TIP Gets Youth with Disabilities Paid Summer Jobs

This past summer, 19 youth with disabilities gained paying summer jobs ($10/hour) through TIP BCLL Transition Internship Program supported by Mass Basic. TIP combines usual work with skilled interns and job-coaching to give youth experience that can help them in securing employment. While several youth had already gained paid part-time employment since the summer, the success of this effort may be too low been seen from a range of this year’s participants.

“I have learned so much through this very much as well as the Friday training at BCLL. I cannot thank you enough...”

- TIP intern, now a regular part-time employee at a Boston legal services agency

“BCLL staff member Rob York’s work motivated me so... how a normal life. The weather has made my arthritis feel... I found myself questioning whether I can capable of really standing college and finishing. When I said, ‘I... used to visit the best place to make your donation or pay your fees. Thank you!”

- TIP intern

"Our office runs the Residential Assistant Living Program in Boston. Our BCLL intern was critical assisting the Program and Facility Specialists in recruiting and established a... has helped us in managing this legal, long-standing program..."

- Internship host its stuff

“My experience as a BCLL summer intern proved to be quite... much so we ever could have expected. This was not first opportunity to receive a paycheck... more significantly no opportunity to be how would handle a job conscientiously and the work environment. My placement was a perfect fit for... in his ability to treat this... weeklies skills scores at BCLL... efficient fabrication techniques. Hands-on skills which he... him with how he is using same to find a new job for the... "“Perfect for all of us..."’s work... in a program that covered the material that TIP interns in such a comprehensive, professional, and accessible manner. Supporting the continuation and improvement of this program for future interns is absolutely critical for developing and promoting opportunities for transition-age youth with disabilities in the workforce and education in diverse workforce...”

- TIP job coach

BCLL Financial Statement

June 30, 2014

ASSETS
Current Assets
Cash and Cash Equivalents
$710,106
Investments
$720,000
Accrued Receivables - Third Parties, Net of Allowance for Doubtful Accounts of $5,000
$218,366
Accrued Receivables - Contracts
$285,578
Accrued Receivables - Other
$22,320
Prepaid Expenses & Deposits
$40,003
Property and Equipment, Net
$17,567
TOTAL ASSETS
$1,581,513
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS
Accounts Payable
$4,227
Accrued Expenses
$209,185
TOTAL LIABILITIES
$380,422
TOTAL NET ASSETS
$1,199,091

Donations & Dues
A donation to BCLL helps us serve over 5,000 people with disabilities and advance around housing, healthcare, PCA services, ADA compliance, employment, and more. BCLL relies on the generosity of members, corporations, foundations, and individuals who support the independence of people with disabilities in Greater Boston.

How to Contact BCLL:
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Boston, MA 02111-1324
617-338-9650 - 617-338-9642 (TTY)
617-338-9205 (Fax)
(617) 338-6661 (Fax)
www.bostontcf.org

Boston Center for Independent Living
gratefully acknowledge the support of the United Way.

SERVICE, ADVOCACY, AND ACTION!

The Boston Center for Independent Living was again a determined and successful champion for independence and disability rights during 2014 in Boston’s neighborhoods, in our Greater Boston service area, and across Massachusetts. 2013 promises more of the same—with highlights surely to be celebrated at Boston Common on July 22 of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. People often come to the BCLL office after support in their search for affordable, accessible, and integrated housing. It’s their supply in a market that now plays to people who purchase luxury condos in high-rise towers. Nonetheless, BCLL staff were able to assist 86 people to find housing and 64 to maintain housing during the past year. Our advocacy also led to a $1.6 million increase in the state’s Home Modification program for people with disabilities, which will enable many more people to live independently in their own home; and a $100,000 increase for the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHPV), a vital resource for people who are homeless, on the brink of homelessness or making a move home. For 2015, we’re launching a campaign with Citizens’ Housing & Planning Association (CHAPA) to significantly increase badly needed funding for AHPV.

Personal Care Attendant (PCA) services also remain a top priority organization. Over 1,200 people in BCLL consumer-driven programs, enhancing their ability to build jobs, visits friends, get an education, and live an engaged life in the community. In 2020, 30,000 people are on the program statewide, reflecting the greater growth of independent living. In 2013, we will work to ensure that this vital service is reimbursed by health care has had a vital impact on those who don’t support new services funded for low-income people.

Getting around the community is often a challenge, but there’s a definite program. Effective January 6, 2014, Fares for The Ride were reduced by $1.00, and offers are progressing for establishment of a shared fare structure to benefit low-income users of this door-to-door service that serves thousands of people with disabilities and elders. BCLL has been a strong supporter of these efforts and the work of Mass Senator Action, a leader in Ride advocacy. We also continued our tight partnership with Greater Boston. Legal Services to promote compliance with the ADA by the MTA in accordance with the 2006 settlement of our class action lawsuit. Key topics in the year included development of emergency response procedures, raising fare-free staff that focuses on curtailment with disabilities, purchase of 50 new low-floor buses (which include plainairs’ design recommendations), making the entire fleet 100% low-floor, and expansion of fare-free measuring. We also did pleased that Mayor Marty Walsh pushed construction of new cars on Route Line 14A in Boston, where residents already listed access to success in achieving access (see plans on back page).

Healthcare is now an absolutely critical disability rights concern. At BCLL, an integral subset of this is supporting

(continued on page 2)
people to have moving homes. In the past, we assisted approximately fifty people, most under age 60 to have facilities, and we expect to top this number in 2015. We also are working with over 300 people connected to One Care to coordinate community-based services this initiative, starting from the Multiple Care Act, integrates services and care for people with disabilities on both Medicare and Medicaid. As one side of a co-leader with the Disability Policy Council of Disability Advocates Advancing Our HealthCare Rights, we continue to advocate strongly that One Care give priority to consumer council in health. Additionally, in January we announced an agreement with Boss Medical Center to improve access to their services and facilities, an effort built upon our ongoing work with Mass General Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

BCIL’s accomplishments would not be possible without the support of numerous individuals and organizations. Those who pay and make individual donations are key to our work, as are those who generously support us in meetings, filings, and loans to organize the disability rights message. We are indebted to United Way, the Haydon Foundation, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation, the Greater Boston Urban League, the Community Center, Community Catalyst, Sparkling Health, the Jeff Thompson Charitable Fund, and the Christopher Reeve Foundation for generous funding of our advocacy and service work. Indivisible support for our many ILS is provided by the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, MassHealth, and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. BCIL also seeks strong partnerships with groups already maintained as well as with the Disability Law Center, Health Care for All, Easter Seals, the Boston Commission for Persons with Disabilities, the other ILSs in Massachusetts, Commonwealth Care Alliance, Mass Office on Disability, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Department of Health, the agencies of the Suffolk County, City, and Metropolitan Massachusetts Aging and Disability Resource Center.

In 2015, we will continue to support empowerment of the disability community by working with individuals in their quest for independence and through grassroots efforts to produce change in practice, policies and how to increase integration and equality in the broader community.

THANK YOU!
Bill Heming, Executive Director
Sergio Gonzalez, Board Chairperson
November 2014

In Memoriam
BCLL, like many in the disability rights world, was saddened by the passing of Elmonts’ Barlow on July 5. Numerous tributes have been entered into his contribution—but most notably he served as Commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission from 1977 to 1997, serving for over 20 years for people with disabilities to go to work. Bill also knew him as a founder of the organization in 1974, where his vision and aspirations combined with others such as the late Elmonts’ Barlow led to the formation of BCLL. He also knew him as a楷体, a symbol of visionary leadership and advocacy. In Massachusetts there were few more dedicated to disability rights, and he will be remembered forever. In 2011, Bill also left his mark by mentoring one of his students into his own apartment in a metro Boston community.

A 54-year-old woman with multiple physical disabilities was living in a nursing home that was run by the state to provide skilled disability assistance in Massachusetts. Mary Brown was 60 when she was discharged to BCIL, where the staff felt that she was too independent to be in the nursing home. She was moved into an apartment in a metro Boston community.

The community has come to view BCIL as a disability leader for its commitment to people with disabilities. The organization has been a strong voice for people with disabilities in the status of disability policies and at the State level. BCIL is known for its expertise in pressing health and barricade issues with the state administration.

BCIL’s Marian Feitin Award Ceremony 2014

Over 300 people attended the 11th annual BCIL Marian Feitin Award Ceremony held on March 21, honoring individuals who embody the pioneering spirit of the late Dr. Marian Feitin, who was a powerful advocate for patients with disabilities. The core southern honorees were Joelle Belk, vice president of Eversource; Kenneth McCann, commissioner of the Board of Correction for Persons with Disabilities, and Massachusetts Senior Action Council. These three honorees are impactful activities for equal access, civil rights, and voting rights.

The ceremony began again from the offers of our great friend, Dr. Robert Moses, and our many of ceremonies, Dr. Lisa Irizarry. BCIL is grateful to acknowledge our host sponsors: Commonwealth Care Alliance and Partners Health Care.

BOSTON CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING DAY
In the City of Boston

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
The 11th annual BCIL Marian Feitin Award Ceremony will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2014 at the Fairmont Copley Hotel.

The 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be celebrated on Thursday, July 25, 2013 at Boston Common.

Please contact the office if you want to support these great events. It’s important that the community know the cause of equity for people with disabilities.