

**Alliance for Inclusion Advancement-Hawaii
(AIA-HI)
Frequently Asked Questions**

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE ALLIANCE FOR INCLUSION ADVANCEMENT-HAWAII PROJECT?

The overall goals of the Alliance for Inclusion Advancement-Hawaii (AIA-HI), established in October 2005, are to increase the capacity of individuals with disabilities to participate in volunteer opportunities and to act as a catalyst in enhancing the ability of service organizations to include volunteers with disabilities in their programs. Increasing the capacities will enable those with disabilities to be more actively engaged in their communities and enable community organizations to avail themselves of the talents and resources those with disabilities provide.

AIA-HI will act as a conduit for youth with disabilities 14 and older, and adults with disabilities including veterans, to engage in short-term (as brief as a few hours) and ongoing (from day a week to full-time) volunteer opportunities.

WHAT IS A LINC?

A Local Inclusion Network Collaborative (LINC) consists of a large group of people interested in increasing the number of volunteers with disabilities in the community. The LINC is comprised of service providers, volunteer agencies, disability organizations, community volunteers and others interested in the AIA-HI project.

What are the benefits of being involved in a LINC?

You can keep in touch with LINC members through an online listserv.

You will have an opportunity to network with a variety of organizations to match volunteers with disabilities with available opportunities.

When you host a LINC meeting, you will have an opportunity to showcase your organization, give a tour of your facility and plan the agenda.

What are the responsibilities of LINC membership?

- We encourage you to attend three LINC meetings per year.
- We ask that you host a LINC meeting at your organization site if at all possible. You will be responsible for providing the meeting space, arrange for parking for attendees and coordinate refreshments. The AIA-HI staff will meet with you briefly to plan the agenda.
- Please keep us posted on how we can help you make your organization more accessible to volunteers with disabilities.

Does it cost anything to join?

No, there is no cost to join a LINC.

WHAT IS A MATCH MAKING MEETING?

A Match Making meeting is a small meeting consisting of one to four organizations interested in working together. The meeting is usually hosted by an organization seeking volunteers. At this meeting, organizations involved in the match discuss ways in which they can work effectively together to match volunteers with disabilities with volunteer opportunities available. A Match Making speed event can involve several organizations in the match. For more detailed information, please refer to the Match Making materials located at our website at www.aia.hawaii.edu.

WILL THE ALLIANCE FOR INCLUSION ADVANCEMENT-HAWAII PROJECT PROVIDE ME WITH VOLUNTEERS?

The Alliance for Inclusion-Advancement-Hawaii project is a capacity building grant rather than a direct service grant. Therefore, we do not screen, interview, place or supervise volunteers. We can provide the following services to your organization:

- We can publicize volunteer opportunities for individuals with disabilities for your projects.
- We can help with flyer development as well as post your flyer on our website.
- We can write a public service announcement (PSA) for publication in the local newspapers to assist in volunteer recruitment.

You will have a unique opportunity to network with various organizations that can provide you with volunteers or help you place volunteers through participation in the Local Inclusion Network Collaborative (LINC).

You can also host Match Making meetings whenever necessary to find volunteers for your organization.

HOW WILL I KNOW WHETHER MY ORGANIZATION IS ACCESSIBLE AND READY TO WORK WITH VOLUNTEERS WITH DISABILITIES?

We can help you discover your organization's overall attitude regarding volunteers with disabilities and provide interventions for improvement through the following:

- Provide information on using respectful first person language or offer common tips on disability etiquette.
- Direct you to resources for a site visit to assess your building for physical access.
- Suggest various assistive technology resources for people with disabilities.
- Provide resources for speakers to conduct trainings on needed disability topics such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, the prevalence of disability, various disabilities and assistive technology.

For more information on the AIA-HI project visit us at our website at www.aia.hawaii.edu or contact:

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