



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CITY OF ROCKLEDGE PROCLAIMS OCTOBER DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**

*ACKNOWLEDGING IMPORTANT ROLE OF BAC*

**(Rockledge, FL, October 20 )** On Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Thomas J. Price and the City of Rockledge issued an official proclamation recognizing the month of October as Disability Employment Awareness Month. In proclaiming Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Mayor of Rockledge acknowledges the important role BAC and individuals with disabilities play in creating a diverse and inclusive workforce.

For fifty-four (54) years, BAC has connected people with disabilities to meaningful employment through contracts with the federal government and private sector. In addition to providing job coaching, training opportunities, and supportive work environments, BAC also participates in the federal AbilityOne Program, one of the largest sources of employment for people with significant disabilities. With 11 million open jobs in the current labor market (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics), people with disabilities are a largely untapped and valuable talent pool.

"Equity is central to our organization's mission", stated Amar Patel, CEO of BAC. "Individuals with disabilities offer a vast range of skills to help businesses grow. BAC is proud to bridge that talent, helping ensure both employees and organizations succeed. We are committed to helping staff employers with qualified candidates who are skilled, loyal and committed to their success."

Today, more than 70% of working-age people with disabilities are currently left out of the workforce making the need for more accessible employment paramount. Throughout this month, BAC will continue to amplify the voices and celebrate the many and varied contributions of people with disabilities utilizing the theme announced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy - "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation." For organizations seeking to create a more equitable and inclusive workforce, BAC offers these three simple suggestions: commit to hiring people with disabilities for remote opportunities, provide an accessible environment and accommodations to those on-site, and re-evaluate practices so that people with disabilities are not only a part of the workforce, but can excel and advance in a meaningful way.

For more information on becoming an employer partner of BAC or for specific ideas on how you can help support National Disability Employment Awareness Month, please call 321.632.8610 or visit <https://bacemploy.com/>.



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## **ABOUT BAC**

BAC is a social enterprise dedicated to building communities that support members of unique abilities in growing their own personal success. BAC's empowerment programs provide life enrichment opportunities to those with significant disabilities and help more than 1,200 people find meaningful purpose in their lives.

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