

Creating the

STRONGEST LINK

A campaign to invest in direct care training



People Inc
FOUNDATION



Dear Friends,

As the largest nonprofit human services agency in Western New York, People Inc. serves over 10,000 individuals and their families every year. Our 2,400 staff help the most vulnerable people – every hour, every day, every neighborhood. Chances are, you know someone on our staff, or someone whose family we've helped over the past 40 years. *The single most important link in the chain is our direct care staff* – dedicated to providing personal assistance to each individual – in a respectful, caring, and capable manner.

But who trains the care-givers?

The demands are getting more intense – more individuals with complex medical conditions, co-existing behavioral health needs, and multiple disabilities. Our staff helps support and teach family members while they provide direct care to their loved one. And in many cases People Inc. IS the family, as parents or siblings pass on, or there has been no family involvement for years. People Inc. will be there for the individual over the long term – their lifetime – as their needs change. *The knowledge and ability for staff to deliver consistent quality care over a lifetime is directly linked to the training they receive.*

So how do we develop the best care-givers? **Make them the Strongest Link.** Provide them with the best training. Develop their knowledge and skills to handle complicated needs. Give them the tools to bring out the best in the people they serve. Help them to understand the history in order to move forward. In other words, invest in the type of preparation you'd want them to have if they were caring for your own family.

Join us and our family in supporting People Inc. **Together, let's create the strongest link.**

In appreciation,

Diana M. Papa Ron Papa

Diana & Ronald Papa and Foundation Board

People Inc. asks for your partnership in creating the *Training Center for Human Service Excellence*. Through it, we will provide critical training on all aspects of care-giving to thousands of direct care staff every year. Not only People Inc. staff—but staff from other local human services agencies, and medical students. While we have the technical expertise, we have not had the space capacity to provide adequate training to this key sector of our community. Creating the Center will provide the ability to not only deliver more training, but harness the rare resources of the Museum of disABILITY History as part of this training.

We are uniquely qualified to do this:

In 2010, People Inc. was selected and recognized in the **top 1% in the State** among 750 agencies for **exceptional quality service**, by the New York State regulatory and review body (NYS OPWDD).

- Through our **Museum of disABILITY History** (the nation's only bricks-and-mortar museum of its kind), we can couple the historical context of our work with the practical day-to-day training. Over 6,000 people a year will be educated locally through the Museum directly, and that number will grow: the Museum has already produced training for children in Kindergarten through High Schools across the U.S. Chartered through the NYS Board of Regents, we have also been a resource to people from over 100 countries across the globe. All local agencies will continue to have access to the Museum.
- **We are efficient.** Over 93 cents of every dollar* at People Inc. goes toward direct service. Our Board of Directors tracks comparisons to other organizations across the region and State every year. *Excerpt from 2009 People Inc. Audited Financial Statements, Bryans & Gramuglia CPAs LLC.



Our Goal:

*Raise \$250,000 over 2010 and 2011 to purchase and renovate
the Training Center for Human Services Excellence
& Museum of disABILITY History*

- The overall project is a \$1.3 million effort. Great momentum has been achieved through a Bargain Sale gift of \$200,000, a Bequest of \$50,000, and mortgage of \$825,000. Our remaining goal: Raise \$250,000 in 1-time gift or 2-year pledges.
- The new site (3826 Main Street, former Eggertsville Fire Station) was selected due to condition of the building, central location between City of Buffalo and Amherst, proximity to public transportation, onsite parking, and concentration of colleges and universities for collaborative work.
- Consideration of naming and recognition opportunities for areas within the Center/Museum is welcome.

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Embrace the Difference

People Inc. is proud to have the support of Reeds Jewelers and Robyn Zimmer, designer of Embrace the Difference jewelry, with proceeds supporting the campaign. The unique design is timeless and attractive for all ages, with a range of pieces that make a perfect gift for someone special, while spreading our special message.



PeopleInc
FOUNDATION

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