



## **OPERATION A.B.L.E. 2016 GRADUATION**

**June 30, 2016**

**Boston** - Today at a ceremony held at State Street Corporation in Boston, Operation A.B.L.E. (Ability Based on Long Experience) of Greater Boston graduated 91 individuals who have completed three of its training programs.

Since 1982, Operation A.B.L.E. has been the only organization in the state whose sole mission has been to get job seekers 45 years of age and older back to work. Since it began 34 years ago, it has assisted more than 34,000 of these older workers to reenter the workforce, and this year's graduation provides another major step forward in providing a new group with the training they need to market their skills, and to find a job.

Joan Cirillo, President and CEO of Operation A.B.L.E., told the graduates, "Returning to school after you have been working for many years is never easy.... You have our pledge that we will work with each of you until you find work. We at ABLE are absolutely convinced that it was the right step (for you) to take."

The Keynote Speaker at the graduation was Richard W. Curtis, Vice President, State Street Corporation and member of the Operation A.B.L.E. Board of Directors. Two members of the graduating class, Margaret Young who graduated from the A.B.L.E. Beginnings Program and Tanya Jones-Jenkins who completed the Medical Office & Healthcare Program also spoke.

There were 91 graduates, a sizable increase over last year's total of 63.

33 graduated from A.B.L.E. Beginnings, a six-week computer skills program teaching how to apply for jobs on-line, how to create resumes and how to interview.

35 were graduates from Medical & Health Care Training, a twelve-week course, plus a six-week internship teaching the essentials of working in a medical office as a patient service coordinator, practice assistant and medical office receptionist. There is also on-going weekly job search assistance.

23 completed Skills2Work, a twelve week customer service training program with a follow-up six-week internship, for jobs as a receptionist, call center representative and administrative

assistant.

Older workers who want to know more about retraining can attend free Orientation Sessions held every Wednesday at Operation A.B.L.E. headquarters, 174 Portland Street 5<sup>th</sup> floor (Near North Station and TD Garden.) Full details are available on the Operation A.B.L.E. website, [www.operationable.net](http://www.operationable.net)

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