# NEWS RELEASE

For additional infomration, please contact David Jespersen by phone (402-471-4537) or email (david.jespersen@nebraska.gov)

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## 2026 Nebraska VR Disability Employment and Inclusion Awards

Four Nebraska VR partners received awards at the Nebraska State Capitol for their role in creating inclusive workplaces and advocacy for disability employment.

The 2026 Nebraska VR Disability Employment and Inclusion Awards highlight the successful partnership between Nebraska VR and the businesses and communities they serve. Nebraska VR offers individualized programs to help people with disabilities find, keep, and advance in employment consistent with their interests, priorities, strengths, talents, and choices while working with businesses to find and keep quality employees.

“I am thrilled to celebrate these businesses and their valuable partnership with Nebraska VR,” said Governor Jim Pillen. “To truly grow our economy, we need the skills, talents, and abilities of every Nebraskan. These businesses deserve immense recognition for leading the way.”

Nebraska Commissioner of Education Brian Maher commended the honorees for their leadership in expanding opportunities to learn, earn, and live. Recognition was also given to Nebraska VR staff for their direct work with students, clients, and businesses to secure meaningful employment.

“During October’s National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), we are proud to honor three business partners and a Champion of Disability Employment,” said Nebraska VR Director Lindy Foley. “Aligning with the 2026 theme, ‘Celebrating Value and Talent,’ these awardees are leading the way by opening doors to excellent career opportunities for individuals with disabilities.”

The Nebraska State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) Employment Committee selected the recipients from nominees submitted by Nebraska VR Business Account Managers and Employment Specialists. The awards are presented during October’s National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The Council is comprised of individuals who have an interest in working with Nebraska VR to ensure the needs of Nebraskans who experience a disability are met in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

The following businesses were honored:

- **New Business Partner Recognition Award – Nebraska State Patrol, Lincoln, NE**
- **Small Business Partner Recognition Award – Made New Makerspace, Omaha, NE**
- **Large Business Partner Recognition Award – Subconn, Inc., Ord, NE**
- **Champion of Disability Employment Recognition Award – Stephanie Goodrich, Omaha, NE**

There are details and separate News Releases about each of the businesses online.

Nebraska VR is a state agency within the Nebraska Department of Education. Nebraska VR helps people who experience a disability prepare for, find, and keep a job while helping businesses recruit, train, and retain employees with disabilities.

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*David Jespersen*
*Public Information Officer, Nebraska Department of Education*
*402-471-4537*
*david.jespersen@nebraska.gov*
*@NDE_News*