

MEAF e-NEWS

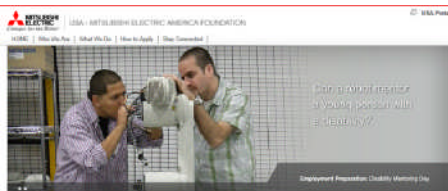
October 2012

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MEAF Launches New Website

With support from the Mitsubishi Electric US Corporate Communications Department, MEAF is pleased to announce the launch of a new [website](#)!



The site features three strategies MEAF is focusing on to reach toward its vision to *empower youth with disabilities to lead productive lives*:

- [Leadership Development](#),
- [Employment Preparation](#), and
- [Ability Awareness](#).

Each of these strategies include [success stories](#) from MEAF's current and past National Grantees, as well as Mitsubishi Electric Organized Volunteer Efforts.

Collaborating to Employ Youth with Disabilities

In honor of **National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)** MEAF brought partners together to discuss ways they are helping future generations of youth with disabilities obtain employment and prepare employers.



MEAF Partners gather to discuss employing youth with disabilities

Representatives from [HSC Foundation](#), [Girl Scouts of the Nation's Capital](#), [Autistic Self-Advocacy Network](#), [American Association of People with Disabilities \(AAPD\)](#), [TASH](#), and the US State Department joined MEAF Staff, Board Members, and Mitsubishi Electric Corporation visitors to share best practices and challenges.

Mitsubishi Electric Volunteers in Action

Employees from the **PEACE Committee at MEAA/Northville, MI** hosted a Hallway Golf Tournament. The event raised over \$7,000 for local schools.

Each year volunteer committees across the nation participate in the Hallway Golf Tournament to benefit local organizations that work with children with disabilities. Later this year we will announce the winners of the Most Money Raised and Most Creative Hole competitions.

[Visit our Facebook page to see pictures of the PEACE Committee event](#)



In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month the MERL Philanthropy Committee at MERL/Cambridge, MA participated in the [American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk](#).

MEAF supports several national grants that focus on preparing youth with disabilities to enter the workforce, including *AAPD's Disability Mentoring Day pipelines of talent* program.

Disability Mentoring Day

In October, people across the US participated in Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) including our Mitsubishi Electric volunteers.

The **GIVE Committee** from **MEAA/Garden Grove, CA** partnered with [Project Independence](#) to host 4 students this year in various departments. The students received some practical, hands-on experience, and attended a company-wide meeting so they could interact with co-workers.



GIVE Committee Volunteer working with Mentee

The **VISION Committee** at **MEAU/Vernon Hills, IL** partnered with the [Special Education District of Lake County](#) to host 12 students, in what has become an annual tradition for the company. Students learned about factory automation products and how they impact their lives before shadowing various employees, as well as enjoying lunch and friendly conversation with their mentors.

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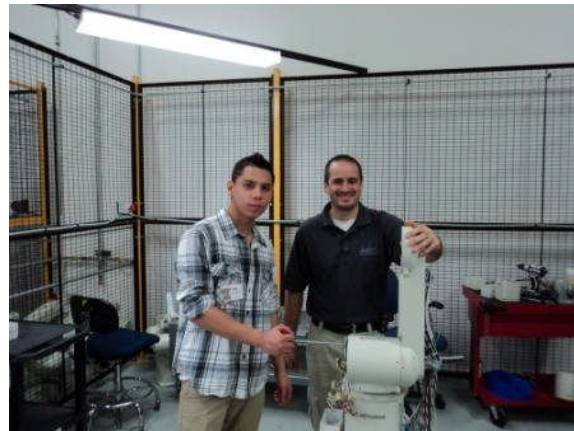
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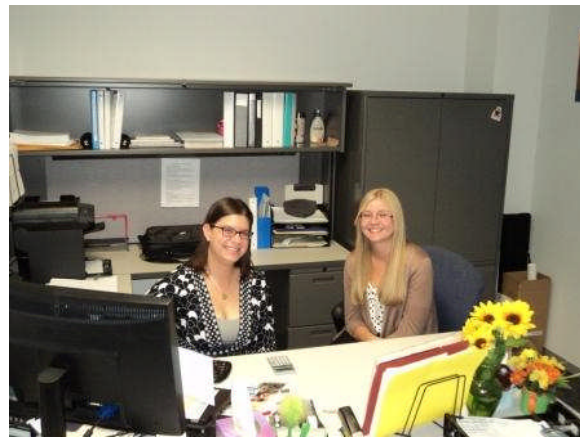
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VISION Committee Volunteer repairing robots with his Mentee

MEAF also joined the efforts and staff member Tara Havlicek mentored a student interested in philanthropy.



MEAF Staff Member, Tara Havlicek, with her Mentee

[Learn more about MEAF's Involvement with DMD](#)

Paul Hearne Award Opportunity

American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) recognizes US leaders in the disability field each year with their *Paul G. Hearne Leadership Award*.



Two individuals will receive the award, which includes \$10,000 to continue their efforts. They will also star in a documentary film about their work and have the opportunity to attend the 2013 AAPD Leadership Gala in Washington, DC.

The deadline to apply is November 5th!

[Learn about past winners and Apply Here](#)

Deadlines and Reminders

National Grants

Funding Decisions Made December 1st

Mitsubishi Electric Volunteer Committees

Starfishnet Call is November 14th

Hallway Golf Nominations due November 21st

Matching Grant Deadline is December 11th

Mitsubishi Electric Employees

Starfish Match Deadline is December 11th

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