

EMBRACE THE ABILITIES



PRESENTS

The 2026 Achievement Awards

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey, PA

Welcome.

to the 2026 UniqueSource Achievement Awards Banquet

Welcome to the UniqueSource Achievement Awards—one of my favorite nights of the year.

Tonight, we have the privilege of recognizing 39 remarkable colleagues from across Pennsylvania, each selected by their employer as an Employee of the Year for outstanding work on a UniqueSource contract.

Our Awardees perform different jobs, bring different talents and experiences to their workplaces, and have accomplishments that are uniquely their own. What connects us is the pride we take in doing meaningful work, contributing to our teams and demonstrating what can be achieved when talent is recognized, supported and given the opportunity to thrive.

Tonight, we celebrate 39 colleagues who exemplify that spirit.

Their achievements also remind us of something fundamental to the UniqueSource mission: exceptional performance and meaningful, inclusive employment are not competing objectives. They strengthen one another. Across our statewide community, we work alongside talented professionals with disabilities who deliver essential products and services, strengthen our teams and contribute to communities throughout Pennsylvania. Together, we demonstrate what an inclusive, high-performing workforce can achieve—where human potential meets exceptional capability.

I am deeply grateful for our entire UniqueSource community—our Awardees and their families, our Member organizations and their dedicated teams, our Commonwealth customers and partners, our legislators and public leaders, and our UniqueSource staff. Each of us has a role in the work we do and the impact we make together.

To our 39 Awardees: tonight belongs to you. We are proud to call you our colleagues, grateful for your contributions, and honored to celebrate your success.

Congratulations—and enjoy every moment. You have earned it.

Lisa Biggica
President & CEO
UniqueSource Products & Services



Our Program.

Opening Remarks

Nofre Vaquer, Chief Executive Officer, SpArc Philadelphia
& Chairperson, UniqueSource Board of Directors



Welcome

Lisa Biggica, President & CEO, UniqueSource



UniqueSource Achievement Awards Presentation



Closing Remarks

Lisa Biggica, President & CEO, UniqueSource

**Join us for our After-Party following the Awards Banquet to
celebrate the Achievement Award winners.**

ASL Interpretation provided by Tiffani Johnson & Chloe Rayer

Our Sponsors.

Our sponsors' contributions support the Achievement Award Banquet and the Award recipients. We are grateful for their assistance in making tonight's program special.

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What Is

UniqueSource Products & Services?

UniqueSource is a private nonprofit corporation and serves as the central nonprofit organization operating in accordance with Section 520 of the PA Procurement Code. UniqueSource connects Commonwealth procurement offices with our extensive Member network that provides an array of products and services.

All of UniqueSource's Members are nonprofit organizations operating social enterprises committed to providing workplaces that prioritize the needs of employees with disabilities by offering adaptive technologies, flexible job accommodations, and support.

Our Members, through employment, help their employees prove their abilities and support their goals of employment, independence and inclusion.

Our mission is to partner with member agencies to identify, market, and deliver products and services that create employment opportunities for professionals with disabilities.

About the UniqueSource Achievement Awards

The 2026 Achievement Awards recognize outstanding employees from across Pennsylvania who demonstrate exceptional dedication, professionalism, and achievement in the workplace. For 2026, UniqueSource will celebrate 39 individuals for their outstanding work accomplishments and for their example of determination, passion, and success.

UniqueSource Products & Services partners with Member organizations across the state to identify, market and deliver products and services that create employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

There are over 2,200 Member employees who benefit from greater economic independence, self-reliance and an enhanced quality of life through work. Since 1976, UniqueSource has been committed to generating meaningful employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Our Achievement Awards honor that mission by celebrating the hard work, dedication, and remarkable accomplishments of the individuals at the heart of it.



Our Master of Ceremonies

Rob Ferre

Rob Ferre, CSP, is an international keynote speaker, emcee, and game show host who has spent nearly two decades creating experiences that bring people together. From Dubai and Tokyo to Singapore, London, and across the United States, Rob combines joyful energy, humor, and audience engagement to turn ordinary events into connected communities.

As the creator of Teamification, Rob helps organizations move from “me” to “we” by creating deeper connection, increasing engagement, and building cultures where people feel valued for what they contribute. It’s a message that aligns naturally with the UniqueSource community and its commitment to creating meaningful employment opportunities and celebrating the abilities and accomplishments of people across Pennsylvania.

At UniqueSource, Rob will put both sides of his experience to work—first bringing the energy and celebration as emcee of the Achievement Awards, then taking the stage the following day to deliver his interactive Teamification keynote.

Whether he’s celebrating someone’s accomplishments, facilitating a room, or delivering a keynote, Rob believes the best experiences do more than bring people together—they help people recognize the value they bring when we all work together.



The 2026 Achievement Award Recipients.

Alorfi Ramirez.

Allied Services ♦ Wilkes-Barre, PA



“After an injury, I was able to return to a normal work routine, which has allowed me to support and provide for my family,” says Alorfi Ramirez.

As a Photo License Technician at Allied Services Integrated Health System, Alorfi has become known throughout his facility for exceptional customer service, patience, and a genuine kindness toward everyone he encounters. Following a severe physical injury, he found a supportive and accommodating work environment that allowed his natural people skills—and his determination—to shine.

His supervisors say Alorfi has a gift for making people feel heard and valued. Even during difficult interactions, he refuses to let a challenging moment change the way he treats the next person who walks through the door. For Alorfi, that commitment to others is simply part of doing his job well.

But his work means more to him than the opportunity to serve others. It has given him something he deeply values: the ability to work, provide for his family, and live with greater autonomy and independence. “This is the job I was able to get to go back out and work,” he says.

Alorfi’s story is also a reminder of why employment opportunities and the programs that help make them possible matter. Meaningful work can provide far more than a paycheck; it can restore confidence, create independence, and give people the opportunity to contribute their talents in ways that benefit both their workplace and their community.

Today, we are proud to recognize Alorfi for his resilience, strong work ethic, and unwavering dedication to treating every person he meets with dignity and respect.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Anthony Morabito ♦

The Blind Association of Butler and Armstrong ♦
Butler, PA



"This job has been more than just employment for Anthony; it has been a critical stepping stone in his personal and professional development." — Jennifer Bindernagle, Executive Director of The Blind Association of Butler and Armstrong

Anthony Morabito's first year in the workforce has been an impressive start to his professional journey.

As a Photo ID Technician with The Blind Association of Butler and Armstrong, Anthony approaches every customer interaction with patience, professionalism, and genuine warmth. His managers especially praise the way he works with elderly customers, taking the time to make them feel comfortable while keeping the photo ID process moving efficiently. He has quickly become someone his team can rely on, often anticipating what needs to be done before being asked.

This position is Anthony's first job after high school, and it has given him the opportunity to begin building his professional skills while pursuing a college degree in computer science. The flexibility of the role works alongside his class schedule, while the independence that comes with earning a paycheck has made a meaningful difference in his life—including helping him purchase his own car.

For Anthony, the opportunity to work is about more than gaining experience. It is a chance to build confidence, develop independence, and use his abilities in a workplace where he can contribute and grow. His experience also reflects the importance of employment opportunities that allow people to pursue their goals while building the skills and independence that come with meaningful work.

Outside of work and school, Anthony is an avid chess player, has played the piano since he was eight years old, and is a devoted Pittsburgh Penguins fan. As he continues developing his career and pursuing his education, his team is proud to watch him grow into a confident young professional with a bright future ahead.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Ashley Pepperman ♦

Venango Training & Development Center, Inc. ♦
Seneca, PA



Ashley Pepperman has been a dependable presence at the Warren Drivers Center for the past 8½ years, working as a Janitor through Venango Training & Development Center, Inc. During that time, Ashley has built a reputation for taking pride in her work and approaching each day with consistency, professionalism, and care.

Her supervisor describes Ashley's attendance as exceptional, and her work has earned a strong record of reliability, with no complaints about the cleanliness of the site. Ashley also understands the importance of communication in keeping a workplace running smoothly. She consistently keeps her manager informed of any issues or changes at the center, helping ensure that concerns are addressed promptly.

What stands out just as much as the quality of Ashley's work is her attitude. She approaches her responsibilities without complaint, follows through on what is expected of her, and can be counted on to be there and do the job well.

Ashley's eight-and-a-half years of employment also demonstrate the lasting impact that meaningful work can have. Her job provides reliable income to support herself and her family, while giving her the opportunity to contribute through work she takes seriously and does well.

For 8½ years, Ashley has shown what dedication and dependability look like in action, and her commitment to doing her job well makes her a deserving Achievement Award recipient.



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2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Bobby Baum ♦

Quest Inc ♦ Lebanon, PA



"Bobby's knowledge and understanding of the processes have been a wonderful asset to our new coordinator, which has given him more opportunities to learn and more responsibilities to be proud of." — Rachel Vucic, CEO at Quest Inc

Steady employment has brought meaningful changes to Bobby Baum's life beyond the workplace. His job has helped make it possible for him to live independently in his own apartment while continuing to build his skills and confidence. Since joining Quest in 2019, his strong knowledge of site processes has also made him an important resource for his team.

Bobby has been a Janitorial Associate with Quest Inc. at Ft. Indiantown Gap for six years, and during that time, he has become the kind of teammate every crew hopes to have.

Bobby notices what needs to be done and steps in without being asked. He is quick to offer help when a coworker needs support, brings a positive attitude to work each day, and treats both his coworkers and supervisor with respect. His willingness to contribute and his genuine desire to keep improving have made him a valued member of the team.

Bobby is also known for going above and beyond to support others, particularly new staff. He shares helpful feedback, stays engaged with his team, and is eager to continue learning. He has even expressed interest in expanding his responsibilities by learning how to shampoo carpets, demonstrating his enthusiasm for developing new skills and taking on more.

For Bobby, each day on the job is another opportunity to contribute, learn, and take pride in what he accomplishes. His six years of dedication are a reflection of both his commitment to his work and the possibilities that meaningful employment can create.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Brian Stiggers

Easterseals Western & Central PA ♦ Pittsburgh, PA



"I genuinely believe that he is one of the best photo techs in the Commonwealth, and we are incredibly lucky that he is part of our team!" — Halely Northcutt, Photo Center Administrative Assistant

Celebrating his 22nd year as a Photo License Technician with Easterseals Western & Central PA, Brian Stiggers has built an impressive career rooted in dedication, customer service, and a genuine enjoyment of the people around him.

His long-term employment has given Brian something he deeply values: independence. His job provides stability while allowing him to pursue the many interests that make his life his own. Outside of work, Brian runs his own YouTube channel, creates detailed 3D room mockups, and enjoys a long-range truck driving simulator, a way to explore his lifelong interest in becoming a trucker.

Before joining Easterseals, Brian worked at UPMC and in janitorial services. He applied for his current position during open interviews almost on a whim but quickly discovered a job he truly enjoyed. More than two decades later, he continues to bring that same enthusiasm to his work. His philosophy for serving customers is simple: "Treat everyone exactly the way you want to be treated."

Brian has a natural ability to make people feel welcome. His positive energy and sense of humor often bring smiles and laughter to the workplace, while his experience and skill allow him to handle the day-to-day demands of his position with confidence. Despite his many years on the job, Brian remains humble about his accomplishments and is quick to recognize the people he works alongside. For him, one of the best parts of his job is simply being part of a team.

For more than two decades, Brian has brought skill, kindness, and laughter to his workplace. His longevity, dedication, and generous spirit have made him an invaluable member of his team and a wonderful example of the impact a meaningful job can have over a lifetime.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Brianna Tobin ♦

SpArc Services ♦ Philadelphia, PA



Brianna Tobin, a Photo License Technician at SpArc Services in Philadelphia, has quickly established herself as a dependable and valued member of her team. Known for her attention to detail and thoughtful customer service, Brianna consistently takes pride in doing her work well and making sure the people she serves have a positive experience.

This position is Brianna's first experience in the workforce after she stepped away from college to care for her ailing grandmother. She describes herself as an introvert, but her work has given her an opportunity to grow more comfortable interacting with the public, strengthen her social skills, and become more confident in a professional setting. Just as importantly, earning her own income has provided a greater sense of financial independence.

Her reliability extends beyond her regular responsibilities. Brianna frequently steps in to cover shifts at multiple locations, helping ensure that services remain available to the people who depend on them. Her willingness to take on additional responsibility reflects both her commitment to her work and the care she has for her community.

Outside of work, Brianna enjoys playing Dungeons & Dragons, watching horror movies, and reading graphic novels. At work, she brings that same individuality alongside a strong sense of responsibility, proving that a first job can be the beginning of meaningful growth, connection, and independence.

Brianna's dedication to her customers, willingness to support her team, and growth in her first professional role make her a deserving recipient of this year's Achievement Award.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Charles Gray ♦

Goodwill Keystone Area ♦ Harrisburg, PA



For the past 10 years, Charles Gray has been a steadfast and valued member of the Goodwill Keystone Area team. After stepping away from highly physically demanding work due to medical concerns, Charles found an opportunity at Goodwill where his patience, attention to detail, and eagerness to learn could become strengths in the workplace.

Charles' time with Goodwill has been marked by continued growth. He began in custodial work before being promoted to the role of lead for a custodial crew in Lancaster. He later transitioned into his current position as a Photo Technician, continuing to build on the skills and experience he developed along the way.

Throughout his career, Charles has become known for his flexibility and willingness to support those around him. His supervisor describes him as someone who is quick to step up when a shift needs coverage or a new employee could benefit from a mentor. Charles approaches those opportunities with a genuine desire to help his coworkers and contribute to the success of the team.

His decade of employment reflects more than Charles' reliability and strong work ethic. It demonstrates what meaningful, sustained employment can make possible: opportunities to develop new skills, take on greater responsibility, and find work that fits an individual's strengths and circumstances.

Outside of work, Charles is an avid outdoorsman who has enjoyed fishing since childhood and spends his weekends watching football. Whether he is supporting his coworkers or learning something new on the job, Charles brings the same adaptability, kindness, and willingness to contribute that have defined his 10 years with Goodwill Keystone Area.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Christine “Tina” March ♦

North Central Sight Services ♦ Williamsport, PA



“I want to make sure everything I touch is done perfectly,” says Christine “Tina” March.

As an outstanding General Assembly worker at North Central Sight Services, Tina consistently delivers high-caliber work with remarkable speed, balancing meticulous attention to detail with an unwavering commitment to quality and deadlines. With the support of workplace accommodation, including magnifiers and scanners, she has developed an approach to her work that allows her to excel while maintaining a flawless record of perfect attendance.

Tina is also much more than a skilled assembly worker. She is a proactive problem-solver who does not simply identify issues; she helps develop and implement solutions. She is also a trusted resource and mentor to her colleagues, frequently volunteering her expertise to help others navigate tasks and overcome challenges.

Beyond her core responsibilities, Tina has become an important part of the culture at North Central Sight Services. “Tina is the heart of our team,” her managers share. From organizing Earth Day garden projects to decorating the building for the holidays, she brings the same creativity and care to her workplace that she brings to her job.

Outside of work, Tina continues to nurture her green thumb in her own garden and enjoys reading and camping. At North Central Sight Services, she is known for her exceptional work, generosity toward her colleagues, and ability to make her workplace better for the people around her.



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2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Daunell Stovall

Center for the Blind & Disabled ♦ Chester, PA



Daunell Stovall, a Landscape Maintenance Laborer with the Center for the Blind & Disabled, has spent the past three years helping maintain 13 Western Pennsylvania rest area sites. He has become known for his willingness to take on new responsibilities, learn new skills, and approach each day with a positive attitude.

Daunell's path to his current position began with the Keystone Blind Association, a sister organization of the Center for the Blind & Disabled.

Since joining the team, Daunell has continued to take on new challenges. This winter, he temporarily stepped into the role of Assistant Landscape Maintenance Manager, helping maintain lawn equipment and providing snow removal at Rest Area Site E. His supervisors and rest area attendants regularly praise his work, and his natural talent to connect with others has helped him build strong relationships with his coworkers. Daunell says his job has helped him grow, set higher goals for himself, and improve his overall wellbeing. It has also enabled him to purchase a vehicle, giving him reliable transportation and greater independence.

Daunell's journey is a meaningful example of why employment pathways matter. The work he found has given him the chance to build skills, take on greater responsibility, contribute to his community, and create greater independence in his everyday life.

Whether responding to an ordinary workday or a historic storm, Daunell brings the same determination to the job. His willingness to learn, step up, and keep moving forward has made him an important part of the team at the Center for the Blind & Disabled.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

David Webster ♦

Keystone Vocational Services ♦ Hermitage, PA



David Webster is a team member with Keystone Vocational Services in the Shredding Department at the Keystone Blind Association's main production facility in Hermitage, PA, where he plays an important behind-the-scenes role in protecting sensitive information. Employees in the shredding department do much more than operate a machine. They manage a critical cycle of trust, security, and compliance, ensuring documents are destroyed using the correct methods and that the workspace remains secure. David is a key part of that process.

Known for his calm, dependable routine, David is often at work before the rest of the shredding team arrives. He helps make sure the machines and work areas are ready for a full day of operation, including supporting the customized industrial shredder the department relies on. His attention to detail and consistency help keep an important operation running smoothly.

David has also embraced opportunities to learn and take on new responsibilities. Through hands-on experience, he has developed skills across a variety of tasks, including packing, organizing helmets and tools, and processing shredded materials. Spending dedicated time in different work areas has helped him better understand his responsibilities, build practical skills, and become more comfortable adapting to different tasks and expectations.

That hands-on learning has been an important part of David's growth. With consistent exposure to different workspaces and responsibilities, he has built confidence, strengthened his independence, and developed positive working relationships with his coworkers. David's steady approach, willingness to learn, and commitment to doing his job well make him a valuable part of the Keystone team—and a meaningful example of the impact of opportunity through employment.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Debra Dalrymple

Keystone Blind Association ♦ Hermitage, PA



Debra Dalrymple, a Rest Area Attendant with the Keystone Blind Association, has spent seven years supporting Rest Area Sites 19/20 in Edinboro (Crawford County) with reliability, dedication, and professionalism.

Over the years, Debra has developed an extensive understanding of the contract, daily operations, and the procedures and expectations that keep the sites running successfully. Her knowledge is as strong as, and in many cases stronger than, that of her peers. Even while working limited hours, she remains fully engaged during every shift and takes pride in doing her work correctly.

That experience has made Debra a trusted resource for her team. She is the go-to employee for training new staff, and leadership has full confidence that employees trained by Debra are receiving accurate information, clear guidance, and a strong foundation for success. Newer team members know they can turn to her for practical advice, encouragement, and proven techniques that help them become comfortable and confident in their roles.

Debra's patience and willingness to share what she has learned have made her an important part of the team beyond her own daily responsibilities. Her support helps strengthen the people working alongside her and contributes to a positive, knowledgeable workplace.

Her journey also reflects remarkable resilience. After stepping away from work in December 2021 following a serious health scare, Debra returned in March 2022 and has remained a steady and dependable presence ever since.

Debra's story illustrates another important part of why employment opportunities matter. Through the UniqueSource network, people with disabilities can not only enter the workforce, but build lasting experience, develop expertise, and become valued contributors who help others succeed. Debra has spent years turning her own experience into knowledge that benefits her coworkers and the people they serve.

Seven years into her work at the Edinboro rest areas, Debra has become much more than an experienced attendant. She is a source of knowledge, encouragement, and confidence for the people around her, helping ensure that what she has learned continues to strengthen the entire team.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Diane Naser ♦

Westmoreland County Blind Association ♦
Greensburg, PA



Diane Naser, a Production Center Consumer at the Westmoreland County Blind Association (WCBA), is known for her strong work ethic, positive attitude, and vibrant personality. For the past five years, Diane has worked diligently in the shredding department, where she sorts paper and assembles hooks.

Before joining WCBA, Diane was employed at Achieva in its CPS program. At WCBA, she has continued to build on that experience, becoming a dedicated and familiar presence in the production center. She takes pride in staying motivated, helping get the work done, and being part of a team.

Work has also given Diane something she values deeply beyond the tasks themselves: connection. Her program specialist says she loves “socializing with her friends,” and over the years she has built lasting relationships with the people around her. Her job has also given her a sense of financial independence and pride in earning her own paycheck, which she enjoys using to buy new clothes and shoes.

For Diane, her workplace is not simply where she goes to work—it is a place where she stays active, builds connections, and takes pride in what she earns.

Outside of work, Diane is a devoted Pittsburgh sports fan, often showing her team spirit with Pirates, Steelers, or Penguins gear. She also enjoys watching television and spending time with her niece, Willie.

Diane brings energy, determination, and genuine warmth to the workplace each day. Her path from Achieva to WCBA reflects the value of continued opportunities to work, connect, and grow—and the meaningful difference those opportunities can make in a person’s life.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Donna Lilly ♦

Threshold Rehabilitation Center ♦ Reading, PA



Donna's employment journey is a true reflection of her heart, determination, and deep love of connecting with others. From the beginning, Donna has found joy in working with people, in the daily interactions, in serving others, and in being part of something bigger than herself. Her work is more than a job; it is where she feels connected, valued, and fulfilled.

That became especially clear when Donna was given the opportunity to stay at home. Rather than finding satisfaction in stepping away from work, she quickly realized how much she missed it. She missed the smiles, the conversations, the opportunity to serve customers, and the sense of purpose that came from working alongside her team. Without hesitation, Donna chose to return, driven by her passion for people and her desire to contribute.

Since returning, Donna's affection for her coworkers and supervisor has continued to shine through in the way she approaches each day, with positivity, kindness, and dedication. She values teamwork and thrives in an environment built on mutual respect and support. Through perseverance and determination, she has not only continued in her position but truly succeeded in it.

Donna's story speaks to an important truth about meaningful employment: for many people, work provides far more than a paycheck. It can be a source of connection, purpose, belonging, and pride. The opportunities supported through the UniqueSource network help make that possible for people with disabilities, creating pathways into workplaces where individuals can contribute their talents, build relationships, and find a meaningful place within their communities.

For Donna, having the opportunity to return to work meant returning to something she genuinely loved. Her story is a powerful example of what can happen when people have the opportunity to work, contribute, and be part of a team, and why those opportunities matter. Donna's commitment, resilience, and genuine love for the people around her have shaped a career defined not only by what she does, but by the difference she makes simply by being there.

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2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Donna Slusser ♦

Arc Human Services ♦ Canonsburg, PA



Donna Slusser has spent the last three years bringing her positive, upbeat energy to her role as a License Photo Technician at Arc Human Services, Inc. Known for her flexibility, kindness, and willingness to help, Donna goes out of her way to support coworkers and customers alike.

When Donna transitioned into a computer-based role, she took on a new challenge and embraced the opportunity to learn. What could have been an intimidating change became a chance for Donna to build new skills and discover another way to put her strengths to work. Today, she approaches her responsibilities with the same confidence and enthusiasm she brings to every interaction.

The human element of the job is what Donna loves most. She shows remarkable patience and empathy with everyone she meets, whether she is coaxing a smile from a nervous teenager getting their first license or simply taking the time to listen to an older customer. Donna believes “it’s easy to be kind,” and her exceptional customer service puts that philosophy into practice every day.

Donna’s experience is a clear example of why employment opportunities for people with disabilities matter. A meaningful job can provide more than income, it can create a place to contribute, develop new skills, build confidence, and use the qualities that come naturally to you.

For Donna, that opportunity has meant stepping into a new role, learning new technology, and finding a workplace where her greatest strength, her ability to make people feel welcomed and cared for, has become an important part of her work.

When she is not working, Donna enjoys gardening and spending time with her wine club, which she has been part of for 13 years. Her warmth, adaptability, and genuine care for others make her a valued member of her workplace and a wonderful example of what meaningful employment can make possible.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Erin Dubs ♦

Goodwill of North Central PA ♦ Falls Creek, PA



Erin Dubs, a full-time Janitor employed by Goodwill of North Central PA, has been a dependable, team-first presence at Mansfield University for more than three years. Consistent, cooperative, and always willing to help, Erin is the kind of employee a contract site can count on to keep the work moving and the team supported.

Erin's greatest strengths are her helpfulness and flexibility. Supervisors and coworkers know they can rely on her when the day changes unexpectedly or extra hands are needed. As her manager shared, "If there is ever extra work or coverage needed, Erin is usually the first person to ask." Whether she is taking on an additional task, adjusting her routine, or helping a coworker catch up, Erin's instinct is to step up and contribute.

Her work has also become an important source of purpose and responsibility in her life. Erin's manager notes that the job helps her stay focused and gives her something meaningful to take pride in each day. She approaches her responsibilities with a steady professionalism and a genuine commitment to doing things the right way.

Erin's success is also supported by the people around her. Her brother also works for Goodwill and has played a big part in her success and longevity at the organization. That support, combined with Erin's own dedication, has helped her build a strong and lasting record of employment.

Erin's experience reflects why the employment opportunities supported through the UniqueSource network are so important. Meaningful work gives people with disabilities the opportunity to contribute their abilities, develop routines and workplace skills, build confidence, and become valued members of their teams. Just as importantly, success in employment is strengthened when individuals have the support they need to stay and grow.

For Erin, that opportunity has become a source of purpose, connection, and continued growth. Her willingness to step up, her consistent work ethic, and her commitment to the people around her demonstrate the lasting impact that meaningful employment can have, not only for the individual, but for the workplace and community they serve.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Frank Ferrara ♦

Inglis Community Center ♦ Philadelphia, PA



Over the past seven years, Frank Ferrara has grown into a highly dependable and proactive Photo Technician with Inglis Community Services at the King of Prussia site. Known for his team-first attitude, Frank readily steps in to cover shifts, manage end-of-week paperwork, and prepare the site for his colleagues before they arrive. His supervisors and peers value his excellent attendance, positive attitude, and willingness to do what is needed to keep the site running smoothly.

Frank's path to permanent employment took time and persistence. His employment journey began with a series of temporary jobs and internships with the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Defense through a workforce recruitment program. After completing those experiences, Frank's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) counselor referred him to a job coach with AHEDD to continue his search for permanent employment.

That support ultimately helped Frank find his current position at the King of Prussia Driver License Center in 2019. As Frank explains, "My OVR Counselor referred me to a job coach with an organization called AHEDD. My coach helped me to find my current photo license technician job at King of Prussia DLC in 2019, and he mentored me during my first year as a photo tech."

For Frank, stepping into a public-facing role was initially daunting. After struggling to find permanent employment and completing only temporary internships, he had concerns about working in a position that required frequent interaction with the public. With the support of his job coach and the structured, script-guided nature of the Photo Technician role, Frank found a way to build confidence. As he learned the process and gained experience, his comfort in social situations grew, and his coworkers began to see him truly come out of his shell.

That growth has continued throughout his seven years on the job. Frank has made a concerted effort to expand his knowledge and has taken on responsibility for required paperwork with increasing confidence and accuracy. His dedication to improving his skills has strengthened his own abilities while also making a positive difference for the team around him.

Frank's seven years in his position are a testament to what can happen when opportunity is paired with the right support. Today, the man who once found public-facing work intimidating is a trusted and dependable member of his team, someone who continues to learn, take on responsibility, and help others every day.

Outside of work, Frank enjoys studying history and spending time with his family. His journey from temporary internships to a lasting career is a meaningful reminder that the right opportunity can be the beginning of much more than a job.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Frank Vanderhoof ♦

**Allied Services (Burnley Employment & Rehab Services)
♦ Stroudsburg, PA**



Frank Vanderhoof, a dedicated custodian at Allied Services Integrated Health System, is a true go-getter. As an employee of Burnley Employment and Rehabilitation Services, a division of Allied Services, Frank brings a positive attitude to his work and can be counted on to assist with whatever task is needed. He is always willing to support his fellow employees and lend a helping hand.

Frank has a strong work history, including 18 years as a sanitation worker, and has found his current position to be both more convenient and highly fulfilling. His path in this role began with some learning curves, but with the guidance of his supervisor, Angel, Frank worked to strengthen his time-management skills and learn how to use his natural strengths to his advantage. Over time, that support and Frank's own determination helped him become a highly reliable and dependable member of the team.

Frank takes great pride in his work and is straightforward about what that means to him: "I do floors, windows, carpets, and buff when they need it. I do what I am told and get the job done."

Frank's story is a strong example of how meaningful employment can help people build on their strengths and grow into their potential. Just as important, the right support can help an individual overcome early challenges and find a role in which they can succeed.

Frank has done exactly that. With encouragement from his supervisor and his own determination, he has developed into someone his team can rely on in almost any situation. His willingness to step up, his pride in his work, and his commitment to helping others demonstrate the lasting value of an opportunity to work and grow.

Outside of work, Frank enjoys fishing with friends. At work, he is known for his reliability, determination, and readiness to help, qualities that have made him an invaluable part of his team.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Fred Jones ♦

Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind ♦ Altoona, PA



Fred Jones brings humor and warmth to his work as a Photo License Technician with the Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind at the Altoona Photo License Center. After stepping away from a 26-year career at a sign company because of a physical injury, Fred found his way to his current role through A4TD. For the past 5½ years, that opportunity has given him meaningful, steady work and something to take pride in each day.

For Fred, the impact of employment has reached far beyond the workplace. Usually shy, he says the job has helped him become more comfortable talking with people and building connections. As Fred explains, “It is easier for me to relate to people.” The confidence he has developed on the job has carried into his everyday life, making it easier for him to communicate and interact with others outside of work as well.

On the job, Fred brings that same willingness to connect to his coworkers and customers. He is known for helping fellow employees and supporting his team while building positive relationships with the people he serves.

Fred’s story demonstrates that the value of employment can extend well beyond the responsibilities listed in a job description. A position can provide stability while also opening the door to personal growth, confidence, and greater connection with others. Fred has embraced that opportunity for more than five years and continues to grow because of it.

Outside of work, Fred holds an associate degree in accounting and has served in the National Guard. He is also a self-described movie buff who enjoys traveling. His curiosity, humor, and growing confidence have become an important part of both his work and his life—and his journey is a meaningful example of what opportunity can make possible.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Izack Blair

Achieva ♦ Pittsburgh, PA



For the past two years, Izack Blair has been a dedicated custodian with Achieva, providing important support at the Kiski Township worksite. Izack has become a major help, bringing an easygoing demeanor to the workplace, completing his assigned tasks quickly, and maintaining consistent attendance. Just as importantly, he has built positive relationships with his coworkers and fostered a strong connection with the customer he serves.

After spending much of the pandemic isolated at home, returning to work has been transformative for Izack. His job has reintroduced the daily rhythm of routine and responsibility, something he genuinely values. As Izack puts it simply, “I like to work.” He enjoys staying busy and having a reason to get up, get moving, and be engaged each day rather than sitting at home watching television.

Izack has embraced that opportunity with a positive attitude and a willingness to contribute. His successful return to the workplace is a meaningful reminder of how employment can help people move forward and build fuller, more connected lives.



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2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Jacob Markovitch ♦

PBA Products and Services ♦ Pittsburgh, PA



For the past 16 years, Jacob has been a dedicated Janitor with PBA Products and Services, working to maintain the busy facilities at Moraine State Park. Over more than a decade and a half of service, Jacob has demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment and reliability. His supervisor describes him as the kind of employee who finishes his own work and immediately asks who else needs help. His willingness to support his coworkers has made him a trusted and valued member of the team.

Jacob also takes tremendous pride in his work. The commitment and routine he has built through employment have carried over into his personal life, providing a sense of structure and independence that he values. Over the years, his workplace has also helped him grow more comfortable around others, strengthen his people skills, and form lasting friendships with his crew.

A job can provide much more than a set of responsibilities. It can offer routine, purpose, independence, relationships, and the opportunity to build a life around work that an individual takes pride in doing. For Jacob, that opportunity has become a career and an important part of who he is.

Outside of work, Jacob is a passionate sports fan who enthusiastically cheers on his favorite teams throughout every season. His dedication to the things he loves is matched by the dedication he brings to his job every day.

Sixteen years after starting his first job, Jacob continues to show up, do his work, help his coworkers, and take pride in being part of the team. His career is a powerful reminder of what lasting opportunity can make possible.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Jeanette Marker

NuVision Center ♦ Lewistown, PA



Jeanette has built a reputation for hard work, reliability, and a willingness to step up whenever she is needed. She takes pride in getting the job done on time and to the standard her customers expect, and she works alongside her crew to share better ways of doing things and help everyone perform at their best.

Jeanette's resilience is evident in the way she has overcome significant personal barriers while building a lasting career. Her supervisor describes her as someone who shows up every day ready to give her best, and her coworkers know they can count on her for both her warm personality and her willingness to help when the team needs additional support.

That commitment was put to the test during an especially difficult time this year, when two of Jeanette's coworkers passed away on the same day. Jeanette had been close to both individuals personally, but even as she experienced her own grief, she helped a new supervisor bring the crew together and keep their customers' services running with as little interruption as possible.

In the weeks that followed, Jeanette continued to step up, covering additional hours and job sites while the organization searched for a replacement. She could have stepped back to focus on her own loss, but she recognized that the people she worked alongside also needed the structure and routine of their jobs during such a difficult period. She chose to continue showing up for them.

That experience also changed the way Jeanette saw herself as a leader. She had once felt that her own challenges meant she was not in a position to lead a crew. Seeing the support provided to other employees and leaders gave her the confidence to ask to fill the open position herself. She was given the opportunity and has become a valuable addition to the team.

Today, she continues to lead by example: showing up, supporting her crew, helping others find their footing, and making sure the work gets done with care and quality. Her perseverance and willingness to step forward have made her an invaluable member of her team and a powerful example of what meaningful employment can make possible.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Jessica Clayton ♦

**Cambria County Association for the Blind ♦
Johnstown, PA**



"This place feels like home," says Jessica Clayton, a dedicated Sewing Machine Operator at Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped.

Since joining the organization in 2021, Jessica has built more than a strong work record—she has built a place where she feels connected, valued, and proud of what she contributes. Known for her strong work ethic, Jessica walks to work every day, regardless of the weather, and approaches each shift with the same determination.

When Jessica first started, she was shy and reserved. With encouragement from her supervisors and the friendships she developed in the sewing department, her confidence has grown tremendously. Today, her coworkers see a different side of Jessica, including the wonderful sense of humor that has become part of what makes her such a positive presence in the workplace.

Jessica is a versatile and meticulous sewer who takes great pride in the quality of her work. She produces a variety of items, from sweatshirts to bags, and continues to expand her skills by learning to work with new materials and take on new challenges. Her dedication to doing things well is matched by her willingness to keep learning.

For Jessica, the value of her job extends beyond the work itself. Her employment has given her a sense of accomplishment, confidence, friendship, and belonging—things that have helped transform a workplace into a community where she feels at home.

Every day, Jessica walks through the door ready to contribute, learn, and create something of quality, and in the process, she has made the workplace feel a little more like home for herself and the people around her.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Jessica Donaldson ♦

Beaver County Rehabilitation Center (BCRC) ♦
Aliquippa, PA



Jessica has spent 27 years with BCRC, building a career that has grown and evolved alongside the organization. Her employment began through BCRC's School to Work program, where she gained experience at the Beaver County Courthouse, preparing documents for scanning, and at Beaver Medical Center, assisting with laundry duties.

After high school, Jessica continued working with BCRC, taking on new assignments at its New Brighton production site and at an enclave worksite in New Castle. Over the years, she has continued to demonstrate an impressive ability to adapt, learn new responsibilities, and contribute wherever she is needed. Her willingness to accept different types of work has given her experience in a wide range of environments and helped her develop a versatile skill set.

Since the opening of BCRC's Center Place facility in 2016, Jessica has also worked on a variety of UniqueSource contracts. Projects involving document preparation and scanning for Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection and State Park system have provided her with opportunities to develop additional job skills while earning through meaningful, contracted work.

Jessica approaches every assignment with the same determination. She quickly learns new processes, works efficiently, and often volunteers for projects that require an extra level of attention to detail. In fact, she prefers the more challenging files because, as she puts it, "easy work is boring."

Through BCRC's programming and UniqueSource contracts, Jessica has not simply held a job; she has been able to build experience across different worksites, learn new skills, take on increasingly complex assignments, and remain an active and valued contributor over more than two decades.

For Jessica, that work has also created a profound sense of personal and financial independence. She takes immense pride in what she accomplishes and in knowing that her contributions matter. What began as an opportunity through a School to Work program has developed into a 27-year career defined by flexibility, growth, and a willingness to keep taking on the next challenge.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Jody Boyington ♦

ServiceSource ♦ Harrisburg, PA



As a General Clerk for ServiceSource at the PennDOT facility in Harrisburg, Jody has made a remarkable impact on his department in a relatively short time. After overcoming significant personal struggles, he found meaningful, steady employment that has helped him rebuild a sense of routine and confidence while moving toward greater independence in his life.

Jody is always looking for ways to make things work better. He has identified new efficiencies and helped implement process improvements that have reduced task completion times for his department. His managers describe him as “an absolute rock for our team” and already see leadership potential in him. His strong knowledge, willingness to learn, and readiness to assist his peers have quickly made him someone his team can rely on.

But Jody’s success at work is only part of the story. His employment has helped him gain confidence and take on additional responsibilities, while also moving into a more independent living situation. Just as importantly, he has been able to maintain the personal goals that matter to him outside of work, an important part of building a life that is both stable and fulfilling.

For Jody, a job became the beginning of something much bigger: a path toward greater independence, renewed confidence, and the ability to keep moving toward the goals he has set for himself.

- ▶ Jody’s story will be highlighted during the 2026 Achievement Awards Banquet. You can view the video on our YouTube channel at UniqueSource Products & Services.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Jody Chestnut ♦

The Arc of Cumberland & Perry Counties (CPARC) ♦
Carlisle, PA



As a Food Service Trainee with The Arc of Cumberland and Perry Counties (CPARC), Jody Chestnut is a vital part of the kitchen team at the Center for Industrial Training in Mechanicsburg, PA. Whether she is baking cookies, running the cafeteria register, using the slicer to prepare catering orders, or cleaning the fryer, Jody can be counted on to approach each task with care and attention to detail.

Jody is known for stepping in wherever she is needed, and her coworkers and staff consistently say they can depend on her when an extra hand is required. She is thorough, takes pride in her work, and is always focused on doing her best.

Jody's success in the kitchen is the latest chapter in a 34-year employment journey with CIT/CPARC. Over the years, she has held a variety of positions, including working on the warehouse floor and at Walmart and Dickinson College. Each experience gave her the opportunity to build different skills and learn what kinds of work suited her best. Jody has always had an interest in food and food service, so when an opening became available in the kitchen, she was eager to pursue it. Her previous experience at Dickinson College helped prepare her for the pace, responsibilities, and expectations of kitchen work, making this role a natural fit for the skills she had developed along the way.

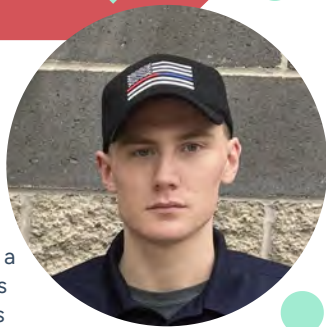
Her current role has also had a meaningful impact on her life outside of work. Jody says her job has given her a stronger sense of purpose and belonging, helped her build social skills and friendships, and provided additional income that allows her to travel, enjoy activities with her family, and give back to the people she loves.

For Jody, finding the right job has meant finding a place where her interests, experience, and strengths come together. After decades of working in different settings, she has found that fit in the kitchen, and she continues to show every day how much she values the opportunity to be part of the team.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Josh Ellis ♦

Penn York Opportunities ♦ Athens, PA



Josh Ellis, a Custodian with Penn York Opportunities, has become a steady and trusted presence at the Towanda State Police Barracks in just a year and a half on the job. His supervisor describes him as “the anchor at the site,” and Josh has earned that reputation through his reliability, strong communication, and willingness to adapt to whatever the day requires.

Josh’s path to the barracks began with employment at a local animal shelter through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). When the custodial position at the Towanda State Police Barracks became available, Josh’s Supports Coordinator and Penn York Opportunities’ OVR Supervisor believed he would be a strong fit for the position. Josh quickly established himself as someone the site could depend on, showing up faithfully in all weather, communicating when something needs attention, and adjusting his routine when activity at the barracks increases.

Josh has also grown significantly through the opportunity to learn new skills. One example is the floor scrubber, which was especially important at the barracks, where there are plenty of boots leaving their mark on the floors. Josh was hesitant to operate the machine at first, but with encouragement from a coworker who already knew how to use it, he learned the process and developed the confidence to take it on himself. Today, he handles the machine with ease and has become a pro.

His growth extends beyond his job duties. During his time at the barracks, Josh has worked with a number of different coworkers, helping each new team member develop a workable schedule of tasks while approaching those relationships with patience and kindness. Though naturally quiet, Josh has a sense of humor that coworkers appreciate, and he is always willing to step in when someone needs help. Working with a wide variety of people and learning new responsibilities has helped him build confidence and form meaningful friendships.

Josh also understands the importance of professionalism and confidentiality in a law enforcement setting, and he takes pride in doing his work the right way.

Most importantly, employment has created opportunities for Josh beyond the worksite. Through his job, he has gained confidence, friendships, new skills, and greater independence. One of his biggest milestones has been purchasing his own car, something his employment made possible and that has given him an important new sense of independence.

Today, Josh is not simply maintaining a busy worksite. He is a dependable teammate, a confident employee, and someone who has continued to expand what he is capable of. His progress over the past year and a half is a meaningful example of how employment can open the door to greater independence, connection, and possibility.

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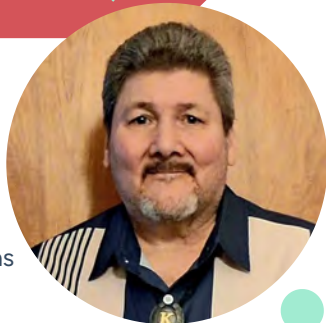
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2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Kevin Derck ♦

Suncom Industries ♦ Northumberland, PA



Kevin Derck, a Photo Technician with Suncom Industries, has built a reputation for reliability, flexibility, and steady excellence at the Shamokin Photo License Center (Site 49).

Over seven years in the role, Kevin has consistently delivered outstanding customer service and performance, earning the trust of his supervisor and the respect of his coworkers.

Kevin's path to this position began when a health issue affected his ability to continue working as a manager at a local restaurant. The physically demanding nature of that job no longer fit his abilities, requiring him to consider a new vocation. The Photo Technician position proved to be a strong match for his new circumstances. With his existing computer, IT, and customer-service skills, Kevin adapted quickly, required minimal training, and soon became an outstanding Photo Technician.

He has also become known for regularly stepping beyond what is required. When another location needs coverage, Kevin is often the first to volunteer. He takes initiative to keep his site safe and operational as well, clearing snow from entrances and walkways during winter storms and returning to the center during heavy rain to mop up water when a roof leak threatened the flooring. His willingness to step in helps ensure that the site continues serving the community smoothly.

Kevin's experience and willingness to help have made him a resource for other employees, too. Coworkers value his knowledge of the Photo Technician role and appreciate his willingness to explain the day-to-day nuances of the job, helping make their own transitions easier.

For Kevin, that opportunity meant finding a new vocation after an established career was no longer sustainable. He not only adapted to the change, but has spent the past seven years becoming a trusted, highly capable member of his team.

Dependable, proactive, and generous with his knowledge, Kevin has turned a difficult career transition into a successful second chapter, one that continues to benefit his coworkers, his employer, and the customers he serves.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Lucas Yost ♦

Handi-Crafters Inc. ♦ Coatesville, PA



Lucas Yost has been a dedicated Photo License Technician with Handi-Crafters Inc. at the Oxford ID Center for nearly two years. Known for his exceptional customer-focused approach, Lucas makes a point of ensuring that every person he assists feels respected and valued. He approaches each interaction with genuine care and a welcoming attitude, leading one supervisor to describe him simply as “kind, polite, and professional.”

Lucas is also known for being a reliable and flexible member of his team. He is quick to help when scheduling challenges arise and regularly goes beyond his usual responsibilities to keep the center running smoothly. His coworkers know they can count on him to step in when needed and to approach his work with a positive, dependable attitude.

What makes Lucas’s experience especially meaningful is how much he has grown since beginning the job. Before joining Handi-Crafters, Lucas considered himself uneasy in social situations. His work has given him regular opportunities to interact with customers, work alongside different people, and build confidence through experience. Over time, that growth has helped him become not only a strong employee, but someone his coworkers naturally look to for support and leadership.

Today, the qualities Lucas brings to the Oxford ID Center, including kindness, professionalism, flexibility, and a willingness to help others, are part of what makes him successful. The person who once felt uneasy in social settings is now regularly interacting with the public and emerging as a natural leader among his peers.

When he is not working, Lucas enjoys spending time outdoors in the summer and grabbing a bite to eat at his favorite local BBQ stand. At work, he continues to build on the confidence he has gained, one customer and one new challenge at a time.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Maria “Rose” Odrosky ♦

Futures Rehabilitation Services ♦ Bradford, PA



Maria “Rose” Odrosky, a Photo License Technician with Futures Rehabilitation Center, has served the Clearfield Photo License Center for 10 years with steady dedication, patience, and genuine care for the people she helps.

Rose was surprised to learn she was receiving an Achievement Award, quick to credit the strong team around her and the compliments they often receive from PennDOT staff. But those who work with Rose know she has earned her recognition through years of reliability and commitment. She is quick to pick up shifts, supports new employees, and, because she lives nearby, will even stop in when a coworker runs into a problem and needs help.

Rose’s employment has also been successful because Futures has been willing to work with her individual needs. Because of her physical disabilities, traveling between different photo license sites is not possible for her. Rather than allowing that limitation to prevent her from working, Futures has worked with Rose to support her in a position at a site close to home, where she can continue to excel.

A true people person, Rose takes pride in helping customers feel comfortable, including those who need accommodations. One customer’s wife captured it best after Rose assisted her husband: “You have so much patience.” Rose values that her job keeps her busy, allows her to work with people, and gives her the opportunity to do work she enjoys without being “stuck in a cubicle.”

For 10 years, Rose has built trust with customers, supported her coworkers, and helped provide dependable service at the Clearfield Photo License Center. Her story shows that when people are given an opportunity that fits their abilities and the right support to succeed, physical limitations do not have to stand in the way of a meaningful career.

Outside of work, Rose loves spending time with her family and her two cats. She is especially proud of her grandson, whom she has raised and who is graduating this year.

Rose’s compassion, consistency, and dedication to the people she serves have made her an important part of her team, and her 10-year career is a strong example of the lasting impact that opportunity and support can have.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Maribel Surita ♦

VisionCorps ♦ Lancaster, PA



Maribel Surita is a Customer Account Specialist with VisionCorps, and she is known for the kind of ownership and professionalism that makes a team stronger. With 15 years at the organization and 10 years in her current role, Maribel has built a reputation for being consistently organized, dependable, and highly accurate in her work, especially in the fast-paced world of customer support and order entry.

Maribel stood out this year for her attention to detail and follow-through. She stays on top of responsibilities, communicates clearly, and builds trust across teams by doing what she says she will do. Her customer service is equally strong; she's described as patient, proactive, and always willing to go the extra mile to ensure customers and coworkers have a positive experience. As one manager put it, "You can always count on Maribel to go above and beyond, and she does it all with a great attitude."

Coworkers speak about her impact with pride. One shared that Maribel is "the very best of us, kind, hard-working, and a true example of thriving with an impairment," adding that her "infectious optimism and fiery personality bring joy to anyone who crosses her path." Another noted that Maribel is someone you can always count on, she takes pride in getting things right, is always willing to learn something new, and brings a positive energy that makes her a joy to work with.

Maribel's success also reflects determination and adaptability. She is vision impaired and uses ZoomText daily, managing her work effectively while continuing to deliver exceptional service. Her career path is a true growth story: she began in manufacturing, completed an upward mobility program on her own time to build computer and administrative skills, moved into an Administrative Assistant role in sales, advanced into order entry, and has now excelled in this customer-facing role for more than a decade.

For Maribel, this position has provided more than a job, it has strengthened her confidence, independence, and sense of purpose. Through her reliability, warmth, and commitment to excellence, Maribel makes a meaningful impact every day on both the customers she supports and the coworkers who are lucky enough to work alongside her.

▶ Maribel's story will be highlighted during the 2026 Achievement Awards Banquet. You can view the video on our YouTube channel at UniqueSource Products & Services.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Mark Liberatore ♦

Lark Enterprises, Inc. ♦ New Castle, PA



Over his tenure with Lark Enterprises, Inc., Mark has consistently demonstrated dedication, adaptability, and a willingness to take on new challenges. Today, as an Embroidery Technician, he has taken on the demanding task of learning a highly technical new skill to help his team fulfill important UniqueSource contracts.

Mark's effort has paid off. Mark has mastered the use of a complex automatic embroidery machine and has become a knowledgeable and dependable technician. His managers describe him as someone who is always willing to go above and beyond and who takes particular pride in training and supporting his peers.

The work has had an impact on Mark that extends beyond the skills he has gained. Successfully learning intricate embroidery projects and contributing to complex UniqueSource contracts has renewed his belief in himself and what he is capable of accomplishing. His willingness to push through uncertainty and take on a highly technical responsibility is a powerful example of how meaningful employment can create opportunities for growth and confidence.

Outside of the facility, Mark enjoys taking long walks, staying active in his church, and spending time with his brother. At work, he continues to build on what he has learned, sharing his knowledge with others and taking pride in the work he does.

Mark's journey with Lark is a testament to the value of perseverance and opportunity. By being willing to work hard and learn something new, he has grown into a skilled technician, a mentor to his peers, and a more confident believer in his own abilities.

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As a disabled-owned business enterprise (DOBE), Capital Principles is proud to support UniqueSource and its mission of creating meaningful employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Harrisburg, PA

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Melvin Bitler

Hope Enterprises ♦ Williamsport, PA



Melvin Bitler, a Photo ID Operator with Hope Enterprises, has spent more than five years serving at the Williamsport DLC #041 and McElhattan #018 sites. Over the past year especially, Melvin has continued to grow into an increasingly reliable and versatile member of the team, known for his pleasant demeanor, steady work ethic, and positive energy.

Melvin's path back to employment began after a period on disability, when he learned about the Ticket to Work program. That program ultimately placed him at Hope Enterprises in his current position and gave him an opportunity to return to the workforce.

For Melvin, that opportunity meant much more than returning to work. He describes the period before finding Ticket to Work in strikingly simple terms: "I just existed until I got with the Ticket to Work program." Being back on the job has helped restore his sense of identity and purpose while also giving him greater financial security and a reason to stay engaged and moving forward.

Since returning to work, Melvin has steadily expanded his skills and become a dependable teammate across two locations. He approaches his responsibilities with a straightforward commitment to doing what is expected and meeting the needs of the job. His calm, pleasant approach and willingness to contribute have made him someone his team can count on.

More than five years later, Melvin continues to show what that opportunity has made possible. He has grown into a valued member of his team, built greater financial stability, and found a stronger sense of identity through his work.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Nicole Davis ♦

Partners in Progress ♦ Mansfield, PA



Nicole Davis has been part of the janitorial department at Partners In Progress (PIP) for approximately 17 years, building a career defined by reliability, pride in her work, and a willingness to help others.

Nicole takes great pride in her work and in knowing that the businesses served by Partners In Progress are pleased with the quality of the services she provides. Her attention to detail, independence, and commitment to safety make her a trusted member of the team.

Nicole's experience has also given her the opportunity to support other employees as they learn the job. She serves as a mentor and trainer for new team members, sharing the knowledge she has built over her career. Her coworker Shawn summed it up simply: "Nicole is a good mentor. She trained me on the PM Mobile sites."

Her employment has also provided stability, friendships, and the ability to live independently with her husband and pets. After 17 years, Nicole continues to show the value of experience, consistency, and the opportunity to grow within a career.

Whether she is completing a job on her own, supporting a coworker, or teaching someone a new technique, Nicole brings the same care and pride to her work. Her long career with Partners In Progress is a strong example of what sustained employment can make possible, not only for the individual, but for the teams and communities they serve.



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2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Richard “Rick” Repas ♦

VisAbility (formerly Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services) ♦ Pittsburgh, PA



Richard “Rick” Repas, a Photo ID Technician with VisAbility (formerly Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services), has spent the past four years serving customers at the Hermitage Photo License Center with warmth, professionalism, and a strong attention to detail.

Rick has become a dependable and welcoming presence at the Hermitage Photo License Center. He greets customers as though they are friends, helping create a positive and efficient experience even during busy days. He is also a go-to teammate when coverage is needed, consistently stepping up to help coworkers and keep the site running smoothly.

Rick’s commitment to customers can be seen in the extra effort he makes when someone needs additional assistance. When a system issue prevented an ID from being processed for a customer with an expired license, Rick took the initiative to contact the nearest PennDOT office to confirm the customer’s status and then provided clear directions. The customer later called back specifically to thank him for going the extra mile.

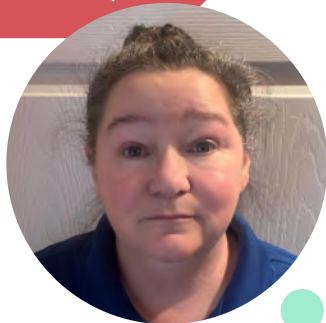
Outside of work, Rick is an avid dog lover who walks his three dogs every day and enjoys staying active outdoors.

Rick has become exactly the kind of employee his team hoped to find: dependable, compassionate, and committed to making every customer feel that they matter.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Shelli Bridygham ♦

Avenues ♦ Pottsville, PA



Shelli Bridygham is a Photo Technician with Avenues at the Hazleton, PA worksite, and in just two years, she has become a teammate customers remember and coworkers depend on. Consistently punctual, reliable, and professional, Shelli sets a strong example through the steady way she approaches her work each day.

What distinguishes Shelli most is the care she brings to the people around her. She is known for being compassionate, genuinely friendly, and attentive to both customers and coworkers. Her colleagues describe her as “kind,” “passionate about her work,” and someone who is easy to talk to when an issue or concern comes up. They say she listens carefully, offers thoughtful advice, and comes to work ready to take on the day and put a smile on other people’s faces.

For Shelli, however, this job represents more than a successful role at a Photo ID site. It gave her a way back into the workforce after she left her previous position because of life circumstances. Finding an opportunity to return to work, and a workplace where she felt supported, has made a meaningful difference in her life.

“Finding this job has helped me get back out into the workforce...,” Shelli shared. “It has been the absolute best position I’ve ever held in my work life, mainly because of the people I work with. I have gone through a lot since I started this job and every member went out of their way to help me through it. I love them so much.”

That sense of support has been especially meaningful during difficult times. Even while facing serious personal challenges, Shelli has remained committed to her work and to the people she serves. Her coworkers, in turn, have continued to stand behind her, creating the kind of workplace community that has helped her remain connected and successful.

In two years, Shelli has become a valued part of the Hazleton team, not only because she does her job well, but because of the kindness, resilience, and care she brings to everyone around her. Her story is a reminder that meaningful employment can open a door, while a supportive workplace can help someone continue walking through it.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients ♦

Sherry Fennell ♦

**Rehabilitation Center and Workshop Inc ♦
Greensburg, PA**



"Finding this role was like finding my perfect fit," Sherry Fennell says with a warm smile.

As a Photo Technician with Rehabilitation Center and Workshop Inc. at the Kittanning PennDOT site, Sherry brings unwavering tenacity, strong customer-service skills, and a joyful spirit to her work each day. Her career began in roles that allowed her to build strong interpersonal skills, including positions at a beauty salon, Aldi, and a Fine Wine & Good Spirits store.

Those jobs also helped Sherry discover what she valued in her work—and what was no longer sustainable. Over time, significant medical issues made the physical demands of prolonged standing, lifting, and unloading trucks increasingly difficult. Rather than leaving the workforce, Sherry needed to find a role that better matched her abilities and allowed her to continue using the skills she had developed throughout her career.

The Photo Technician position proved to be that fit. With fewer of the physical demands that had made her previous positions difficult to maintain, Sherry has been able to put her customer-service experience to work in a setting where she can thrive. She has embraced the role and quickly become a dependable, valued member of the team.

"Sherry never hesitates to go the extra mile," her supervisor says. Whether she is helping a coworker navigate a technical challenge or stepping in during a busy rush, Sherry is quick to offer support. Her willingness to help others and her positive approach make her an important part of the Kittanning site.

Her impact has extended well beyond the workplace. Sherry describes the job as transformative, giving her a fuller and more fulfilling life outside her home while allowing her to continue contributing through work she enjoys.

For Sherry, finding the right job did not mean starting over. It meant finding a way to carry her experience, resilience, and people skills forward in a role that works for her. Today, she is doing exactly that, serving customers, supporting her coworkers, and helping make her workplace brighter along the way.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Sueann Kominski

InspiriTec ♦ Philadelphia, PA



Sueann Kominski is a Customer Service Representative with InspiriTec, Inc., and her story is one of perseverance, compassion, and purpose. After joining InspiriTec in 2022, Sueann recently stepped into a new opportunity this year when she was selected for the COMPASS (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Access to Social Services) Help Desk team, which launched in February. In this role, she provides Tier 1 help desk support to Pennsylvanians using the COMPASS web-based tool to apply for and manage human services benefits.

Sueann made a seamless transition from InspiriTec's Affordable Care Act (ACA) Consumer Services Center to the new COMPASS Help Desk, thanks to her strong work ethic and the genuine care she shows for the people she serves. Her impact is real and measurable: since InspiriTec began operating the COMPASS Help Desk with customer service professionals like Sueann, average wait times dropped from over 40 minutes to under four minutes. Sueann has also earned multiple customer "kudos" for her work, recognized for her patience, courtesy, and her ability to explain steps clearly. One caller praised her for "remarkable patience and expertise" while she guided him step-by-step through a password reset, and another, who shared he was a former help desk manager, said he would have hired her based on the excellent service she provided.

At the heart of Sueann's success is the person she chooses to be. "I've tried to be the good, caring person I never had growing up," Sueann shared—an outlook that shows up in how she treats callers, supports colleagues, and encourages others. She loves her job and wants to be a model for people with disabilities: "I don't want my disability to take over my life... Pull yourself together and you can do whatever you want." Sueann acknowledges that living and working with disabilities can be difficult, but she also proves that progress and meaningful career paths are possible, because, as she says, "there's always something out there for somebody."

Sueann's employment journey makes her achievements even more powerful. Born with a severe disability, she later experienced a life-changing injury in 2018 that left her a wheelchair user. She endured financial hardship, time without health insurance, and setbacks in less accommodating work environments before finding InspiriTec through OVR. Today, she's not only helping Pennsylvanians across the Commonwealth; she's also helping her own family rebuild. Sueann shared that her job has improved her confidence and sense of wholeness, and the income she earns has helped her family rise out of debt and build savings.

- ▶ Sueann's story will be highlighted during the 2026 Achievement Awards Banquet. You can view the video on our YouTube channel at UniqueSource Products & Services.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Thomas “Tom” Teofilak

Beaver County Association for the Blind ♦ Conway, PA



"My commute doesn't even feel like going to work; it feels like driving to a place I love," Thomas Teofilak says.

Thomas began his employment with the Beaver County Association for the Blind as a Welcome Center Attendant at Site N. Like many people balancing work and family responsibilities, Thomas was focused on maintaining an income that would support his household. Because he also helps care for two of his adult children, he initially worked several part-time jobs in addition to his position with BCAB to make ends meet.

An opportunity to take on additional hours at another BCAB location changed the direction of Thomas's work life. When staffing needs arose at Site P because another employee was out on medical leave, Thomas willingly stepped in to cover shifts. During that time, he found himself especially drawn to the site's natural surroundings and peaceful environment. He also discovered that he felt connected to the work and that being there had a positive effect on his overall well-being.

When a full-time position later became available, Thomas requested a permanent transfer—even though Site P is approximately an hour from his home. In November 2025, he officially transferred into the full-time position and was able to leave his other part-time jobs behind, allowing him to focus on one role while achieving the financial stability he had been working toward.

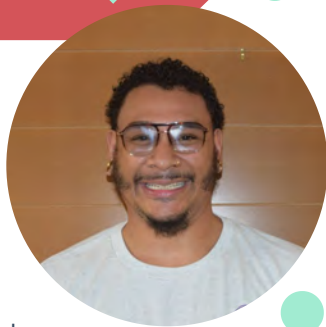
Thomas has continued to demonstrate that commitment ever since. His supervisors describe him as highly detail-oriented and someone who never leaves a job unfinished. His flexibility, reliability, and positive attitude have earned him the respect of his coworkers.

Outside of work, Thomas embraces his creative side as an actor and a weekend guide for haunted ghost tours in Philadelphia, and he enjoys spending time outdoors.

2026 Achievement Award Recipients

Tyrone Lockhart

Vision Resources of Central Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, PA



"This job gave me everything when I needed it most," says Tyrone Lockhart, reflecting on his profound personal and professional journey. A Custodial Supervisor at Vision Resources of Central Pennsylvania, Tyrone has spent the last three years distinguishing himself through his exceptional leadership and genuine love for his work. This position is his very first managerial role, and it came at a pivotal time in his life. After the tragic passing of his mother, stepping up to lead his team provided Tyrone with a deep sense of purpose, focus, and much-needed stability.

Managing a busy cleaning crew across the Harrisburg area, Tyrone uses his sharp attention to detail and strong project management skills to ensure that his team consistently exceeds expectations. "Tyrone is the perfect face for our business," his managers share, noting how he handles every challenge with calm, quiet professionalism. He is highly respected by building contacts and is always the first to jump in and cover a shift when his team needs him.

When he isn't mentoring his crew or inspecting facilities, Tyrone enjoys relaxing with music, tending to his growing collection of plants, and spending quality time with his family. Vision Resources is absolutely thrilled to celebrate Tyrone's inspiring resilience and outstanding leadership with this special honor.

- ▶ Tyrone's story will be highlighted during the 2026 Achievement Awards Banquet. You can view the video on our YouTube channel at UniqueSource Products & Services.

Thank You.

to our 2026 Achievement Award Recipients



Alorfi
Ramirez



Anthony
Morabito



Ashley
Pepperman



Bobby
Baum



Brian
Stiggers



Brianna
Tobin



Charles
Gray



Tina
March



Daunell
Stovall



David
Webster



Debra
Dalrymple



Diane
Naser



Donna
Lilly



Donna
Slusser



Erin
Dubs



Frank
Ferrara



Frank
Vanderhoof



Fred
Jones



Izack
Blair



Jacob
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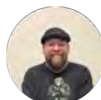
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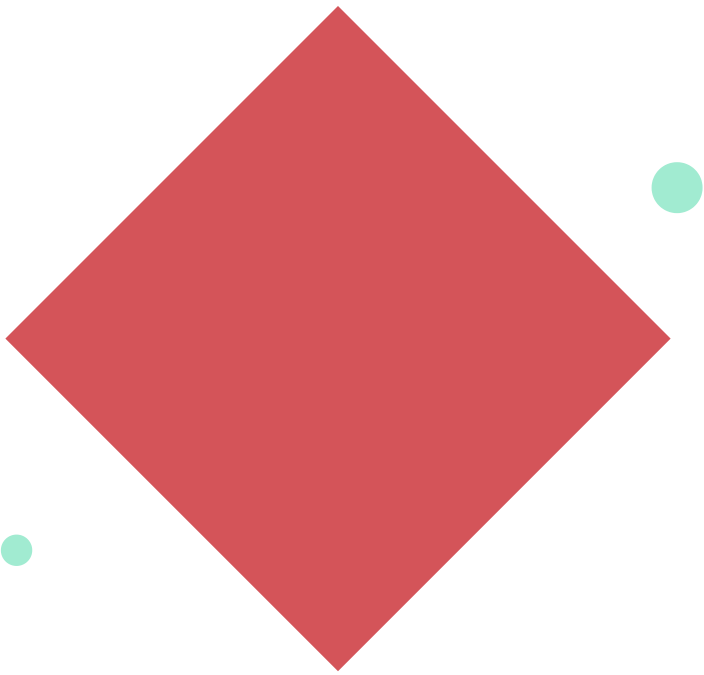
Sueann
Kominski



Tom
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500 Bent Creek Blvd.
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