NEWS from the N.D. Department of Human Services 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck ND 58505-0250

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 18, 2015

For more information, contact: Heather Steffl, 701-328-4933

Langdon bakery and other businesses honored for supporting employment of people with disabilities

BISMARCK, N.D. - The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) announced today that **Bread Pan Bakery** of Langdon, N.D., has been named the *2015 North Dakota State DVR Employer of the Year* award recipient.

The award honors North Dakota business owners and employers for their efforts to support, develop, and inspire individuals with disabilities to achieve employment goals and to reach their full potential in their community.

Bakery representatives accepted the award during a luncheon reception at the 2015 Governor's Workforce and HR Conference on Sept. 17 in Fargo. The division and the State Rehabilitation Council selected Bread Pan Bakery from among eight regional employer award recipients.

Other businesses honored included: Bader Maids, **Bismarck**; Hornbacher's, **Fargo**; Little Caesars, **Grand Forks**; Sheyenne Care Center, **Valley City**; Super 8, **Williston**; The Hub, **Dickinson**; and Trinity Health, **Minot**. Award nominees have established ongoing partnerships with the division and its eight regional offices.

"This year's award recipients include a wide range of businesses who all have demonstrated their commitment to the recruitment and retention of individuals with disabilities to meet their workforce needs," said division director Russ Cusack.

He said, "Their inclusive recruitment strategies have created outstanding opportunities for individuals with disabilities to become employed and engaged within their communities."

Vocational rehabilitation services help people with disabilities find meaningful work and also help employers connect with a valuable, often untapped workforce, as well as retain trained workers whose abilities have changed. Rehabilitation counseling and consultation is available at no cost to qualifying individuals and businesses, non-profits, and government agencies.

For more information about DVR services, visit www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/index.html, or contact the division at 701-328-8950, toll-free 800-755-2745, TTY 701-328-8968 or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or via email at dhsvr@nd.gov.