



Independence Now, Inc.

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IN TOUCH

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Independence Now, Inc.

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"The Right Talent, Right Now"

Independence Now Inc. Joins Broad Effort to Observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month Nationwide campaign will take place in October

October 1, 2019 - Independence Now Inc. today announced its participation in National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual awareness campaign that takes place each October. The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "The Right Talent, Right Now"

The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945, when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

"Every day, people with disabilities add significant value and talent to our employers and economy. They conduct business, educate our youth, deliver goods and services, and serve our Nation," said Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta. "They also invent and innovate, often drawing upon their experiences with disability to offer employers diverse perspectives on how to tackle challenges and achieve success. In short, people with disabilities are the right talent, right now."

Reflecting this year's theme, throughout the month, Independence Now will be engaging in a variety of activities to educate its EMPLOYEES and CONSUMERS on disability employment issues and its commitment to an inclusive work culture. These efforts include two Employment Seminars and Posting of Employment Opportunities.

Independence Now is proud to be a part of this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month. We want to spread the important message that we value all perspectives, including those of individuals with disabilities.

Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ways they can promote its messages — during October and throughout the year — by visiting www.dol.gov/ndeam.

Independence Now Inc.



"Like us on Facebook!" and "Follow us on Twitter!"



INDEPENDENCE NOW, INC. (IN) is a nonprofit organization created by and for people with disabilities. IN. assists residents of Montgomery and Prince George's counties to use community services and resources that will enhance their independence. All services are provided without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, or type(s) of disability. This Newsletter and all public information are available in alternate format such as Braille, large print, or by e-mail upon request.

Independence Now has two offices in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties:

~ October 2019 ~				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2 <i>Lighting Your Path</i>	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15 Employment Seminar 1 to 4	16	17 Creative Cooking Class	18
21	22 Discovery Employment 1 to 3	23	24 Housing Seminar	25
28	29	30	31	

~ December 2019 ~				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	3	4	5	6
9	10	11 <i>Lighting Your Path</i>	12	13
16	<i>Holiday Party</i>	18	19 Housing Seminar	20
23	24	<i>Happy Holidays</i>	26	27 Future Leaders Club
30	31			

~ November 2019 ~				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	<i>TECH TUESDAY</i>	6	7	8
11	12	13 <i>Lighting Your Path</i>	14	15
18	19	20	21 Housing Seminar/ Money Matters	22 Future Leaders Club
25	26	27	<i>HAPPY Thanksgiving</i>	29

#MoneyMatters

Thursday 21st, November 21st 1pm-3pm:

At IN's next #MoneyMatters/Housing Seminar, learn how and where eligible applicants can get FREE emergency rental assistance.



#TechTuesday

Tuesday, November 5th 1pm-3pm: Do you have VERY little (or ZERO) experience with email? Learn how to create a FREE email account, then check and send emails to friends, family, and business contacts AND learn how to use the basic accessibility functions on your phones, at IN's next #TechTuesday Workshop!



Contact Abiola Heyliger at 240-638-0066 to register and requests for ASL interpretation/other accommodations.

INDEPENDENCE NOW REGULARLY SCHEDULE EVENTS

(Monthly, quarterly and annual events)



CREATIVE COOKING CLASS

The good news: Not only is the weather going to change, but also the way we're cooking is too, from using fresh fall produce, like squash, sweet potatoes, and apples, to creating warming (and, okay, gluttonous) comfort food dishes, like stews, pot pies, and mac and cheese. What's on your Fall Cooking Bucket List?

October 17th 11am-1:30pm: Creative Cooking Class Grab a blanket and a spoon and get ready to curl up on the couch with the most deliciously luxurious bowl of turkey chili you've ever had! Healthy, yet insanely flavorful, this turkey chili is perfect for a chilly night spent on the couch with your love, and for leftovers the next day for lunch! Turkey Chili is 1st on our Bucket List!

December 17th 11am-2:00pm: #INHOLIDAYPARTY – 2020: A New Vision for Disability At this year's Consumer Holiday Party, we're celebrating YOU—the people who are helping to reclaim and reframe what disability look like, and will look like in the next new decade of the 21st century! For 2020, Independence Now is encouraging IN Consumers, and the larger disability community, to take charge of shaping the conversation about inclusion and how persons with disabilities are creating NEW attitudes and NEW perspectives about who we are—because we're more than our disabilities. Whatever you are, we invite you to come dressed the part for the party.

Contact Rochelle Harrod at 240-898-2184 to register and requests for ASL interpretation/other accommodations.



HOUSING SEMINAR

October 24th 1pm-3pm: #Housing4All: How do I apply for affordable housing? What is the lottery? What is the RAP? Find out the answers to these questions and more by joining the #Housing4All seminar. You bring the questions and will bring the answers. See you soon!

November 21st 1pm-3pm: #MONEYMATTERS/HOUSING SEMINAR: Housing is NOT free, even if it is subsidized housing. But, you MIGHT be able to get money to pay your security deposit AND your first month's rent. At IN's next #MoneyMatters/Housing Seminar, learn how and where eligible applicants can get FREE emergency rental assistance.

December 19th 1pm-3pm: Financial Vision Board Workshop. No matter what sort of affordable housing unit that you will eventually qualify for, you will ALWAYS be responsible for coming up with a security deposit and the first month's rent. Join us to get help with the financial planning for moving into YOUR new home.

Contact Debra Potts at 240-638-0065 to register and requests for ASL interpretation/other accommodations.

Good Company! Good Food! Good Conversation!

United Spinal Support Group meets the 4th Thursday of every month from 6:30PM to 8:00PM

We are coming together to support each other in every way possible by providing useful, up-to-date information about services and products as well as an atmosphere that allows for discussion of personal challenges and solutions to everyday concerns.

For more info email: Shannon Minnick at sminnick@innow.org or call 240.638.0070

#HousingTruthTellers!

Ready to become a Justice Seeker, a Rights Warrior and a Truth Teller?

Independence Now is forming a new advocacy-in-action team called the Housing Truth Tellers!

IN's Housing Truth Tellers team members will be receiving training and preparation with the goal of making REAL systems-change regarding affordable & ACCESSIBLE housing in Prince George's County. *Please note:* This is not a meeting about housing; this is an ACTION Team that will learn to advocate, prepare to share stories and then go to meetings with the people who can take the actions that we need. This Housing Truth Tellers team is going to take hard work, time, and commitment from everyone to get the actions on affordable housing that we want—and NEED. You will NOT just be sitting on the sidelines; you will be a player on the team and expected to participate!

For more info email: Shannon Minnick at sminnick@innow.org or call 240.638.0070

A forum on navigating services For Blind and Visually Impaired

Lighting Your Path Group meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month
Due to this quarter holidays please see calendar for dates.

October 2nd 1-3pm- Informational session on where you can take Braille and Jaws Classes
Speaker to be announced.

November 13th 1-3pm- The session will be on assistive technology advancements and supports presented by Envision Technologies and The Low Vision Center.

December 11th 1pm-3pm - The Lighting Your Path Informational Holiday Social
Let's Break Bread and collaborate about resources. Bring a friend and a snack to share if you like.

For more info email: Rochelle Harrod at rharrod@innow.org or call 240.638.8124