

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 21, 1993

To: Senator Dole

From: Alec Vachon *AV*

Re: KETCH Visit Follow Up

- \* I spoke with Judy Hearn, President, and Carolyn Bunch, Director of Job Placement Services, at KETCH this morning. They asked me to express their appreciation for yesterday's visit -- they were very pleased with the press conference and Advisory Committee meeting. Your remarks and attendance really "fired up" the committee and "pulled them together."
  
- \* Attached is a Wichita Eagle article on the press conference.



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The Wichita Eagle

# LOCAL & STATE

TUESDAY December 21, 1993

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## Dole endorses panel to help disabled get jobs

By Dave Ranney  
*The Wichita Eagle*

U.S. Sen. Bob Dole has lent his name to a Wichita committee that hopes to expand public awareness of the benefits of hiring people with disabilities.

"A lot of people out there with disabilities are looking for opportunity, but they don't know where to go or how to seek it. What we need is more emphasis on public relations," Dole said Monday at a news conference coinciding with the first meeting of the Robert J. Dole Committee on the Employment of Kansans with Disabilities.

The 17-member committee includes television and radio executives, business leaders and

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advocates for people with disabilities.

Dole, a disabled World War II veteran, will serve as honorary chairman of the committee. Sharing vice-chairman duties are Judy Hearn, president of the Kansas Elks Training Center for the Handicapped, and Don Sbarra, president of Multimedia Cablevision Inc.

Hearn said the committee hasn't established an agenda but can be expected to promote the benefits of hiring people with disabilities.

The Elks training center has found jobs for 1,000 disabled workers in the past year, Hearn said. An expanded awareness of the program, she said, will lead to more placements.

Dole hinted that the committee's efforts may be eligible for grants from the Dole Foundation, which distributes more than \$1 million a year on projects benefiting the disabled.

Besides the Elks center, Wichita employment programs for the disabled include Starkey Developmental Center, Goodwill Industries, United Cerebral Palsy, and Wichita Industries and Services for the Blind.

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