



THE ABLE TRUST

The Able Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded by the Florida Legislature in 1990. Its mission is to be a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment. The Able Trust does its programmatic work in three primary strategic areas: 1) Programs directed at providing workforce experiences for people of all ages with disabilities, including internships, mentoring, job shadowing, part- and full-time jobs; 2) An extensive and successful youth program, which addresses the need to encourage high school youth with disabilities to plan for their education and employment future; and 3) A comprehensive grant award effort that helps community organizations with programs that provide employment training, coaching, and placement.

Since 1990, The Able Trust has awarded more than \$41 million in financial support that has helped put thousands of Floridians with disabilities to work.



YOUTH PROGRAMS OF THE ABLE TRUST



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The Able Trust supports young people with disabilities through its High School High Tech (HSHT) Program, support of post-secondary education, and Disability Employment Awareness (DEAM) activities.

THE ABLE TRUST HIGH SCHOOL HIGH TECH PROGRAM

The Able Trust HSHT Program is a year-round career development and exploration program for high school youth with disabilities. HSHT prepares students with disabilities for life after high school – post-secondary education, employment, and community involvement – through real-world experiences.

HSHT activities include skills training workshops, industry and campus tours, internships, community service projects, leadership development, and so much more!

HSHT engages, excites, and educates youth about Florida industries and their place in the 21st Century economy. The program makes the connection between academic learning and the world-of-work by partnering with employers to ensure students acquire competitive skills that are aligned with industry standards and business needs.

The Able Trust has operated the HSHT Program for over two decades and currently works with community organizations and local school districts in 43 local sites to provide an exceptional, career-oriented program. The HSHT program is partially funded by the Florida Department of Vocational Rehabilitation.

To learn more about HSHT, visit AbleTrust.org or call 850.224.4493.



SUPPORT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Able Trust awards grants annually that support activities at the post-secondary level. The Able Trust partners with community organizations, technical schools, and community colleges to provide the education and training needed to help individuals identify a career path and obtain successful employment.

The Able Trust awards four types of grants:

1. Strategic Employment Placement Initiatives
2. Board-Directed Initiative Grants
3. General Support for Employment Placement Programs
4. High School High Tech Programs

The Able Trust has provided financial support to numerous organizations for their post-secondary training activities, including Tallahassee Community College, Miami-Dade College, The Haven, and St. Petersburg College, among others.



DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES

Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM) is a statewide event, highlighting careers and businesses to participants with disabilities. DEAM activities include:

- Hands-on career exploration,
- On-site job shadowing,
- Other career exploration experiences.

DEAM is organized and supported by The Able Trust and numerous partners throughout Florida who assist participating businesses and people with disabilities. The Able Trust generates tremendous support from disability agencies and the business community in providing these exciting and meaningful experiences.

DEAM's flexible no-risk/no-cost atmosphere makes it a great way for businesses to explore hiring people with disabilities, participate in their community, and showcase their company. DEAM enables Florida businesses and organizations to see first-hand the desire and capabilities that individuals with disabilities have to offer and helps to remove misconceptions surrounding people with disabilities. These individuals have the knowledge, abilities, and skills to be productive and valued members of the workforce. Numerous companies have realized that diversity is a driver of increased performance, workplace efficiencies, and customer and employee loyalty, and they are reaping the rewards.

Individuals or businesses interested in learning more about the DEAM Program or participating, can contact The Able Trust for additional details.