

NEWS from the N.D. Department of Human Services

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Bismarck, Mandan, and Williston Businesses Honored for Supporting Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities

Other regional companies and organizations honored for disability-related efforts

Bismarck, N.D. - The N.D. Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) announced today that **Opportunity Foundation, Inc.** of **Williston** and **Central Market of Bismarck and Mandan** have been named co-recipients of the *2013 N.D. State DVR Employer of the Year Awards*.

The awards honor North Dakota business owners and employers for their continued work with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and for their work within their communities to support, develop, and inspire individuals with disabilities to achieve their full potential. The division and the N.D. State Rehabilitation Council selected Opportunity Foundation, Inc. and Central Market from eight regional employer award recipients.

The other regional employer award-winners include Dan's Supermarket, **Dickinson**; Leevers Foods, **Devils Lake**; Red River Commodities, Inc., **Fargo**; Rydell Chevrolet Buick GMC Cadillac, **Grand Forks**; Service Master, **Valley City**; and Gooseneck Implement, **Minot**.

The two state awards were presented to business representatives from Opportunity Foundation, Inc. and Central Market during a luncheon reception at the division's annual training conference in Bismarck.

"It is a pleasure to honor these companies. Their progressive attitudes and business practices have allowed individuals with disabilities who are living and working in their communities to put their abilities to work," said Russ Cusack, director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Cusack said these companies serve as models for other North Dakota businesses. Their efforts and those of other employers are the reason North Dakota ranks first among states in the percentage of individuals with disabilities who are employed.

For more information about vocational rehabilitation services, visit www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/index.html or call 701-328-8950, toll free 800-755-2745, TTY 701-328-8968 or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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