



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
New York, N.Y. 10007

MATTHEW SAPOLIN
Commissioner
OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Dear Prospective Mentor:

On behalf of the City of New York Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, we want to offer you an opportunity to be a mentor to a student or job seeker with a disability who is interested in your field by participating in Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) on **Wednesday, October 15, 2008**.

DMD is designed to bring students and job seekers with disabilities into the workplace where they can learn about various career opportunities. Through DMD, students and job seekers ("mentees") are paired with a career professional (the "mentor") to learn what it means to work in a particular field or occupation. The mentees observe a typical workday, identifying necessary skills, and learn about possible internships or employment prospects. While DMD is a one-day event, mentors and mentees are encouraged to stay in touch after the event. Mentoring is an invaluable and beneficial tool for both the mentor and mentee, designed to advance career development and personal growth.

Disability Mentoring Day originated at the White House in 1999 with three dozen local students participating. Now hosted by the American Association for People with Disabilities (AAPD), the nation's largest cross-disability membership organization, and funded publicly by the Office of Disability Employment Policy of the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Social Security Administration. DMD has evolved significantly to encompass participation in all fifty states and many countries around the world. The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities has been designated by AAPD as the official local coordinating organization in our area. To find out more about DMD, please visit our website at: www.nyc.gov/mopd and/or AAPD website at: www.dmd-aapd.org.

To participate in DMD, please complete and return the attached Mentor Application form by September 5, 2008 by e-mail at: DMD@cityhall.nyc.gov, or by fax at: (212) 341-9843.

For assistance in learning how to get involved and/or if you have any additional questions, contact Mkada Beach by e-mail at: mbeach@cityhall.nyc.gov, or by phone at: (212) 788-2830.

We hope you will take advantage of this mentoring opportunity and join us on October 15, 2008.

Sincerely,

Matthew Sapolin
Commissioner of the Mayor's Office for People
With Disabilities and NYC DMD Local Coordinator

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Enclosures