The words of actor Alan Alda of MASH, express for me how to address the rapidly changing and often unpredictable health and rehabilitation marketplace:

“Have the nerve to go into unexplored territory. Be brave enough to live life creatively. The creative is the place where no one else has ever been. You leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. You can’t get there by bus, only by hard work and risk and by not quite knowing what you’re doing.”

Alan Alda, actor

However, many of us feel more like Regis Philbin, who declared to the world in his autobiography: “I’m only one man!” He’s right, and we all feel this way from time to time. We think to ourselves, “Sure, I’d change the world if I could, but I’m just a regular person doing a job. It’s a job that’s important, and I love doing it, but I’m nothing extraordinary. I’m just an ordinary person doing an ordinary job.”

As editor of WORK for over eleven years, here is my first piece of sage advice: You’re right. You are an ordinary person. However, we must realize that the ordinary is, in fact, extraordinary; we must embrace it with passion. The articles contained in this issue of WORK are about everyday, ordinary people, but are written by extraordinarily talented researchers and practitioners who are making a difference in these individuals’ lives. I hope you will consider sharing with the readers of WORK, your work . . . whether it be research, clinical practice or a case study. You are making a difference and I welcome the submission of your manuscript.

Karen
Kjacobs@bu.edu