

## **Youth Leadership Forum -2012 May 21 – 25, 2012**

### **What will we accomplish this week?**

You will share many and a variety of experiences which will explore the principles of leadership. The activities will help the delegate students to develop an appreciation of the past, understand the present and believe in the future.

### **What is leadership?**

Leadership is the ability to analyze our strengths and weaknesses, establish personal and vocational goals, and have the necessary self-esteem to achieve them. It includes the ability to identify and use community resources, not only to live independently, but also to establish support groups in order to participate fully in community life and influence positive social changes.

### **How will we learn about leadership?**

You will learn about leadership through experiences that will be presented through the following sections or modules: Principles of Leadership, The Experience of Having a Disability, Living Independently and Achieving my Professional Goals, Being a Leader in My Community, Technology and Resources to Achieve My Goals.

### **What Are the Goals of the Forum and How Will They Be Achieved?**

During the Forum you will:

#### **Goal #1 Develop an Appreciation of the Past and the Present**

- You will learn about the history of disabilities

#### **Goal #2 Develop an Understanding of the Present**

- You will explore the basic principles of being a leader
- You will meet renown professionals that have disabilities
- You will participate in new experiences that will help you achieve your goals

#### **Goal#3 Learn to Believe in the Future**

- You will learn about the different educational alternatives and different professions or jobs
- You will learn about community resources to achieve our goals.
- You will learn a variety of ways with which you can positively contribute to your communities
- We will develop a Personal Leadership Plan that will help you achieve our goals and which we will use when we return to our homes and communities

### **And besides this, what else will happen?**

You will visit the Capitol, La Fortaleza, and you will meet the sponsors of this activity during a very special luncheon. You will enjoy activities in which you will be able to show your talent for music, dancing, poetry... You will be able to show your physical abilities in challenging games and make new friends by sharing with other delegates

from around the Island. You will learn about the different university programs available for you and the technology that can help you reach your goals.

**Who qualifies?**

Young people with disabilities that are in their second or third year of high school, and that are residents in Puerto Rico.

**What should I do to Participate in the YLF?**

Submit a completed application to the YLF, with two recommendation letters, and an essay that expresses the reasons why you want to participate in this activity. Send it to the Puerto Rico Developmental Disabilities Council.

**For more information you can call us at (787) 722-0590/0595/8850 or send an e-mail to: [ceddpr@gmail.com](mailto:ceddpr@gmail.com)**