

Jill Houghton
President & CEO, Disability:IN

Jill Houghton is the President and CEO of Disability:IN. Jill's goal is to empower companies to achieve disability inclusion and equality. Through her leadership, Disability:IN has partnered with over 170 corporations, accounting for a total workforce of over 7.8 million people. Jill has led the development of nationally recognized programs, such as the Disability Equality Index (in partnership with the American Association of People with Disabilities), Supplier Diversity program providing official disability-owned business certifications, and programs supporting NextGen Leaders, like the Mentorship Exchange and Talent Accelerator. It is her hope to build an inclusive global economy where people with disabilities can participate fully and meaningfully.

Jill's creative spirit and passionate approach to the inclusion of people with disabilities comes from her core. Her challenges associated with having a learning disability, ignited the direction of her professional aspirations. This led to a key marker in her career – working under U.S. Senator Robert J. Dole at the same time the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed.

Jill has more than 25 years of diverse leadership experience at the federal, state and local levels working with business on disability inclusion. Prior to Disability:IN, Jill served as the Executive Director of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel until its legislative sunset in January 2008. The bipartisan panel was housed independently within the Social Security Administration and provided advice to the President, Congress and the Commissioner of Social Security on issues related to the Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare work incentives programs for individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Houghton has testified before the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives on issues related to business commitment to recruit, hire and retain employees with disabilities. She currently serves on the board of the U.S. International Council on Disabilities and the New York City Comptrollers Advisory Board Council on Economic Growth through Diversity and Inclusion. Additionally, she serves on the Boston University, Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on "Improving Employment Outcomes for Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities" Knowledge Translation and Utilization Advisory Council.