

Abil*IT*y Connection

Helping IT students reach *their abilities* beyond their disabilities.

What is Abil*IT*y Connection?

- A non-profit organization which connects IT students, currently attending a university or technical college, who have a disability with IT professionals who can offer mentoring, internships, and, possibly, job opportunities.
- **A WIN-WIN situation!** Businesses gain access to a pool of IT graduates to fill positions. Students gain the skills, self-confidence, and connections required for an IT career.
- Abil*IT*y Connection is sponsored by Goodwill Industries, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), and several local businesses who participate in the Business Advisory Council.

Why be a mentor?

- ◆ To make a difference in someone's life.
- ◆ To pass your experience on to others.
- ◆ To encourage them & help them succeed.
- ◆ To improve your mentoring/coaching skills.

Being a Mentor = Making a difference in someone's life

Role of a mentor:

- To answer their questions & give advice
- To give them exposure to the IT industry
- To guide them as they prepare for an IT career

Time commitment

- 2-3 hours monthly
- Mentoring can be done at times that best fit your schedule and your student's

Ways to be a mentor:

- Keep in contact via e-mails or phone calls
- Invite student to your office for meetings or get together over lunch
- Attend an Abil*IT*y Connection sponsored event with your student
- Allow student to shadow you for a few hours
- Bring student to IT industry events (ie. IT industry speaker meetings, PMI, AITP, SIM, etc.)

For more information:

- Visit our web-site! www.abilityconnection.org
- Contact the Abil*IT*y Connection coordinator, Janice Innocenzi, at Janice.innocenzi@goodwillsew.com or call (414) 358-6525 x281.
- Contact a mentor, Deanna Nguyen, at deanna.nguyen@assurant.com or call (414)299-1258