

Family Resource Network, Inc. – Trenton, NJ

\$48,878.-

The Corps of Integrated Volunteers in Inclusive Community Settings

One Year Project

CIVICS – The Corps of Integrated Volunteers in Inclusive Community Settings will encourage individuals with disabilities who are often disconnected from their communities, to participate as active, productive members of their community. Individuals with developmental disabilities have a great deal to offer and to gain from being a part of the community in which they live. The volunteers will participate alongside others providing much needed civic assistance while obtaining valuable, marketable job experiences and networking.

CIVICS will increase the number of people with disabilities who participate in already established volunteer efforts and not create a new volunteer program. In order to accomplish this, The FRN is partnering with the Governor's Office on Volunteerism (GOV). This will insure that the effort is a sustainable part of an enduring service. The GOV, which also works with Americorps, is eager to have the opportunity to incorporate these volunteers into their ongoing efforts throughout the state.

One long term objective of CIVICS is to promote inclusion in existing community settings, increase the opportunities for people with disabilities to give back, and increase opportunities for local employment. Another long term objective is to heighten public awareness that Individuals with developmental disabilities are living as integral and contributing members of our communities.