Tangram produces six-part video series on disability inclusion

INDIANAPOLIS – <u>Tangram</u>, a local non-profit organization that provides customized services and support for people with disabilities, has produced a six-part video series on disability inclusion. The series is geared toward businesses and organizations that wish to become disability-confident for purposes of recruiting a diverse workforce and better serving their clients and customers with disabilities.

Indiana celebrates Disability Awareness Month in March, so the video series comes at a very good time for employers who want to build a culture of inclusion and use the month of March to launch their journey. Furthermore, the digital format makes it easy for businesses to provide this training to their employees during a time when remote work is the standard for so many organizations.

"Indiana Disability Awareness Month is a great time to discuss employment of people with disabilities. Employment is an organic way to build awareness amongst your team, your consumers, and in our community, through the relationships that are created and the opportunities to see firsthand the wide range of capabilities and types of disabilities," said Angela Vandersteen, manager of mission advancement for Tangram.

According to the CDC, one in four American adults has a disability. In Indiana, fewer than 21% of adults with disabilities are working, compared to 31% nationally. In addition, two times as many adults with a disability ages 18-64 live in poverty compared to the general population, a number that many believe can be reduced through competitive employment. [Source: https://www.worktoinclude.org/]

The videos cover a range of topics, including:

- Addressing Barriers to Facilities and Events
- Disability Awareness and Etiquette
- Environmental Supports
- Inclusive Communications
- Management Strategies
- Recruitment and Hiring Practices

To learn more about the video series and how you can access this training, visit https://www.thetangramway.org/business-services or contact Angela Vandersteen at (317) 968-9035 or avandersteen@thetangramway.org.

About Tangram

Established in 1985 by family members of six individuals with disabilities in Hancock County, IN, Tangram has grown to provide a wide array of individualized and supportive services to more than 400 individuals with disabilities in 21 counties throughout Indiana. Tangram is a CARF-accredited United Way community-based organization whose mission encompasses the following: Tangram supports people with disabilities by designing services to meet their specific needs and desires. Tangram assists them to live full meaningful, and happy lives, at home and as members of their community. Tangram joins with community partners to create inclusive and sustainable solutions to challenges faced by those impacted by disabilities. For more information on Tangram's services, visit www.thetangramway.org.

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Media Contact:

Lindsey Hill 317.968.9048 Ihill@thetangramway.org