



WELCOME CHANGE PRODUCTIONS

Leading social change by revealing the big stories hidden in the human heart.

What's happening at [Welcome Change](#) this month.....

Tomorrow is the United Nation's International Day of Persons with Disabilities!

In 1992, at the conclusion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992), the General Assembly proclaimed December 3rd as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The Decade was a period of raising awareness and enacting measures to improve the situation for persons with disabilities and to provide them with equal opportunities. Subsequently, the Assembly appealed to Member States to highlight the observance of the Day in order to further integrate people with disabilities into society.

For more information and resources visit the [UN's website](#)

Alice and Diana will be going to Uzbekistan!

The Kickstarter Goal Has Been Reached!

Diana is off to Uzbekistan, and it is all thanks to YOU! Alice and Diana are very excited and extremely grateful for the opportunity to bring Diana's inspiring message to the people of Uzbekistan. This trip quite literally would not be possible without your incredible generosity and support so we want to send a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the Kickstarter project (see below). The trip



[Become a fan](#) of Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy on Facebook!



[Follow](#) Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy on Twitter!

Happy Holidays from the Collector of Bedford Street!



Keep up with Larry and see his latest fundraising totals, [follow](#) him on twitter!



Larry has raised over **\$3,000** for charities this year!

is scheduled for February or March and updates will be available on the [Welcome Change website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter](#) as more details are finalized. Alice and Diana greatly appreciate your donations and are thrilled to be able to bring the conversation about disability rights and awareness to Uzbekistan!

THANK YOU!

Abigail, Bill Adams, Cate Adelman, Patricia Almeida, Charles Babian, K Beck, Cindy Benton, Keen Berger, Peggy Bergeron, Tina Calabro, Valerie Champagne, Ben Chinn, Laurel Chiten (Blind Dog Films), Heather Courtney, Charlotte Cronin, Ted Dawson, Leslie Dennis, Terri Devine, Clovia Feldman, Debra Fornoff, Ginny Fox, Lenny Fox, Wendy Fraser, Bonnie Friedman, Karl Garlid, Frances Gearhard, Grace Goodman, Katherine Hanson, Pamela Harris, Heather Horn, Ida, Halima M. Jabulani, David F Johnson, Kristina Johnson, Eric & Francine Kennedy, Su Kim, Kirsten Larvick, Judith Laufer, Kristin Lindgren, Betty Mackintosh, Erin Martell, Lorraine McCormick, Kim McLean – HAVE, Inc., Lynne McVeigh, Jo Mercer, Enrico Nassi, Clare Nelson, Tony Paulauski, Richard Peterson, Marianne Petit, Maxine Phillips, Ellen Lee Pratt, John Rockwell, Richard Satkin, Bruce Saunders, Marcia Scherer, SEEDS Educational Services, Inc., Stephanie, Sandy Taus Talbot, Jeff Tamblyn, Jane Treuhold, Bethene Trexel, Lucy Tyler, Morrie Warshawski, Julia Wrona

Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy Screening in Bangladesh!

Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy will be screened this Friday evening at the formal launching ceremony of the first International Disability Film Festival in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh will officially inaugurate all the events of the week-long celebrations on the 3rd of December to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

To read more about the festival, [CLICK HERE](#)

Give the Perfect Gift(s) this Holiday Season!



Way to go, Larry!

Join Larry's fanclub
on Facebook!

[CLICK HERE](#) to purchase [Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to purchase [The Collector of Bedford Street](#)

Alice's Blog Recommendation

Check out this great new (to us) disability blog!

www.justsaysomething.org

"Just Say Something" has been established as part of the [New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)' on going public awareness campaign designed to help improve public perception of people with developmental disabilities.

In the News...

Families Fight to Care for Disabled Kids at Home

by Joe Shapiro

...Olivia Welter is 20 years old and gets... life-saving medical care through a program provided by Illinois' Medicaid program. But it's a program for children. And when Olivia Welter turns 21, at the stroke of midnight on Nov. 9, she is no longer eligible for that care.

"There's not going to be any magic transformation between Nov. 8 and Nov. 9," says the young woman's mother, Tamara Welter. "She will be the same Olivia, with the same challenges and the same care needs."

There are about 600 children with severe disabilities in Illinois who get care through the same in-home program for "[medically-fragile and technology-dependent](#)" children, and thousands in other states around the country...

..."I've had doctors, a couple of doctors, who have questioned a decision about doing something for Olivia, kind of on the basis of: Is she worth it? I've looked them in the eye and said, 'Don't you dare say that to me. Do you have children? What would you do for your child?' I think society can look at a person like Olivia and say, 'What can she contribute?'"

...when she turns 21, the state changes how it measures cost. For an adult, the state says the alternative is no longer a hospital — it's a less expensive nursing home.

The state will pay for the Welters to send her to one, although there are none nearby that would take her.

And even if they sent her to a distant nursing home, John Welter doubts his daughter would get the close attention she needs to stay alive.

"We cannot bear the thought of having Olivia in a home or a care home," he says. "Because we would be afraid that in any ten minutes, her life could be put in danger. Or less — in any three minutes. It would be agonizing, day to day to day."...

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

Quotes of the Month

Courtesy of [Program Development Associates](#)

"America's success in the global economy depends on how well we put to use the productive capacity of every person's talent, skill and ability."

-Carol Glazer, President of the [National Organization on Disability](#)

"Considering how high the unemployment rate of people with disabilities is, it is essential that employment programs designed to assist people with disabilities are user friendly and accessible."

-Earl Smith of DAWWN [[Disabled Americans Want Work Now](#)]

Tel: (212) 924-7151

Email: info@welcomechange.org