

About Work Without Limits

Who we are:

- An initiative of the Disability, Health and Employment Policy Unit at the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS), Work Without Limits (WWL) is a network of engaged employers and collaborative, innovative partners that aims to position Massachusetts as the first state in the nation where the employment rate of people with disabilities is equal to that of people without disabilities.
- Established in 2010 with resources from a federal grant, WWL launched its Corporate Sponsorship program in 2012, allowing WWL's programs and services to be sustained and expanded beyond the lifetime of the initial grant.
- WWL is a recipient of the Northeast Human Resources Association (NEHRA) Frank X. McCarthy Diversity Champion Award, and the UMMS Chancellor's Award for Advancing the Public Mission of the Medical School. In addition, Kathy Petkauskos, WWL Director, is a member of the Susan M. Daniels National Disability Mentoring Hall of Fame.

What we do:

- **Massachusetts Business Leadership Network (www.massbln.org):** Lead and manage the Massachusetts Business Leadership Network (MABLN), a consortium of employers committed to including people with disabilities in their companies as employees, customers and suppliers. WWL Corporate Sponsors receive automatic membership to the MABLN, which is an affiliate of the US Business Leadership Network (USBLN.org).
- **Thought Leadership and Brand Exposure:** Promote the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in the workforce by participating at industry events and conferences, public speaking engagements, and recognition and awards. Consistently feature and publicize WWL Corporate Sponsors and MABLN members in presentations and marketing materials, position MABLN member companies as disability inclusion leaders, and create opportunities for MABLN members to speak publicly of their best practices and commitment to disability inclusion.
- **'Raise the Bar HIRE!' Annual Statewide Conference:** Each October, in honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, host the Annual 'Raise the Bar HIRE!' Conference featuring prominent national keynote speakers, educational sessions, and exhibitor and networking opportunities. Average attendance: 350-400.
- **'Raise the Bar HIRE!' Annual Statewide Career Fair:** Also in October, host the Annual 'Raise the Bar HIRE!' Career Fair. Average attendance: 35-40 employers and approximately 100 candidates.
- **Disability Mentoring Day:** Coordinate an annual statewide Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) for MABLN member companies who in turn host high school and college students and recent graduates, as well as job seeking adults with disabilities for a day of career exploration and mentoring.
- **Jobs Without Limits:** Manage JobsWithoutLimits.org, WWL's accessible job board that connects qualified candidates with disabilities to jobs and internships at MABLN member companies.
- **Training and Consulting:** Deliver training and consulting services to employers on best practices and strategies to advance workplace disability inclusion. Training topics include disability etiquette, interviewing, performance discussions, and workplace accommodation solutions.
- **Information, Resources and B2B Networking:** Provide MABLN members with information and education, opportunities for business-to-business networking in both group and one-on-one formats, and connections to national, state, and local disability-employment resources and candidates.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Develop strategic relationships with federal and state agencies, community based organizations, and educational institutions, both high school and college, to connect MABLN members to job seeking candidates with disabilities inclusive of disabled veterans. Current partnerships include organizations such as the US Business Leadership Network, National Organization on Disability, American Association for People with Disabilities, Partners for Youth with Disabilities, the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services and Boston Public Schools.
- **BenePLAN:** Through our BenePLAN program and expert team of benefits specialists, assist job seeking or working individuals with disabilities and their family members to understand how earning or increasing wages affects eligibility for public benefits such as SSI, SSDI, Medicaid and Medicare.

How to Contact Us:

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