

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dept. of Human Services' Vocational Rehabilitation Program Honors Employees

BISMARCK, ND – The N.D. Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) recently honored several employees for their work assisting North Dakotans with disabilities to obtain employment.

- **Jennifer Moldenhauer** and **Debra Carlson**, Jamestown, were recipients of the *Director's Award for Counselor Achievement*. This award highlights the top 10 percent of counselors with the highest number of individuals placed into employment.
- **Katharine Millner** and **Candace Hanson**, Bismarck, were the recipients of the *Director's Award for Counselor Achievement – Honorable Mention*. This award honors counselors who have the second highest number of individuals placed into employment.
- **Robyn Throlson**, Bismarck and **Derek Kimmes**, Jamestown, were co-recipients of the *Exemplary Service Award*. This award recognizes outstanding case service to VR clients by showing creative thinking, direct work with multiple agencies, and consistent client follow-up.
- **Jamie Hetrick** of Dickinson was honored as the *Rookie of the Year*. This award honors a VR employee with less than two years of service who exceeds performance goals and displays a high level of community service and involvement.
- **Erik Anthony** of Grand Forks was honored with the *Director's Award for Excellence*. Anthony was nominated for this prestigious award by his peers for demonstrating dedication, productivity, and dependability to the VR program.

The *Career Achievement Awards* are based on the number of people with disabilities placed into employment over the course of a vocational rehabilitation counselor's career. The awards start at the *100 Club award* level and increase in increments of 100.

- **Debra Carlson** of Jamestown received the *Career Achievement – 500 Club award*.
- **Brenda Satrom** of Grand Forks received the *Career Achievement – 200 Club award*.
- **Jennifer Moldenhauer** of Jamestown and **Misty Leuthardt-Riskey** of Fargo received the *Career Achievement – 100 Club award*.

The N.D. Vocational Rehabilitation program's mission is to assist individuals with disabilities to maximize their employment opportunities and to assist business owners and employers in finding solutions to disability-related issues.

Information on VR services is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/index.html and is also available by calling 701-328-8950, toll-free 800-755-2745, TTY 701-328-8968 or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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