

WAYTEK, INC. NAMED OUTSTANDING DISABILITY EMPLOYER

Valuable partnership with Waytek, Inc. in Chanhassen recognized by major state disability organization as exemplary example and model for other employers to emulate; award presentation set for October.

Innovation drives inclusion is the theme for National Disability Awareness month, but Chanhassen employer, Waytek, Inc., is the real-world example in action.

In celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR) is excited to recognize Waytek as an Outstanding Disability Employer for their exemplary example for other employers to emulate.

Nominated by MRCI WorkSource, Waytek will be presented the award at a special gathering scheduled for October 19 at 10 a.m. at Waytek, 2440 Galpin Ct in Chanhassen.

Through a partnership with MRCI, Waytek employs numerous individuals with disabilities at its Chanhassen location. MRCI clients help fill orders and complete numerous other tasks that contribute to the company's success. Waytek is a family owned business that prides itself in offering high quality electrical wiring products, at a competitive price with an exceptional customer experience.

"We cannot overemphasize the importance of employers in our efforts to provide meaningful services to people with disabilities in Minnesota," said Mike Burke, president of MOHR. The organization represents more than 110 disability service providers across the state.

"We are proud to develop employment partnerships that provide employers a source of skilled workers in the community," said Brian Benshoof, CEO of MRCI WorkSource. "The best reward for the partnership, is the stellar example of inclusion set by Waytek."

Waytek's philosophy of inclusion starts with CEO Charlie Kanan, "Waytek believes in providing our customers with an exceptional customer experience – a belief that starts with promoting cooperation and togetherness with employees."

Benshoof continued, "The manner by which the Waytek organization has embraced MRCI's mission is very exciting. It's the attitude of can-do! They have created a safe, accommodating, people-first approach at their facility."

Waytek is an example of what can happen when employers are open to creating inclusive opportunities for all and an exemplary example for others to emulate.



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About National Disability Employment Month

Celebrated every October, this year's theme for <u>National Disability Employment</u> <u>Awareness Month</u> is "Inclusion Drives Innovation." It celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and educates about the value of a workforce inclusive of their skills and talents. The national observance began under a different name in 1945.

About MRCI

Since 1953, MRCI WorkSource has created innovative and genuine opportunities for people with disabilities and disadvantages. This year, MRCI has served more than 3,000 people across southern Minnesota and the southern metro area. For more information, please visit the MRCI website at www.mrciworksource.org.

About MOHR

<u>MOHR's</u> mission is advocate and support its nonprofit members in providing meaningful services to persons with disabilities and communities served. Members are committed to respect for each individual, a person-centered approach and expanding work opportunities.