



**MEAF e-NEWS**

**August/September 2013**

**In This Issue**

[Vote for KIT](#)

[MEAF Success Story: Disability](#)

[Mentoring Day](#)

[Summer Intern at MERL](#)

[Disability Experience Conference](#)

[- University of Pittsburgh](#)

[Recognizing ABILITY](#)

[Who Cares About Kelsey?](#)

[Deadlines and Reminders](#)

**Vote for Kids Included Together**

MEAF and Mitsubishi Electric volunteers across the nation are proud supporters of [Kids Included Together](#) and its inclusion training. Recently, the **LIFT Committee from MEUS-San Diego** won the MOVE Award for the KIT Over the Edge Fundraiser. This award included a trophy for the employee volunteers and \$1,000 donation to Kids Included Together.

Now, KIT needs your help!

Kids Included Together (KIT) is 1 of 9 finalists in American Airlines® "Flights. Camera. Action. 3 Sweepstakes." Vote for KIT's video so 180,000 kids can experience inclusion! You will also be entered for a chance to win 25,000 American Airlines AAdvantage® miles. Vote

**Summer Intern at MERL**

Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories in Cambridge, MA has a long partnership with [Partners for Youth with Disabilities \(PYD\)](#), and MEAF national partner. This summer MERL worked with PYD to hire a summer intern. The experience was positive and eye-opening not only for Tayla but for her co-workers.



MERL's summer intern, Tayla, on the job

Tayla shares her thoughts on the experience:

*I have developed many new skills that will help me in future education and jobs. My organizational skills, as well as multi-*

everyday until Sept. 26th.

[Vote for KIT here](#)

[Learn how you can support KIT through innovative fundraising](#)

[Learn about the MOVE Award winning Over the Edge Project](#)

---

### **Success Story - Disability Mentoring Day**

Beginning with **Mitsubishi Electric Automation** in Vernon Hills, Il., Mitsubishi Electric company locations in the US have been hosting Disability Mentoring Days (DMD) since 2007. DMD provides opportunities for students with disabilities to learn about vocational and career options in experiential settings at companies, like Mitsubishi Electric, across the country.

In 2012 Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation partnered with the [American Association of People with Disabilities](#), which coordinates DMD nationally, by providing a two-year \$35,000 grant to expand this popular program into a year-round *Pipelines of Talent Initiative* helping youth with disabilities progress from mentoring to shadowing to internships and, ultimately, to employment.

[Read about DMDIowa, First Award Recipient of the Pipelines of Talent Initiative](#)

[Learn all about the program and check out the mentoring guide](#)

---

*tasking and completing projects on time are areas that have always been a challenge for me as a student with learning disabilities... [with] the feedback and assistance I have received from them I feel I am stronger and extremely more confident in myself, which enables me to do better in my job responsibilities. It is a constant struggle for me as a student with learning disabilities to find opportunities after graduating from high school. [MERL] has given me something that will last a lifetime, they have given me the confidence to not give up and continue to stride towards my goals to become a professional, and contributing member of society.*

Tayla is hoping to attend college and work at MERL in the future.

**Don't forget to check out our Success Story Highlight this month - Disability Mentoring Day!**

### **Disability Experience Conference - University of Pittsburgh**

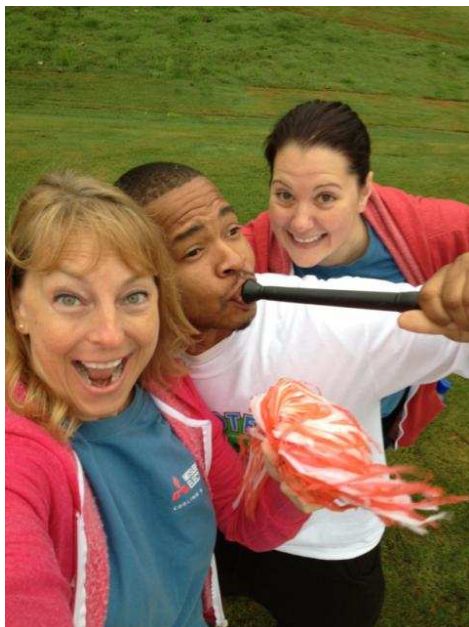
We are pleased to announce that the **Students for Disability Advocacy at the University of Pittsburgh (PittSDA)** will be hosting The Disability Experience Conference, on October 31st and November 1st, 2013 at the University of Pittsburgh. Assistant Secretary of Labor for Disability Employment Policy, **Kathleen Martinez**, will be the keynote speaker.

The conference will showcase panel presentations by students with faculty respondents highlighting arts and research pertaining to the disability experience.

[Check out the Flyer](#)  
[Learn more and Register here](#)



The **LIFT Committee from MEUS-San Diego** participated in a Bocce Ball Summer FUNdraiser to benefit [ReSpectrum](#), Autism Services in San Diego.



**LOVE Committee from MEUS-Suwanee, GA** participated in the [Lekotek Run!](#)

## Recognizing ABILITY

This August the **VISION Committee at Mitsubishi Electric Automation** volunteered with [Northwest Special Recreation Association](#) at their *Day Camp Olympics* event.



MEAU Volunteer Chuck Baum (right) shown here with one of the student athletes.

Volunteers spent the day with the students assisting them with games, joining them at lunch, and congratulating them on their well-deserved medals.

This event is fun for the athletes, the volunteers, and also the family members that come and cheer on their children/siblings.

[See other ways Mitsubishi Electric volunteers are on the MOVE in their local communities](#)

## Who Cares About Kelsey?

From the filmmaker who brought you *Including Samuel*, comes a new documentary about the importance of inclusion.

Dan Habib's *Who Cares About Kelsey?* documents Kelsey Carroll's struggles with emotional and behavioral challenges and shows innovative educational approaches that help



**HOPE Committee at MEPPI-Warrendale, PA** hosts an Ice Cream Social for [Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf](#)

**Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation**

1560 Wilson Boulevard,  
Suite 1150  
Arlington, Virginia 22209  
[www.meaf.org](http://www.meaf.org)  
[mea.foundation@meus.me.com](mailto:mea.foundation@meus.me.com)  
703.276.8240

 [Join Our Mailing List](#)

 [Send to a Colleague](#)

**Want to see more?**

Check out MEAF's new social media sites.

Like, Follow and Visit us today!

[Like us on Facebook](#) 

[Follow us on twitter](#)

[View our videos on YouTube](#) 

students like her to succeed - while improving the overall school culture and climate.

Make sure to catch this important documentary, which will be shown on local public television stations.

Schools and organizations can also apply for a FREE "Who Cares About Kelsey?" Education DVD Kit to host a screening in your community and support kids who struggle in school. The WCAK Education DVD Kit contains the WCAK film, 11 mini-films, discussion guides and educational materials (\$145 value). If selected, you will also be able to Skype, email, or speak with filmmaker, Dan Habib, or Project Assistant, Kären Clausen, regarding your event planning.

[Learn more about broadcast info, hosting a screening, and to watch the compelling film trailer.](#)

## Deadlines and Reminders

**October is National Employment Disability Awareness Month & Disability Mentoring Day is October 16th.**

### Mitsubishi Electric Volunteer Committees

Spend Commit Deadline is September 30

Quarterly Reports are Due October 8

### National Grant Partners

MEAF Power Lunch at the US Business Leadership Network Conference in Los Angeles, CA on October 2

[Forward this email](#)