



**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE ARTS
DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Food Lion honored as Employer of the Year

Beckley, W.Va. (October 30, 2013) – Food Lion, located in Beckley, W.Va., received recognition as the Beckley District Employer of the Year from the West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS).

"The partnerships with businesses that are jointly developed and nurtured serve as the foundation for our ultimate success," said Division of Rehabilitation Services Director Donna Ashworth. "The employers recognized are progressive in their attitudes and they empower people with disabilities by providing them with job opportunities."

DRS is proud to have an established and ongoing employment partnership with this local Food Lion store. The store willingly worked with DRS to develop a job for a client, focusing on the individual's capabilities rather than the individual's limitations. The employer voluntarily provided workplace accommodations, which enabled the employee to be a productive member of the store's workforce.

Distinguished Employer awards were presented to other businesses in the district:

- Wobo Used Motor Sales & Repairs, Inc., Oak Hill
- Wendy's, Summersville
- Kmart, Bluefield
- Foodland, Marlinton

DRS, a division of the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts, is the state agency responsible for the federal vocational rehabilitation program in West Virginia. DRS assists people whose physical or mental condition is interfering with their ability to get or keep a job.

Employers play a critical role in the success of those participating in the vocational rehabilitation program.

DRS offers individualized service to assist employers in retaining valued employees or in hiring qualified employees. DRS can provide consultation related to disability, as well as information about

Enabling and empowering individuals with disabilities to work and to live independently

assistive technology, disability resources, potential tax credits, workplace accommodations and other benefits to employers.

The Beckley District consists of Raleigh, Mercer, Summers, Monroe, Greenbrier, Fayette, Nicholas, Braxton, Webster and Pocahontas counties.

For more information about DRS and its programs, call 1-800-642-8207 or visit the division's website at wvdrs.org. In the Beckley District, call (304) 256-6900.