



People with Disabilities in Ireland

Presentation by

Mary Mulryan PwDI

Examples of good practice and innovative
measures to maintain employment of disabled
workers in the present economic crises

PwDI



- Commissioned by Government to be the national cross disability organisation to promote the rights of people with disabilities.

PwDI



- Ensure that the recommendations in the Commission on the Status of People with Disabilities (402 recommendations) are implemented. That was the reason why PwDI was set up in Ireland

PwDI



- Co-operate with other organisations to ensure their views and issues are heard
- Promote Best Practice in disability issues
- PwDI in every county in Ireland are sitting on all committees to support employment local & national level
- Our board members sit on the government committees that deal direct with the Minister on Employment

PwDI



- Provide process for people with disabilities, their parents, partners, relatives and carers to participate and influence the decision-making processes in matters of concern to them.

PwDI



- Strength in numbers
- 400,000 people with disabilities working together cannot be ignored

PwDI



- Definitely the opportunities for people with disabilities to access has Employment shrunk from a base that was relatively small even during the 'boom years ' to the position of almost zero.
- Voluntary groups and services providers and agencies such as FAS. Prompted Irelands responsibility to fulfilled their obligations under European Law

What supports are available to P.W.D in Ireland



- Over the past few years FAS is the agency who deals with Employment & Training for people P.WD. In Ireland since the Disability Act became law 3% of all state bodies have to employ P.W.D. as part of their work force



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The Supports for Employment

- FAS
- Community Employment
- Supported Employment Programme
- Job Coaches
- Back to Work Allowance
- Wage Subsidy Scheme
- Work Adaptation Grants
- JOB Interview
- Interpreter grant
- Personal Reader Grant
- Disability Awareness Grant



PwDI

- Compiled a Best Practice Document on Advocacy
- Created awareness with over 5,000 employers of the ability of people with disabilities to hold down a job and contribute positively to their company
- Agreed working protocol with County Councils throughout all Ireland



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Working to promote the ability rather than the disabilities

- Over the past 5 years Pwdi have had 2 conferences the on the 3rd of Dec the theme was promoting Benefits and Grants
- Sharing experiences by Employer & Employees presented there own experiences
- Employ Ability through e-Technology

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- Working together more awareness can be created of the abilities rather than the disabilities
- Working together more can be achieved



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Conclusion

A few year ago the government in Ireland made a commitment to the P.W.D in Ireland regarding the proposed improvement to access to employment and career opportunities rather than just jobs for P.WD. It is sad to see that we are almost back to where back to where we started all those years ago

Thank you

Mary Mulryan PwDI National Board Ireland



People with Disabilities in Ireland

Fourth Floor

Jervis House

Jervis Street

Dublin 1

01 8721744

E mail info@pwdi.ie

www.pwdi.ie