























There's a profound but subtle reality that defines the notion of National Able Network's ecosystem – and that's the way in which we think about our clients: They are us.

Able has hired more than 40 of its own clients from across every major program in this agency. They serve in all areas of our organization and at every level. The majority have been promoted (many more than once) to roles with greater responsibility and they are largely responsible for the cultural fabric of Able defined by compassion, integrity, and service.

This "Able ecosystem" has extended its reach over the years in some interesting and impactful ways. It's hard to imagine how a mission that already affects every aspect of people's lives and our communities could be broadened, yet this year's expansion of our IT, finance, training, and real estate services for other nonprofits has validated the tremendous potential this work has for reaching and helping more people. Our infrastructure services provide new career opportunities for our clients, while delivering low-cost infrastructure services to many nonprofit partners that, in turn, allow them to focus more on their own missions of helping people. Now that's a great (eco)system!

IT services are just one example. Able's IT Career Lab successfully graduated more than 140 new IT professionals this year, certified more than 90 percent of them, and – so far – has placed more than 3 out of 4 in IT career positions, including some within Able's IT department. During the same time, our veterans program has served more than 500 military veterans providing them with a breadth of service benefits efficiently integrated across workforce programs including the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). Speaking of SCSEP, did I mention that in our spare time, we opened a few dozen new offices in Nebraska, lowa, Illinois and Indiana and enrolled hundreds of previously under-served low-income seniors? Able has tremendous opportunities – and responsibilities – to take its mission to the next level. Our training programs, specifically IT Career Lab, are entering new state territories and our infrastructure business is growing at an impressive pace.

Entering our 41st year, Able will also welcome its third CEO, Bridget Altenburg, who brings the vision, energy, values and skills to build on these early successes and make National Able Network a true national success story.

On a personal note, the past 15 years in the service of this agency have been nothing short of positively life-changing and wonderfully rewarding. The clients, the staff, and our Board have taught me more than I imagined possible and I am grateful beyond words for the privilege to have been part of this remarkable team. Successful growth and true mission impact require a caring, empathetic team of professionals whose most basic core values support innovation and hard work. That's who Able is.

Grace PowersPresident & CEO



Roots & Wings

As the saying goes, give the ones we care about **wings to fly** and **roots to come back**. In 2017, we saw hundreds of job seekers across the country finding the support and resources they needed to soar into new careers. Many of them have returned to share their stories, to inspire others, or to thank those who have helped them along the way. We are pleased to share some of them in this year's report. Even after 40 years, we never grow tired of listening to the elation in the voice of a job seeker who has achieved their career goals.

As an agency, 'roots and wings' resonates with us as we experience change in our leadership. Grace Powers has served as President & CEO for the past 15 years, giving National Able Network strong roots from which to grow. In 2018, we welcome Bridget Altenburg as President & CEO, who, with roots set by her predecessor, will continue to help National Able Network soar.



We have operated the **Senior Community Service Employment Program** almost as long as our doors have been open. Across the nation, about 40 percent of individuals age 55 or better are working or looking for work, a number that is projected to increase through the first half of the next decade. Over the past four decades, Able has helped thousands of mature workers build and showcase their skills and talents by offering dynamic job training opportunities across various industries and occupations in communities throughout the U.S.

MATURE WORKER FINDS CLARITY AND CERTAINTY IN A NEW CAREER.

For more than 20 years, Timothy Morgan worked as a financial executive at various non-profit organizations. When he found himself between jobs in his early 60s, his future seemed unclear. Timothy enrolled in the Senior Community Service Employment Program and he began training at local non-profit organizations. During his training, Timothy used his financial background to author strategic funding documents and procurement policies. His training and professional experience helped him connect with his current position as a consultant. He credits Able with helping him get though the uncertainty of unemployment, and credits career preparation resources for helping him move forward in his new career.



"National Able Network will help you get through the most difficult phases of searching for a new position."

Timothy Morgan

25,000 Job seekers utilized Cook County Resource Centers 1,775 Unemployed or underemployed Cook County residents served

Job seekers participated

in BACK TO WORK 50+

and adult education programs

Our workforce services team offers a broad range of career resources for all education levels, ages, and industries. In 2017, the team enrolled thousands of unemployed or underemployed individuals into the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Trade Adjustment Assistance, BACK TO WORK 50+ and Adult Education and GED Preparation programs. With these programs, job seekers receive personalized support, reignite their commitment to lifelong learning, and blaze new career pathways. Many job seekers built new resumes, professional social networking profiles, interview skills, and more after participating in our signature JUMPSTART program. In improving economic conditions, job seekers who develop the skills required for emerging career pathways are best positioned for long-term success.

ADVANCE YOUR EDUCATION, ENHANCE YOUR CAREER! LaKeshia

Jackson's childhood dream was to become a nurse. At 25 years old, she already had a head start working as a Certified Nursing Assistant. LaKeshia wanted to take the next step in her career path and decided to continue her education to earn her state nursing certification. She discovered National Able Network at Prairie State College and enrolled in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program. With assistance from WIOA and guidance from her Career Coach Katrina Johnson, LaKeshia enrolled at the Coalition of African American Nurses (CAAN) Academy of Nursing.



"I look forward to helping and giving back to my community."

LaKeshia Jackson

It's not just jobs, but rather careers that really help our clients realize their dreams. IT Career Lab does just that: helping hundreds of IT professionals-to-be build the skills and credentials needed to compete in the job market each year. IT Career Lab is both a Cisco Academy and a Microsoft Imagine Academy, has expanded its service footprint threefold in recent months and also has additional plans for expansion in the coming year. Our commitment to building opportunities for IT job seekers and businesses is also evident in our highly-successful IT Sector Center serving all of Cook County, Illinois.

NEW OUTLOOK, NEW CERTIFICATION,

NEW CAREER! Brian Bjerke has always been quick to understand and apply Information Technology skills. After being laid off, Brian wanted to update his technology skills to help him reenter the workforce. Brian enrolled in the IT Career Lab program, which allowed him to obtain his Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) certification. "I came into the program already expecting that I knew too much, skeptical of how useful the training was going to be, prepared to be 'bored.' My ignorance could not have been more mistaken!" said Brian. Brian successfully completed the program and earned his CCNA, which caught the eye of his current employer and ultimately led him to a new career!



"IT Career Lab gave me so much more than a certification, it enabled me to communicate my message which empowered me to get my new job!"

Brian Bjerke

BY THE NUMBERS

149

Total students enrolled in IT Career Lab

182

Total certifications earned by IT Career Lab students

\$18.47/hr

Average wages of IT Career Lab graduates

Veterans Forward is staffed by an all veteran team who understand the barriers veterans face when leaving the military and integrating back into civilian life. In the past year, hundreds of veterans have benefitted from custom-designed training and coaching. Each veteran receives personalized support that integrates career coaching from staff who draw upon their own military-to-civilian career transition experience, specialized training that helps veterans build job search skills, and direct connections to the job market.

AIR FORCE VETERAN'S CAREER SOARS WITH NATIONAL ABLE

NETWORK. Tammi Smith was an active duty service member of the United States Air Force for more than five years. Upon completing her military career, she earned both a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and her Master's Degree. After graduating, Tammi had trouble finding leads for employment, but after enrolling in the Veterans Forward program, she received the support she needed to begin her path to a new career! Tammi did not end up looking far for her next opportunity; she applied for and obtained a position as a Career Coach at Able! Tammi draws upon her own experience as a job seeker to help guide her clients through their next career path.



"My career coaches really helped me see the skills and attributes I bring as a professional and as a person." Tammi Smith

BY THE NUMBERS

785

Total veterans served

304

Veterans participated in Job Ready Boot Camp

73%

employed, of which

75%

found employment in first six months

BY THE NUMBERS

277

CareerPlace Members

178
Executive Network

Group Members

600+

Hours of Career Coaching by our team of volunteers With acclaimed workshops and instructors, a dedicated team of more than 30 volunteers and career networking opportunities, **CareerPlace** offers helps job seekers land their next career. CareerPlace opened a brand new office in Palatine, Illinois which has large classroom spaces, state-of-theart technology, and a support structure that includes community partners, former members, and current and former executives. CareerPlace also offers specialized career services for executives through **Executive Network Group** and outplacement solutions to help local businesses with employment needs.

NEW JOB SEARCHING TECHNIQUES

LEAD TO A NEW CAREER. Throughout Karen Arbir's professional life, she never found herself unemployed. Even when she wanted to make a career change, Karen never had to look very hard to find her next opportunity. The unthinkable happened: Karen found herself unemployed and having to look for a new career in her early 50s. Karen became a member at CareerPlace and began training in the various workshops about resume writing, interview preparation, perfecting your elevator speech, and more! "I was really seeking to relearn job seeking skills," said Karen. Shortly after becoming a member, and with all of her new job search techniques in play, Karen landed a new position.



"CareerPlace helps you really articulate who you are, what you want to do and what you can do."

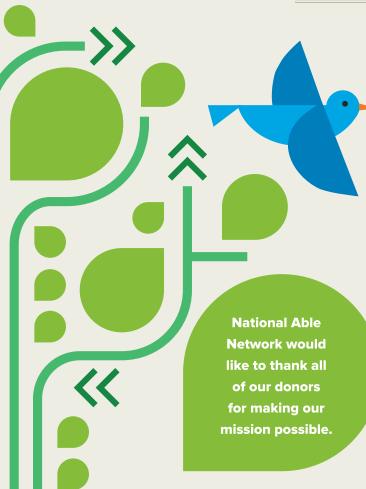
Karen Arbir

Financial Statements

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

	2017
Revenues	
Total Revenues	. \$ 21,853,956
Expenses	
Program Services	. 19,958,106
Support Services	1,812,906
Total Expenses	. 21,771,012
Change in Net Assets	. 82,944
Net Assets	
Beginning of Year	1,517,378
End of Year	.\$ 1,600,322



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

2017

AS OF JUNE 30, 2017

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$	1,030,618
Net Receivables		2,569,425
Promise to Give	•	97,500
Prepaid Expenses	•	63,850
Total Current Assets		3,761,393
Net Furniture and Equipment		50,239
Deposits	•	83,044
Total Assets	\$	3,894,676
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable – Trade	\$	261,302
Other Liabilities		1,075,793
Total Current Liabilities		1,337,095
Long-Term Liabilities		
Deferred Rent Obligations		957,259
Total Liabilities		2,294,354
Net Assets		
Net Assets		1,600,322
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	3,894,676



PARTIAL LIST OF FUNDING PARTNERS & SPONSORS

GOVERNMENT

United States Department of Labor

Illinois Department of Commerce and

Economic Opportunity

Indiana Department of Workforce Development

Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

Chicago Department of Family and Support Services

Illinois Department on Aging

Delaware Health and Social Services

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs

PRIVATE

Walmart Foundation

AARP Foundation

Robert R. McCormick Foundation,

Chicago Tribune Charities

Chicago Community Trust

Bank of America

Lloyd A. Fry Foundation

United Way Metro Chicago

A Private Family Foundation

Leonard C. Goodman

Foglia Family Foundation

Dr. Scholl Foundation

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

David Zimner, Chair

Darryl Rodgers, Vice Chair

Kathy Ross, Treasurer

DeAnn O'Donovan, Secretary

DIRECTORS

Grace Powers

Grailing Jones

Debra D. Matlock, Esq.

Therese Vande Hey

Phillip Roussel

Steven Jacobs

Patricia O'Brien

Carolyn Dolezal



www.nationalable.org











