

ABILITY CONNECTION PROGRAM

BAC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 26, 2007 - 7:30am – 9:00am  
Lobby Conference Room – Goodwill Industries

Summary Statistics

July 2007

Active Participants: 20  
Internships Needed 4  
FT/PT Needing Placement: 8

Next Meeting Date

Thursday, July 26, 2007  
Lobby Conference Room  
7:30am – 9:00am

Members in attendance: Rich Kolbe, Gil Atanasoff, Kathy Plamback (proxy for Todd Nilson), Thayre Faust, Bob Burger, Cindy Cain, Jan Knutson, Michael Jones, Dave Rice, Laurie Ocepek, Deanna Nguyen (via the phone) . Lea-Collins-Worachek , Dawn Brightsman and Peggy Dooley.

Meeting began at 7:40 am Welcome and introductions by Rich Kolbe.

Action Items:

1. ALL BAC Members: Protégé /Mentor Awards Night: SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, August 23 – 4:30 – 6:30pm @ Goodwill – 91<sup>st</sup> Street
2. Jan Knutson and George Gormley continue work on the 12-month “hire survey” for inclusion in the Fall Forum.
3. Recruitment Committee & Marketing Committee – Begin to plan the Fall Forum with a November target date.. Suggestions being taken re: Spring Forum. Contact Dave Rice or Peggy Dooley.
4. Mentor Committee: Nail down the date on Dress for Success September Training Session ; Need to Assign mentors to new protégés.

**Mentoring Committee**

Reported by Deanna Ngugen, Chair

- WELCOME and thank you to Bob Burger was have volunteered to become a member of the Mentor Committee.
- SPR Lunch “ Learn session held on Friday July 20 was a huge success, with 29 people total in attendance, 18 (former or current ) proteges, 2 from DVR in attendance.
- Kohls/Goodwill “Dress for Success Event” protégé/ementor event is still in the planning stages, with a possible target date in September.

**Resource Development Committee**

Reported by Thayre Faust, Chair

- Wheels N’ Heels event was fun and Ability Connection had a strong showing, even if the team ended up in fourth place. Kudos to the following individuals who gave toward the prize packages: Kevin Burke (NWM); **Jan Knutson (Footlocker)**, Jackie Gauger (Children’s Hospital), Deanna Nguyen (Assurant), George Gromley (MATC),

and Dawn Brightsman (Adecco). Bill Wright appreciated Goodwill's donation (s).

- Awards Night (Recognition for protégés/mentors) is on Thursday, August 23 (4:30-6:30pm) at Goodwill is still being planned, To date, the invitation has been e-invited to protégés, (established and new), mentors, and BAC members and committees with a notation that family and friends are welcome to attend. Looking for a BAC member to help present the financial award/certificates and the laptop awards and read a short bio of each protégé.

### **Recruitment Committee**

Reported by David Rice

- Recruitment efforts are going well, and there is a "high quality" of new protégés that have recently been interviewed, who seem to be more excited about the field/possibilities in IT To date, the last two protégés have been interviewed (rounding out the 7). 2 additional possible recruits were met at the SPR/Goodwill Lunch on July 20.
- Jan Knutson Re: The 12-month "job status" -reality survey -has traction. It will be included in the Fall Event/Employer Forum. Survey Monkey was mentioned as an easy/effective way to build/track results of a survey.
- Spring Forum – Quad Graphics is a strong possibility; discussion of it's location in Sussex was mentioned as it is not "bus friendly", however, alternate transportation could be provided for protégés, with round trip shuttle from Goodwill. Quad Graphics would offer insights into how IT works within the printing, packaging and warehouse areas. OPEN TO ADDITIONAL IDEAS.
- Continued High School Recruitment efforts were stressed as effective methods to talk up the Ability Connection program, in concert with DVR.

### **Placement Committee**

Reported by Kathy Plamback (for Todd Nilson)

- Exploring the merits of the Wiki /BAC locker with Cindy Dries who acts as the caretaker of the site and with Troy Norman (through Peggy) who will determine if funding is granted; if a free site is not a possibility.

### **Marketing Committee**

Reported by Michael Jones

- The Marketing Committee was unable to meet independently this month but has been .meeting in conjunction with the Resource Committee by assisting with the August 23 Award Night event. Anticipated meeting next week.

### **DVR**

Reported by Cindy Cain and Lea Collins-Worachek

- The importance of internships was stressed as an effective way for employers to fill "real positions" and for the protégés to gain the much needed experience on their resumes, while each protégé is an individual, 4-6 month internship are common.
- DVR encourages Ability Connection BAC members to attend DVR meetings, every 3-4 months
- Lea Collins Worachek confirmed that she will again volunteer to attend and pass out certificates/wards on Awards Night.

Meeting concluded at 8:40am

