



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

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Walgreens honored as Employer of the Year**

**Huntington, W.Va. (September 26, 2011)** – Walgreens, located in Barboursville, W.Va., received recognition as the Huntington District Employer of the Year from the West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) at an Employer Recognition Banquet at Stonewall Resort on September 22, 2011.

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

With an overall philosophy of creating a workforce built on diversity and inclusion of people with disabilities, Walgreens is working to fulfill that mission. The Barboursville store has demonstrated a willingness to hire DRS clients and has gone out of its way to provide workplace accommodations to employees with disabilities. The company values training, technology and awareness to build a productive workforce that includes providing opportunities to people with disabilities.

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

- Okuno International Inc., Prichard
- Huntington Veterans Administration Medical Center, Huntington
- Sodexo Campus Services, Marshall University, Huntington
- Midland Meadows, Ona
- Marshalls Department Store, Barboursville

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

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

The Huntington District consists of Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Mingo, Logan, Wyoming and McDowell counties.

For more information about DRS and its programs, call 1-800-642-8207 or visit the division's Web site at [wvdrs.org](http://wvdrs.org). In the Huntington District, call (304) 528-5585.