment Success, for a program providing a communication class for individuals and their co-workers to assist the deaf and hard of hearing with successful employment in Pasco and Hernando counties. ■



Judge Ricky Polston addresses Youth Leadership Forum delegates in the House Chambers of the Florida Capital.

- Abilities Foundation
- Abilities of Florida, Inc.
- Ability 1st
- Accessible Alternatives, Inc.
- ACT Corporation
- Action Disability Advocates, Inc.
- Advance Ability Solutions
- Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities
- AFIRE of Pasco County, Inc.
- Against All Odds-Macular Degeneration Network
- Agency for Community Treatment Services, Inc.
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Agency for Workforce Innovation
- Aids Community Project of Tampa Bay
- American Foundation for Visual Rehabilitation
- American Habilitation Services, Inc.
- American with Disabilities Working Group
- Ann Storck Center, Inc.
- Apalachee Center, Inc.
- ARC, Inc.
- ARC Alachua County
- ARC Florida
- ARC Gadsden
- ARC Gateway, Inc.
- ARC Glades Area
- ARC Jackson County
- ARC Madison-Jefferson
- ARC Marion, Inc.
- ARC Nassau
- ARC Nature Coast
- ARC of Alachua County
- ARC of Bradford County
- ARC of Broward
- ARC of Indian River County
- ARC of Martin County
- ARC of Okeechobee
- ARC of Palm Beach County
- ARC of Putnam County
- ARC Ridge Area
- ARC South Florida, Inc.
- ARC St. John's County, Inc.
- ARC St. Lucie County
- ARC Sumter County
- ARC Upper Pinellas
- ARC Volusia
- Archways Behavioral Healthcare
- Association for the Development of the Exceptional
- Axon Technologies, Inc.
- Bay Point Schools, Inc.
- Bayview Center for Mental Health, Inc.
- Behavioral Health Services
- Bethune-Cookman College
- Big Bend Workforce Center
- Blind Americans, Inc.
- Boley Centers for Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.
- Brain & Spinal Cord Injury Program
- Brain Injury Association of Florida
- Brevard Achievement Center
- Brevard Community College
- Brevard Public Schools
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
- Bureau Chief for Medicaid Services
- CARC-Advocates for Citizens with Disabilities, Inc.
- Caring & Sharing CIL
- CCAR Services, Inc.
- CCDH, Inc.
- Celestial Therapeutic & Ornamental Gardens
- Center for Drug Free Living
- Center for Independence, Technology and Education
- Center for Independent Living of Broward
- Center for Independent Living of Central FL- Polk office
- Center for Independent Living of Central Florida
- Center for Independent Living of North Central Florida
- Center for Independent Living of Northwest Florida
- Center for Independent Living of South Florida
- Center for Independent Living of Southwest Florida
- Center for Independent Living of the Keys
- Center for Positive Connections
- Center for Space Education
- Center for the Visually Impaired
- CHAC-Sarasota/Manatee Co. HSHT
- Charter School at National Deaf Academy
- Chipola Junior College
- Citrus Hearing Impaired Program Services, Inc.
- Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.
- Communication Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Community Center for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

## Breaking Down Barriers for Students and Job Seekers with Disabilities

Florida Business Executives and Employers Participate in Disability Mentoring Day

**B**uilding relationships with business executives, gaining on-the-job experience, and helping employers break down barriers: This year's Florida Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) was a win-win event for people with disabilities and participating businesses. On October 21, career professionals across Florida shared their career experiences, serving as on-the-job mentors to nearly 2,000 students and job seekers with disabilities.

In 57 counties representing more than 150 towns and cities in Florida, young people and job seekers with disabilities were matched with more than 1,000 professionals from hundreds of companies including: Kennedy Space Center at NASA, CVS Pharmacies, Publix Supermarkets, Inc., Darden Restaurants, SunTrust Banks and ClearChannel Radio.

"Mentees" spent the day observing job responsibilities and getting a better understanding of the workplace environment. Participants were given the opportunity to experience the day-to-day activities required of their desired occupation and the skills and education requirements specific to a job in that career field. Employers and employees gained valuable knowledge of the benefits of working alongside an individual with a disability.

"Every year, DMD gets better and better," said Sally Ash, assistant director of Disability Mentoring Day for The Able Trust and chair of the Florida Statewide Planning Committee. "Florida continues to lead the nation with the most employer-mentee matches and it's because of the strong support we get from the business community and the local organizations that seek to improve the lives of Floridians with disabilities."

Florida Disability Mentoring Day 2009 was launched on October 1 in Tallahassee at the annual Disability Employment Awareness Month celebration, hosted by the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, The Agency

for Workforce Innovation, and The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. The event was sponsored by The Able Trust. Governor Charlie Crist served as Honorary Chair for this year's DMD activities.

"I am pleased to once again serve as an honorary chair during this year's Disability Mentoring Day," said Crist. "I firmly believe that Floridians with disabilities are an important part of the Sunshine State's workforce and when people with disabilities want to work, they deserve to have that opportunity. I will continue to support and raise awareness for Floridians with disabilities to ensure they have every possible chance to succeed. I also applaud the hard work of The Able Trust and the Commission on Disabilities. They are tireless, everyday advocates who have been instrumental in prioritizing meaningful employment for Floridians with disabilities. I encourage Florida's business leaders and employers to learn more about how to better utilize this pool of untapped talent."

Disability Mentoring Day is a national initiative of the American Association of People with Disabilities. It is organized in Florida by The Able Trust and a collaboration of statewide disability organizations. Disability Mentoring Day 2009 was sponsored by: Publix Supermarkets, Inc.\*, ISES Corp.\*, ADAAG Consulting, Advantica EyeCare, Capital City Bank, Capital City Consulting, Congo River Golf, Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Gulf Power, MV Transportation, Pittman Law Group, Volunteer Florida, Walt Disney World Corp., WeLocalize, and was supported by a host of statewide organizations, employers and individuals.

\* = Sustaining Sponsor

For more information about Florida Disability Mentoring Day, visit [www.floridadmd.org](http://www.floridadmd.org) or contact [info@abletrust.org](mailto:info@abletrust.org). ■

# A Great Year for Florida HS/HT 2008/09 Outcomes

The Florida HS/HT Program of The Able Trust served 1,469 students with disabilities this year. One hundred-seven schools and alternative education settings in 35 Florida counties were provided a total of 263,824 transition services based on five nationally recognized, evidence-based Guideposts for Success:

- 1) School-Based Preparatory Experiences,
- 2) Career Preparation & Work-Based Learning,
- 3) Connecting Activities,
- 4) Youth Leadership & Development
- 5) Family Involvement & Supports.

As a result of the program, Florida HS/HT students entered post-secondary education at more than three times the rate of other Florida graduates with disabilities. Seventy-three percent of Florida HS/HT graduates entered post-secondary education after graduation, as compared to 22% of other graduates with disabilities in Florida. Eighty-six percent of Florida HS/HT students entered post secondary education or

employment as compared to the state average of 55%.

On September 9, 2009 during The Able Trust annual orientation and training for project coordinators, the Florida Crown Workforce Board, Inc. (serving Gilchrist, Columbia, Dixie and Union Counties) was recognized as the 2009 Florida HS/HT Program of the Year. The Florida Crown HS/HT Program partners with a spectrum of statewide and community organizations and employers to provide excellent transition services and other outreach to students with disabilities in rural settings in the north central Florida area. As a result of program services, 100% of graduating seniors in the Florida Crown HS/HT program entered post secondary education or employment this year.

Congratulations to all students, teachers, family members and Florida HS/HT project coordinators! Because of the hard work and commitment of all partners, students with disabilities are achieving their goals and dreams. ■

## What Is a Planned (or "Deferred") Gift?

A planned gift is a gift that in most cases will benefit organizations like The Able Trust at some future point in time. Unlike an outright gift that provides The Able Trust full benefit upon receipt (such as a contribution to YLF or High School/High Tech), a planned gift defers the organization's use of transferred assets until the death of a donor, a beneficiary, or until the end of a specified period of time.

In return for a planned gift, donors and their families may receive important estate and income tax benefits, and, depending upon their gift, an attractive annual income stream for their life or the life of a secondary beneficiary. Another term commonly used is a deferred gift.

Planned gifts can be either revocable or irrevocable. Revocable gifts can

be changed by a donor. Funds are not available to The Able Trust until death, so these gifts enable a donor to preserve the potential need for the asset during their lifetime. Yet, because they benefit the organization in the future and often provide attractive estate tax benefits, they serve as an excellent philanthropic tool.

Irrevocable gifts cannot be rescinded and are immediate transfers of assets for The Able Trust to use at some defined future point in time, or at the death of the donor or secondary beneficiary. In return, in most cases, the donor will receive an immediate income tax deduction, an annual income stream, and favorable capital gains and estate tax benefits.

Please contact Mike Campbell to discuss ways you can make a planned gift. ■

Goodwill Industries-Manasota, Inc.  
Grove House Supportive Services, Inc.  
Guardian Angels for Special Populations, Inc.  
Gulf Coast Community Care  
Gulfstream Goodwill Industries  
Habilitation Center for the Handicapped  
Habitat for Humanity of Hillsborough County  
Hardee Association for Retarded Citizens  
Hearing Impaired Persons  
Heron-Peacock Supported Living  
HOPE Center  
Hope Haven Children's Clinic and Family Center  
Horses and the Handicapped of South Florida, Inc.  
Human Services Council  
I Can Grow, Inc.  
Independence for the Blind  
Independent Living and Resource Center NE Florida  
Independent Living Resource Center of Northeast Florida  
Janssen  
Jeff Industries  
Jewish Association for Residential Care  
Jewish Community Services of South Florida, Inc.  
La Amistad Foundation, Inc..  
Lakeside Alternatives  
Lakeview Center Foundation  
LARC, Inc.  
L'Arche Harbor House  
Latino Leadership, Inc.  
Law, Redd, Crona & Munroe, P.A  
League for the Hard of Hearing  
Life Management Center of Northwest Florida, Inc.  
Life Stream Behavioral Center  
Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches, Inc.  
Lighthouse of Broward  
Lighthouse of Central Florida  
Lincoln-Marti Community Agency  
Lock Towns Community Mental Health Center, Inc.  
Louise H. Graham Training Center  
Loveland Center Inc.  
MacDonald Training Center, Inc.  
MACTown, Inc.  
Madison County HSHT  
Madison County School Board Dept, ESE  
Magellan Health Services  
Manatee Glens  
Marianne Center Services  
Martin Memorial Health System  
MAXIMUS  
McDaniel Consulting, L.L.C.  
Mental Health Association of Palm Beach County  
Mental Health Care, Inc.  
Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
Miami-Dade Disability Services and Independent Living (DSAIL)  
Michael D. Cusick & Associates, Inc.  
Monroe Association for Retarded Citizens, Inc.  
Moore Consulting Group, Inc.  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
NAMI Florida, Inc.  
NASA  
National Multiple Sclerosis (FL Gulf Coast)  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society- Mid FL Chapter  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society, North Florida Chapter  
National Wheelchair Sports Fund  
New Hope Drop In Center, Inc.  
New Horizons Community Mental Health Center, Inc.  
New Horizons of the Treasure Coast, Inc.  
Northside Mental Health Center  
OFCCP Miami Area Office  
OFCCP Orlando District Office  
Office of Governor Charlie Crist  
Office of Health Services  
Office of the Governor  
Okeechobee Rehabilitation Facility  
One Stop Career Center  
Orange County Public Schools  
Osceola ARC, Inc.  
Palm Bay High School  
Palm Beach County HS/HT  
Palm Beach Habilitation Center, Inc.  
Pathways to Independence, Inc.  
Pensacola Care, Inc.  
Pensacola Penwheels  
Perdido Bay Tribe, Inc.  
Pine Castle, Inc.  
Primrose Center, Inc.  
Project Special Care

Project STAND, Inc.  
 PSI Family Services of Florida, Inc.  
 Pyramid, Inc.  
 Rehabilitation Services, Inc.  
 Remmert Employment Project  
 Renaissance Behavioral Health System, Inc.  
 Roe & Associates Integrated Behavior Supports, Inc.  
 Rotary Youth Camp  
 Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service of S. Palm Beach Co.  
 Seacamp Association, Inc.  
 Seagull Industries for the Disabled, Inc.  
 Self Reliance, Inc.  
 Seminole Work Opportunity Program  
 SGS  
 Sickle Cell Disease Association of Broward County, Inc.  
 Sickle Cell Disease Association of Florida  
 Small Business Development Center/ FGCU  
 Social Security Administration  
 SOS Children's Village of Florida  
 Southeast Parkinson Disease Association  
 Space Coast Center for Independent Living  
 Special Advisor on Criminal Justice and Mental Health - FL  
 Supreme Court  
 St. Andrew's Bay Center  
 Stand Among Friends  
 Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention FL Office of Drug Control  
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 Suncoast Epilepsy Association, Inc.  
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 Sunrise Cape Coral Cluster  
 Sunrise Community of Polk County  
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 Sunrise Community, Inc.  
 Sunrise of Pasco County  
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 Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind  
 Taylor County High School  
 Technical & Career Education  
 Technical and Career Education  
 The ARC Nature Coast, Inc.  
 The ARC of Jacksonville  
 The Center for Independence, Inc.  
 The Governor's Commission on Disabilities  
 The Harbor  
 The Learning Experience School  
 The Spina Bifida Association of Jacksonville, Inc.  
 The Watson Center  
 TLC Landscape Contractors, Inc.  
 Tri-County Community Council, Inc.  
 Tri-County TEC  
 Tyler Institute  
 United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida  
 United Cerebral Palsy of East Central Florida  
 United Cerebral Palsy of North Florida  
 United Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Florida  
 United Cerebral Palsy of Panama City, Inc.  
 United Cerebral Palsy of Sarasota-Manatee & SW Florida  
 United Cerebral Palsy of South Florida  
 United Cerebral Palsy of Southwest Florida, Inc.  
 United Cerebral Palsy of Tallahassee  
 University of South Florida  
 Urban League of Broward County  
 Van Gogh's Palette, Inc.  
 Veterans Administration  
 Victory Living Programs  
 Vincent House  
 Visual Dialogue  
 Visually Impaired Persons of Southwest Florida  
 Vocational Rehabilitation  
 Volunteer Florida Foundation  
 Volunteer Jacksonville, Inc.  
 VSA Arts of Florida  
 Walton County ARC  
 Washington/Holmes ARC  
 WAVE The Workshop for Adult Vocational Enrichment  
 Wellcare  
 Woodland Hall Academy/Dyslexia Research Institute  
 Workforce Alliance, Inc.  
 Workforce Development Board  
 Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa & Walton Counties  
 Workforce Florida  
 Working Solutions

## Study Shows Workplace Accommodations for the Disabled is a Win-Win Situation

Recent amendments to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) refocused attention on workplace accommodations by broadening the definition of disability. As a result, more employees will likely be entitled to such accommodations. While some employers may be concerned about implementation costs, a study conducted by the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a service of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), shows that workplace accommodations create a positive impact on the workplace in many tangible ways.

JAN and the University of Iowa's Law, Health Policy, and Disability Center interviewed nearly 1,200 employers between January 2004 and December 2006. Employers participating in the study reported increases in the following areas as a result of providing accommodations in the workplace:

### DIRECT BENEFITS

	<b>INCREASE</b>
• employee retention	88%
• employee productivity	72%
• eliminated cost of training new employees	59%
• employee attendance	52%
• company diversity	43%
• saved worker's compensation & other insurance costs	39%
• attracting qualified employees with a disability	16%
• promoting employees with a disability	11%

### INDIRECT BENEFITS

	<b>INCREASE</b>
• improved interactions with co-workers	69%
• company morale	61%
• overall company productivity	57%
• improved interactions with customers/clients	45%
• workplace safety	43%
• overall company attendance	37%
• company profitability	33%
• customer base	18%

### NOTES FROM THE ABLE TRUST

**CEO:** Of particular interest are the statistics relating to productivity (up 72%) for the employee, but also up 57% for the company as a whole. And music to the ears of every executive: employees stay with the company much longer (up 88%), attendance improves (up 37%), and who doesn't like an increase in company morale (up 61%)?

**Source:** Job Accommodations Network (Original 2005, Updated 2007, Updated 2009). Workplace accommodations: Low cost, high impact. Retrieved from <http://www.jan.wvu.edu/media/LowCostHghlmpact.doc>. ■



Youth Leadership Forum volunteer Hilbert Hampton learns about culinary arts during the 2009 Career Fair.



## *We Make Donating to The Able Trust Easy!*

You can make your donation by visiting The Able Trust Web site at [www.abletrust.org](http://www.abletrust.org) and clicking the "Make a Donation" button. Or you can fill out the form below and mail your donation to:

***The Able Trust, 3320 Thomasville Road, Suite 200, Tallahassee, Florida, 32308-7906***

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Cash, Check or Credit Card Donations are Accepted. Please make checks payable to The Able Trust.

I'd like to join the Friends of The Able Trust and help with this gift:

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Agency - (complimentary) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____           |

Is this donation (*please check one*):

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## *We get by with a little help from our Friends!*

Become part of The Able Trust's mission and promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Join the Friends of The Able Trust. This support organization represents individuals, small and large businesses and organizations who care about the vocational rehabilitation process. Nonprofit agencies that join will receive special updates on RFPs and other programs related to the Foundation. With a little help from our Friends, The Able Trust can continue to broaden the possibilities for people with disabilities throughout Florida.

**For more information about The Able Trust visit [www.abletrust.org](http://www.abletrust.org).**

The Able Trust is recognized as exempt from federal income taxation under section 501c3 of the IRS and eligible to receive tax deductible contributions. Federal ID: 59-3052307. The Able Trust is registered with the Florida Division of Consumer Services as required by the Solicitation of Contributions Act (#CH957). A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free in Florida: (800) 435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State.

# FLORIDA GRANTOR

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## Thank You, Disney!



The Able Trust receives another significant donation from its partner, Walt Disney World. Walt Disney World has supported the programs and services of The Able Trust for more than 10 years through generous financial donations and in-kind support and donations. Participating in the check presentation are (l to r) Richard Cole, Vice Chair, The Able Trust Board of Directors; Jeannie Amendola, Secretary, The Able Trust Board of Directors and Walt Disney World Ambassador; Mickey Mouse; Bob Billingslea, Ambassador, The Able Trust and Walt Disney Corporate Director of Urban Affairs; Susanne Homant, President & CEO, The Able Trust.

## Upcoming EVENTS

**October 2009**

*National Disability Employment  
Awareness Month – NDEAM*

**Tuesday, October 1, 2009**

*2009 Disability Mentoring  
Day Statewide Kickoff  
Tallahassee*

**Wednesday, October 21, 2009**

*DMD 2009 Commemoration*

**Friday, December 11, 2009**

*The Able Trust Board  
of Directors Meeting*

*Contributions are deductible according to applicable  
IRS guidelines. The Able Trust is a nonprofit 501(c)  
(3) organization and in compliance with the Florida  
Solicitation of Contributions Act.*