



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

Administrative Offices • 107 Capitol Street • Charleston, West Virginia 25301-2609
Telephone: 304-356-2060 • Fax: 304-558-1421 • Toll-free: 1-800-642-8207
Web page: www.wvdrs.org

Donna Ashworth, Acting Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jerry Carper, District Manager
West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services
304-356-2371

Local businesses receive recognition

Charleston, W.Va. (May 31, 2012) – Six area businesses were recently honored by the West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS).

“Distinguished Employer” awards recognize strong local partnerships with the West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services, the state’s primary employment resource for people with disabilities who want to work.

Area businesses recognized were:

- United Structural Systems Ltd., Inc., Charleston
- Charleston Area Medical Center, Charleston
- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Charleston
- Kmart, Charleston
- Foodland, Spencer
- Smith's Foodfair, Elkview

"All of the employers selected recognize the abilities and the positive contributions individuals with disabilities bring to the workplace," said Division of Rehabilitation Services Acting Director Donna Ashworth. "Many of the employers demonstrated extraordinary consideration in providing accommodations that help an individual perform the tasks associated with his or her job, while other employers consistently provide employment opportunities to DRS clients."

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 interferes 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 services to assist employers in retaining valued employees or in hiring qualified employees. DRS can provide consultation related to disability, as well as information about tax credits, assistive technology, disability resources, workplace accommodations and other benefits to employers.

The Charleston District consists of Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Jackson, Kanawha, Mason, Putnam and Roane counties.

For more information about DRS and its programs, call 1-800-642-8207 or visit the division's web site at www.wvdrs.org. In the Charleston District, call 304-356-2371.