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**Abilities of Florida, RESPECT of Florida and Tonertype of Florida, LLC
Partner to Provide Jobs for Individuals With Disabilities**

Clearwater, FL—Abilities of Florida has entered into a contract with RESPECT of Florida to provide laser printer maintenance and toner cartridge services for the Pasco County School District in partnership with Tonertype of Florida, LLC, a Tampa-based imaging services provider. The contract will initially employ four individuals with disabilities.

As a subcontractor to RESPECT, Abilities of Florida will hire two technicians to provide laser printer maintenance and toner cartridge services for approximately 3,000 laser printers in use in the Pasco County School District. Two assemblers working on the contract will provide toner cartridge refurbishing services, utilizing expertise and supplies from Tonertype, LLC. All toner cartridge assembly work will be done by Abilities of Florida employees at Tonertype's facility in Tampa, Florida.



“I am very excited about partnering with Abilities of Florida to better serve our customers with quality refurbished toner cartridges and complete “price per page” services at very competitive prices,” said Scott Gaedtke, Executive Director of RESPECT of Florida. “Through this new partnership we will be able to provide technical training, a certification program and direct employment for Florida’s citizens with disabilities.”

Abilities of Florida plans for the contract to provide quality summer apprentice work for students with disabilities currently enrolled in the High School/High Tech (HS/HT) Program, which is funded by AbleTrust through the Florida Department of Education’s Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to provide students with disabilities the opportunity to obtain first hand knowledge and experience regarding high tech careers. Ideally, the contract will also provide work for Florida veterans with disabilities through Abilities of Florida’s Veterans Employment and Outreach Program.

According to David Higgins, Executive Director of Abilities of Florida; “Abilities is looking forward to increasing employment and training opportunities for individuals with disabilities in Tampa Bay to include local veterans and our HS/HT students.”

RESPECT of Florida is a non-profit organization that provides state and local government agencies products and services produced by people with disabilities. RESPECT uses multiple employment models and training opportunities to help individuals with disabilities in the State of Florida achieve their employment goals.

Abilities, Inc. of Florida (Abilities) is a non-profit community rehabilitation agency with a 50-year history of helping Floridians with disabilities obtain competitive employment and lead productive lives in their community through vocational evaluation, skills training, accessible housing and job placement services. As part of the ServiceSource Network, Abilities serves nearly 8,000 Floridians with disabilities annually. For more information about Abilities or the ServiceSource Network, visit www.ourpeoplework.org.