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## SESSION 4 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

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There are 11 resources and activities listed below. For your homework assignment this month, select at least two of these to explore. You can of course select more, but the assignment is to explore and report back on two.

For each activity you select, answer the questions on the last page. Please bring your answers to the May meeting. You will need to hand it in to get credit for it.

If you have any questions you can call or email DC Advocacy Partners and we'll assist you.

1. Webinar: Disability Focused Employee Resource Groups: Strategies and Best Practices. **Please note, this assignment must be done on April 26.**

Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) have become an invaluable tool for attracting and retaining diverse talent and gaining access to new customer markets. Many companies have recognized that ERGs are important partners in supporting their business objectives. This webinar will provide information on disability-focused ERGs and the value they bring to organizations.

[http://askearn.org/webinar\\_registration\\_2012-04-26.cfm](http://askearn.org/webinar_registration_2012-04-26.cfm)

2. *Independence* is a website established by Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations and is focused on issues of employment and individuals with disabilities. It's an interesting web-based resource that brings together information about public employment policy, research, and enabling programs and supports for people with disabilities. Here you can learn more about how public policy is reshaping the world of work and full employment for people with disabilities.

This link is to their online primer on public policy as it relates to employment of people with disabilities. Your assignment is to read the online tutorial located at [http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/independence/pol\\_tut.htm](http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/independence/pol_tut.htm)

3. The consumer led Ida Mae Campbell Wellness & Resource Center supports individuals receiving mental health services to take a more active role in their own

recovery and to enhance their ability to participate fully in the community. It offers a range of peer supported activities including work enhancement skills and computer training, wellness/recovery workshops, and social interaction with peers. It also provides information about consumer legal rights and responsibilities and other community resources.

Services include a Micro-Enterprise Academy where you can learn about programs to help you start your own business. Ask about their Leadership Academy for social change to find out about classes and opportunities in DC.

Call (202) 684-7015 to learn more.

4. Visit the National Disability Rights Network web site on employment issues to learn about current policy and positions. Read the information presented and especially the Know Your Rights section and its links.

<http://www.napas.org/en/issues/employment.html>

5. Sign up for this e-newsletter

This is an E-Newsletter for parents of students with disabilities from University Legal Services (who spoke to DC Advocacy Partners about Education in March). The newsletter provides information about resources, meetings, trainings, and conferences in the D.C. area related to DCPS, disabilities, and/or special education. To join, go to [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dc\\_sped\\_resources](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dc_sped_resources) and click on "Join This Group!" You can also subscribe by sending an e-mail to [dc\\_sped\\_resources\\_subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:dc_sped_resources_subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Report on what you learned in the newsletter.

6. Rehab Services and the Client Assistance Program

The goal of CAP is to identify, explain, and resolve the problems residents of the District of Columbia may be having with the rehabilitation program as quickly as possible. As a client or potential client of the Rehabilitation Services Administration of the District of Columbia, you have certain rights and responsibilities. Learn more about your rights as well as your responsibilities by reading this website and following through on suggestions here as appropriate to you.

<http://www.uls-dc.org/CAP.htm>

## 7. The Mayor's Budget for Fiscal Year 2013

At this website you can learn about the Fiscal Year 2013 budget process and read through the District of Columbia Fiscal Year 2013 Budget and Financial Plan. As the budget cycle moves forward, this website will be one way the Mayor will communicate with you about budget work. They will also hold community meetings throughout the month of April to explain the process, priorities, and what changes you might see in city services as a result of the Fiscal Year 2013 budget.

Read the information on the website, identify meetings and hearings, and learn how the budget impacts various activities funded by the DC government.

<http://budget.dc.gov/>

## 8. The Federal Budget and appropriations that affect individuals with disabilities

This site provides Information from the National Disability Rights Network. The majority of important disability-specific and low-income programs are federally funded. Therefore, cuts at the federal level threaten the continued existence of these important programs and the ability of people with disabilities to find needed supports and services in the community.

Visit this web site to learn more about FY 2013 Appropriations and read the fact sheets listed in the box on the right side of the page.

<http://www.napas.org/en/issues/appropriations.html>

## 9. Disaboom Blog

The Job Advocacy blog from Disaboom is a new program for businesses to build “internal capacity” to better recruit, hire, support, and promote employees with disabilities. The Disability Jobs section will feature articles and interviews from corporations and government departments involved in the advocacy of ability-set jobs for people with disabilities.

Read up on resources and news around job advocacy.

<http://www.disaboom.com/job-advocacy>

## 10. Job Accommodation Network

Resources for job seekers are listed here. Explore each listing to learn more about what is available to support workers with disabilities.

<http://askjan.org/indiv/index.htm>

Subscribe to their newsletter here: [subscribe@askjan.org](mailto:subscribe@askjan.org).

## 11. EARN (Employer Assistance and Resource Network)

When advocating for employment opportunities and supports it's good to know about employers' needs and supports. EARN supports employers in recruiting, hiring, retaining and advancing qualified individuals with disabilities through confidential, no-cost. Learn what is available to employers to promote policies and practices of hiring workers with disabilities.

<http://askearn.org/index.cfm>

Link to their page for Job Seekers: <http://askearn.org/g-jobseeker.cfm> to find out how individuals with disabilities can find work opportunities.



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## SESSION 4 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT SHEET

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Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1st Assignment #: \_\_\_ Date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours spent on assignment: \_\_\_

1. Name one useful thing you learned that will help you.
2. Will you continue to visit this web site? How will this be useful to you?
3. How does this information fit and promote your personal vision?

2nd Assignment #: \_\_\_ Date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours spent on assignment: \_\_\_

1. Name one useful thing you learned that will help you.
2. Will you continue to visit this web site? How will this be useful to you?
3. How does this information fit and promote your personal vision?

Please name any additional options from the list that you also completed, if any: