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For Immediate Release

## **When We Say, “Welcome Everyone,” We Mean Everyone**

Louisville, KY (June 16, 2022) – Since 1858, the American Printing House for the Blind has operated in Louisville, Kentucky as the world’s largest nonprofit organization creating accessible learning experiences through educational, workplace, and independent living products and services for people who are blind and visually impaired. That mission has not changed, but times have.

At APH, we are committed to empowering and fostering an inclusive culture where everyone feels welcome, respected, and proud of the place in which they work. We know the benefits of diversity on our team, and by embracing employees with unique experiences and differing journeys, we know we are better equipped to build and create products for everyone.

Just a few months ago, APH introduced ABIDE. ABIDE stands for Accessibility. Belonging. Inclusion. Diversity. Equity. These are the tenets that guide the work we do at APH. Led by Director, Tai Tomasi, the APH ABIDE Department hopes to increase awareness of accessibility and usability obstacles and teach others how to remedy those issues; highlight diverse trailblazers; help others understand why diversity and equity are essential; and foster a sense of belonging inhouse and throughout our community and the field of education.

"As we move toward a culture that prioritizes equity and inclusion, accessibility will become embedded in the decisions we make and the things we do. As we plan to be more inclusive of all who work and live everywhere, we move closer to a more diverse workforce where all feel they belong," said Tomasi.

ABIDE is important to APH because, regardless of one’s color, race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, nationality, or any other minority status, everybody should have the same opportunities. Because of inequities and biases widely held in our society, not all groups have the same opportunities, and equity has not been achieved. We hope to shine a light on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion accomplishments and issues, both internally and in our broader community.

As APH continues to grow and evolve we will always welcome everyone. Whether it's as an employee or guest.

[Read about APH's ABIDE.](#)