

TAIG TUESDAY WITH JOE March 18, 2008

Hello everyone and welcome to "TAIG Tuesday with Joe". Once again TAIG has distinguished itself in the Philadelphia community. Let me tell you how.

On February 27th 10 of our staff and consumers were invited to the annual WPVI-TV 6ABC Community Advisory Board's Black History Celebration. The staff had a wonderful time. They raved about the entire event. I would like to share with you an email from Simone Bohenek about that night. She tells it best.

"I attended the Community Board Black History Celebration on February 27, 2008 with our consumer Ms. Nakisha Johnson. To say we had a good time would be an understatement. The food was fantastic, the music was great and the speaker Mr. Adam Taliaferro Penn State Alumni Football Player was very inspirational. Mr. Taliaferro broke his neck during a routine tackle his freshmen year at Penn State and was told that he would never walk again but through hard work and determination he learned how to walk again. He told the audience of young people ages 18 to 30 never to give up on your dreams; if you can see it you can achieve it. Ms. Johnson was very impressed with the speaker and she stated "That is why I keep trying, if I think I can do it I will". Our next surprise of the night was when Ms. Johnson noticed that not sitting far from us was our newly elected Mayor Nutter. Nakisha told me (excitedly) "I voted for him" I told her that I did too! A photographer noticed how excited she was to see him and introduced us to Mayor Nutter. The mayor greeted us both with hugs and posed for a picture with us. Nakisha expressed that she couldn't wait until tomorrow when she got to work so that she could tell her co-workers that she had dinner with the Mayor and took pictures with him. Ms. Johnson and I laughed and talked about our night out all the way home".

How delightful it is to be invited to an event such as this. It is great to see our staff working towards fulfilling our mission "To support people with disabilities to be successful in every endeavor they choose and situation they encounter". Events like this are a great way to get TAIG staff, consumers and name in the public eye. Because everyone displayed such professionalism and enthusiasm, TAIG will continue to be invited to many of WPVI-TV 6ABC Community Advisory Board upcoming events.

Kudos goes to: Nakisia Johnson, Simone Bohemek, Renee Arnold, Torri Kendrick, Bianca Barnes, Antoinette Abdul-Haadi, April Faulk, Rose Gainey, George Shands, and Thomas Miller.

P.S. I spoke to Mayor Nutter a few weeks later and he remembered us from the event. Also, come see his picture with Nakisha and Simone hanging on our Wall of Fame at Wissahickon Ave.

