

# **WANTED:**

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*... Special People  
to Work With  
Special People ...*

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## **THE "Person to Person" PROGRAM**

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*Minnesota Department of Human Services*

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## **Ever Need a Friend?**

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Of course . . . we all do at one time or another . . . to listen, to care, to help or share . . . and we usually have lot's of friends we can turn to.

BUT . . . some people have no one and that's where we hope YOU will come in.



## **Your Help Is Needed**

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People who are developmentally disabled have unique needs and are trying hard to live independently in the community.

But they need help.

They need a friend to help them learn life skills, develop relationships, adjust positively and to get the support and care they deserve.

## **Our "Person to Person" Program**

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Offers you a one-on-one volunteer opportunity to befriend such a special person.

### **You'll be asked to:**

- visit them twice a month for a year
- assist them with quality of life issues
- take them into your heart as a friend, and
- report progress or needs.

### **What Disabilities Might Such A Friend Have?**



Everyone is unique but disabilities your friend might have in addition to mental retardation include blindness and other physical handicaps. You will be given specific information on a prospective friend prior to placement. Final decision on the volunteer to client match will not be made until after an initial meeting between the two of you.

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## **How Do I Explore This Volunteer Opportunity?**

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To discuss specific needs, contact:

## **What Our Volunteers Tell Us:**

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- *"My clients and I share a beautiful friendship of love and trust. They make me feel special too! I come to work and have arms outstretched to me for hugs."*
- *"Helps me feel alive! I'm helping others and they give back to me!"*
- *"It has given me a new lease on life! I've exchanged my rocking chair for a life of giving and receiving . . . I love it!"*
- *"It feels good to know that your time is making a difference for someone else."*
- *"It has heightened my perspective of other people; their limitations, joys and hurts."*



*"Person to Person" is funded in part by a grant from the McKnight Foundation and administered by the Minnesota State Planning Agency.*

D.H.S.-2940 (5-89)  
PZ-02940-01