

# **Partner Testimonials**

## Reasons employers chose Change 100:

"To provide opportunities to individuals who otherwise may not have access to them, and learning as a business how can we make our recruitment practices and our business more inclusive, to ensure we set people up for success and get the best out of them."

#### - Unilever

"It's an opportunity to give young people with disabilities an insight into the corporate world, but also an opportunity for us to learn from them how we might make ourselves more accessible and inclusive."

## - Coca-Cola Europacific Partners

"I wanted to take the opportunity to learn more about how I as a manager can be more inclusive and understand where and how adjustments can be reasonably made within our department."

#### - BMW Financial Services

## **Quotes from Line Managers:**

"Despite being a completely new industry for our intern, she has adapted very well and shown a focus on detail and excellence throughout her term."

"Our intern has supported us on a number of workstreams, all of which have been technical in nature, providing thoughtful and considered input. He is diligent and has a clear talent for problem solving."

"She was a fantastic member of the team who worked on a number of marketing and commercial projects. Our intern consistently showed great initiative, problem solving and very easily integrated within the team."

# Hello

We are Leonard Cheshire – we support individuals to live, learn and work as independently as they choose, whatever their ability. We work directly with disabled people to remove barriers and with organisations to foster inclusive workplace practices.

Back in 2013, we initiated Change 100 to revolutionise the employment landscape for disabled students and recent graduates- to establish a culture of inclusivity for disabled talent. Eleven years later we are still striving. In March 2023, the employment rate for disabled people stood at 53.7% compared to 82.7% for non-disabled people. There is still much more to do, to reduce the 29% disability employment gap in the UK in March 2023. \*

Did you know?

1 in 5

people will become disabled at some point in their lives\*\* **77%** 

of students and recent graduates with disabilities fear they will be discriminated against if they share their disability with employers\*\*\*

<sup>\*</sup>House of Commons Library, Disabled People in Employment, June 2023

<sup>\*\*</sup>Department for Work and Pensions, 2018

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>GreatWithDisability.com, Openness: understanding why students are reluctant to be open with employers about their disability, 2015

# What is Change 100?

Change 100 is an award-winning programme of paid internships, professional development and mentoring for talented disabled students and recent graduates.

#### **Our motivation**

Change 100 aims to unlock the potential of disabled students and recent graduates and give organisations access to an incredible talent pool, bursting with ability, creativity and insight.

## **Your opportunity**

We are looking for employers to offer paid summer internships to participants. Change 100 interns have already made their mark with over 285 leading employers. Whatever the size or sector of your organisation or the opportunities you have available, we invite you to experience Change 100's benefits.

70:24

Female:Male\*

44%

Black and minority ethnic

44%

First from family to go to university

100%

Disclosed one or more disabilities

<sup>\*</sup>Remainder of participants selected 'Trans', 'Other' or 'Prefer not to say' Statistics from 2022 participants.



# Why get involved?

## Access to untapped talent

An effective student/graduate talent sourcing strategy. Our pool of high-quality candidates allows access to talent beyond traditional recruitment methods

## A source of competitive advantage

Improve your workplace practices for a lasting competitive advantage with Change 100, which enhances market appeal and promotes inclusion and accessibility.

## Become more disability confident

We recognise that employers may have concerns regarding adjustments, inclusive language and providing opportunities for disabled employees. Our team of disability specialists offers guidance, training, and support to help your staff gain new perspectives and feel more confident in this area. By becoming a Change 100 employer, you'll receive expert assistance to enhance your

organisation's disability confidence, regardless of your current level. Whether you're just starting out or already a Disability-Confident Leader, our training packages will help you continue to lead the way in driving cultural change towards inclusion.

## Increase employee engagement

It is extremely likely you already employ disabled people who haven't shared their disability or long-term condition. Participating in Change 100 will signal your commitment to being an inclusive employer.

## Serve your current employees better

83% of disabled people acquire their disability during their working life.\* Most of these people can continue their existing employment with workplace adjustments and commitment from their employer. The average cost of disability adjustments is £75 per individual.\*\*

<sup>\*</sup>Centre for Social Justice, Rethinking disability at work, 2017

<sup>\*\*</sup>Business Disability Forum, 2022



## As a Change 100 partner you will receive:

- An effective strategy for sourcing student and graduate talent that seamlessly aligns with your needs and requirements, targeting specific interests
- Gain access to a pool of highly talented disabled students and graduates across the UK, tailored to your needs and preferences for recruiting
- Detailed candidate persona profiles based on their written applications
- Ongoing support throughout the three-month internship period
- Development opportunities for your staff
- Networking opportunities with other Change 100 employers

## Your organisation will also benefit from:

- Expert workplace adjustment and disability-inclusive recruitment training and support for all staff involved in the programme
- The opportunity to improve your organisation's Disability-Confidence level
- Resources and continuous support for mentors within your organisation
- Demonstrating commitment to driving cultural change on disability
- Exclusive 25% discount on our Training and Consultancy services to further develop your understanding of disability in the workplace

## Cost

Participation and commitment in Change 100 costs £3,250 + VAT per intern plus the intern's salary for the duration of the internship. The salary must meet or exceed the Living Wage Foundation recommended hourly rate: www.livingwage.org.uk

## Over the last eleven years:

95%

of employers agreed that their Change 100 intern has had a positive impact on their organisation\*

93%

of employers agreed that goodwill with staff improved as a result of increasing disability awareness and confidence\*

## **Your Change 100 intern**

All Change 100 intern applicants are already studying an undergraduate degree or have graduated university and are eligible to work in the UK for a full-time summer internship. We will hold a pre-matching consultation with all shortlisted applicants. We will provide candidate profiles before you meet your selected pool of matches in a supportive interview process.

#### **Benefits**

- Increase the size of your talent pool
- Create a workforce that reflects the diverse range of customers you serve
- Help foster a collaborative, inclusive and positive workplace culture
- Enhance your company's value proposition and market appeal
- Bring additional skills into your business which could result in large savings
- Diversifying your workforce can lead to better employee engagement and overall performance

<sup>\*</sup>of employers that responded

# Some of our supporting partner

**ARUP** 

AutoTrader

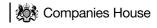
BBC SPORT

BBG STUDIOS















































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# 1300+

Over 1,300 Change 100 internships for disabled people have been delivered by our partners since 2013.



## **Key dates**

#### **Sept - Nov 2024**

Promotion and recruitment campaign at universities

## 3rd Sept 2024 - 21st Nov 2024

Application window for students/graduates

#### Oct 2024 - Feb 2025

Screening calls with candidates

#### **Jan - April 2025**

Accessible recruitment training

Webinar events programme

Employer submits internship role survey (15th Jan\*)

## 5th Feb - 1st May 2025

Employer receives applicant profiles for recruitment, supported by Change 100

Intern adjustment briefing between Change 100 and employer.

## Jun - Sept 2025

Internship period and start of Professional Development Programme for interns

Ongoing support for employers throughout the summer

#### **Sept - Dec 2025**

Continuation of Professional Development Programme with graduation event in December

## How can you start your Change 100 journey?

Please get in touch with the Change 100 Employer Relationship team on:

# change 100@leonard cheshire.org leonard cheshire.org/employer 100

\*If your organisation needs more time to submit the internship role survey, please speak with your Employer Relationship Manager.

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The UK government has praised Change 100 for "tackling inequalities within the UK' labour market... with an ambition to change the employment landscape for disabled students."