



Illinois Inroads to Inclusion

By Lois Barnhart, Illinois Inclusion Officer

December, 2012

The Illinois Inclusion Team met in October to formulate our 2012-13 strategic plan. The team agreed that focus needs to wholly embrace volunteerism opportunities in all aspects of Inclusion, along with AmeriCorps, Senior Corps/RSVP/FGP programs promoting the value of volunteerism to the individual and the community. New members to the team this year include Colleen Gaskill and Gloria Monahan, FGP program directors, who, along with Dave Layton, RSVP and Sara Monroe, CNCS Illinois staff will assist us in expanding our vision.

Karla Kunzeman, Volunteer Programs Manager, attended our strategic planning meeting this year. We agreed to provide training on including people of all abilities in volunteer programs at each of the five regional volunteer management conferences held throughout Illinois each year. Ruth Thompson, ED CCDI and Serve Illinois Commissioner will be spearheading this training.

In November, the Serve Illinois Inclusion PSA began to air on Comcast and Viamedia, Inc. We are working on a Spanish version to air on Telemundo. The PSA can also be viewed on our website and Youtube. Radio PSA's are in the planning stages and we hope to have them ready for airing by next Spring.

Kerry Obrist, MORE Access Solutions, joined the team this past year. Kerry is team leader for a group of members whose focus is to develop an accessibility checklist for CNCS programs, or other entities as well, to assess how accessible they are: establishing a baseline and monitoring improvements. The end product is a way out, but we hope it will be available on line in the year ahead.

One of our groups is focusing on the website and content related specifically to disabilities and inclusion. If any of you reading these articles has suggestions please email or call me using the contact information at the right above.

Look for more news in 2013 with updates on progress on the goals above and other projects the team is working on.

Illinois Disability Outreach

Contact Info:

Lois Barnhart
500 Anchor Road
Dixon IL 61021
815-288-6691
barnhartl@kreiderservices.org

LINKS OF INTEREST:

Inclusion:

NSIP (National Service Inclusion Project)
www.serviceandinclusion.org

Volunteerism:

Opportunities in Illinois
www.serve.illinois.gov
AmeriCorps
www.americorps.org



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!