



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

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Ace Hardware honored as Employer of the Year**

**Wheeling, W.Va. (October 30, 2013)** – Ace Hardware, located in Moundsville, W.Va., received recognition as the Wheeling 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."

This local Ace Hardware store took the company promise of "helping you is the most important thing we have to do today" to heart when the operating manager provided employment to a person with a disability. Ace Hardware has made many appropriate accommodations for this employee to perform the job successfully.

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

- Foodland, Parkersburg
- Kmart, Weirton

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 Wheeling District consists of Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Doddridge, Ritchie, Pleasants, Wood and Wirt counties.

For more information about DRS and its programs, call 1-800-642-8207 or visit the division's website at [wvdrs.org](http://wvdrs.org). In the Wheeling District, call (304) 238-1092.