Top 10 Reasons to Hire Persons with Disabilities

1. Employees with disabilities can relate better to customers with disabilities, who represent $1 trillion in annual aggregate consumer spending.

2. Diverse work groups can create better solutions to business challenges.

3. People with disabilities are better educated than ever, and are proven to have met and/or exceeded challenges.

4. A person with a disability motivates work groups and increases productivity.

5. Companies that hire and accommodate people with disabilities in their workplaces can receive tax benefits.

6. Employing people with disabilities is good for the individual, the business, and society. This is a “win-win-win” situation.

7. People with disabilities are motivated by the desire to give something back, and appreciate opportunities for personal growth, job flexibility, and social inclusion.

8. Employees with disabilities can ease concerns about labor supply.

9. People with disabilities have equal or higher job performance ratings, higher retention rates, and lower absenteeism.

10. It’s ability, not disability, that counts.
What is Project SEARCH?

Project SEARCH is a vocational training and employment program hosted by Health First that matches the abilities of people with disabilities to real jobs then provides the support and training needed for both the employee and employer, at no cost.

The goal is to help companies successfully recruit, hire, and manage employees with disabilities. The approach helps to meet both the company’s human resource needs and increase employment options for people with disabilities.

Disabilities are experienced by almost everyone at some time in their lifetime and are part of life. Project SEARCH teaches those with disabilities business skills needed so they can, live independently, enjoy self-determination, and have an opportunity to contribute to society.

Why hire a Project SEARCH graduate?

Workers with disabilities are often more proficient, productive, and efficient than their peers without disabilities. Plus, employees with disabilities have 90-percent (above-average) safety and attendance records and are more loyal to the employers that hire them.

The Project SEARCH Program is about connecting well trained “recruits” with disabilities to employers who value the diversity these individuals present.

At Project SEARCH we match your company’s needs with our candidates strengths. Upon employment, the candidate receives one-on-one supervision and support from a Project SEARCH job coach as they learn the job, expectations of employment, acquire skills, and acclimate to the job-site culture.

Our graduates have been groomed to understand the importance of business culture, company dress codes, and the appropriate use of language in the business world. Project SEARCH staff also:

- coordinate job development and agency referrals with your HR needs;
- match qualified employees with open positions — free of charge;
- perform these functions prior to job placement;
- coordinate job coaching during initial phases of on-the-job training; and
- provide continued support/assistance to your organization.

For more information on hiring a Project SEARCH student, contact Maria Trieste at 321-434-7578 or visit us at www.Health-First.org/ProjectSearch.