

Iowa Rehabilitation Association Newsletter 3rd Quarter 2008

Suzanne Paulson, Editor

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

John TenPas

First, let me congratulate Roger Carter and his committee for another awarding winning program at this year's Job Placement Division Annual Brag and Steal Day on July 25th on the DMACC Campus in Ankeny. The keynote speakers as well as the various breakout sessions were very informative. If you haven't been to a "Brag and Steal Day:" for awhile or not at all, I highly recommend that you consider attending next year's event.

Speaking of attending, I would to invite you to join the Iowa Rehabilitation Association and the Association of Persons in Supported Employment to Council Bluffs for our Annual Training Conference, October 8, 9 and 10th at the Ameristar Hotel and Casino. This year's conference has a variety of topics that I am sure you will find helpful to you on your job. If you have friends in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota who works in the field invite them to join us in Council Bluffs this October. For more information on the conference, go to our website: www.ira-iowa.org. I look forward to seeing you all in Council Bluffs.

If you have any suggestion, please send them to me at john.tenpas@iowa.gov

JPD

By Marcia Gracey

Brag N Steal on July 25th was a big success even though we were small in numbers (about 50). Our conference theme was **Setting the Stage for Future Success In Job Placement**, and our presenters did a great job supporting the theme. The evaluations spoke positively of the program and the facilities at DMACC.

I would like to thank the Program Committee who helped plan the event, contact presenters, and helped with registration. The committee included Rosie Thierer, Brenda Criswell, John Lee-Egan, Denise Hubert, Mary Augustus, Ellen Sokolowski, Roger Carter, and Lois Staff. GREAT JOB! I am also seeking nominations for the Bill Donahue Award, for excellence in Job Placement. Please take time to nominate someone you know or work with, and respect, for this award. The criteria is elsewhere in the newsletter, and please try and submit your nomination by September 19th. I hope to see you at the conference.

Destination: Ameristar, Council Bluffs

Ameristar offers a family-friendly atmosphere with child care available as well as an arcade center for teens. Complimentary valet parking is ready for all guests. Staff will assist with unloading your vehicle and moving into your room. Additionally, they have wheelchairs available for anyone needing assistance in getting between locations. The conference suite is immediately inside the front doors along with several restaurants, a snack shop and gift shop.

The hotel offers active recreation with the fitness center and sauna, and an indoor pool and spa featuring a glass wall that looks out onto the Missouri River. In fair weather the wall opens to a sunbathing patio. Pool, spa and fitness center hours are 6am to 10pm daily.

The staff we visited want our business and we are the only conference scheduled for that venue, using the entire conference facility. Reserve your room today! A reduced rate of \$109 is available by mentioning the Iowa Rehabilitation Association conference. You can check out the amenities at their web site: www.ameristar.com/council/index.asp

Silent Auction Hear Ye Hear Ye!!

Once again the Counseling Division and JPD will sponsor a Silent Auction at the fall conference to be held at the AmeriStar in Council Bluffs. Our plans this year is to use the proceeds for a fund raiser for the counseling division so they will have funds to support their activities. If we raise enough money we will also look into giving a portion of the funds to a organization in the Council Bluffs area that provides services to person's with disabilities. So start you fall house cleaning go through your cupboards, closets, basements, garages, storage units and set aside some nice items to donate to our silent auction. The silent auction will start on Wednesday afternoon the first day of the conference, October 8th and will end on Thursday October 9th. Please bring you items and give them to John Lee-Egan our myself. I believe last years silent auction brought in a little over four hundred dollars. We hope to see you at the conference for great training and a great time. If you have questions you can contact me at: 1-515-281-4268 (work) or 1-515-243-0042 (home)



2008 AWARDS CEREMONY

By Marcia Gracey

Take a Chance On Success". What a great theme for the IRA fall conference in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The dates are October 8-10, so mark your calendars if you haven't already, and plan to attend. I am chairing the Awards Luncheon, so I am looking for NOMINATIONS for all the awards. The awards are, just in case you've forgotten: Counselor of the Year (presented by the Counseling division), the Bill Donahue Award (presented by the Job Placement Division, the Chuck Wood Memorial Award, the Gerry Byers Award (an association award), and the IRA Achievement Award. The nomination forms are elsewhere in the newsletter, so please take the time to recognize a co-worker, fellow professional, or consumer. I am sure you all know someone

deserving of recognition. It is work to get a nomination packet together, but well worth the look on the recipient's face at the luncheon, especially if they don't know about it. Please submit nominations by September 19th so we can review them and get the placques done on time. If you have attended a conference in the past, you know our awards luncheon is the high point and you will leave feeling great. SO, Please take time to recognize someone for their achievement, service, or performance; AND plan on attending. You will be glad you did! See you there!

Membership Report

At the end of July 2008, the chapter and division memberships are:

IRA Total 87 -	61 Professional	
	4 Student	
	22 Lifetime	
NRA Job Placement/Development		22
Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association		17
National Association for Independent Living		
Vocational Evaluation/Work Adjustment Association		4
Natl Assoc. of Service Providers/Private Rehab.		5
Natl Assoc for Rehabilitation Leadership		3
National Association of Rehabilitation Support Staff		1
Natl Assoc of Multicultural Rehab Concerns		1
Natl Assoc of Disability Benefits Specialists		3

FYI: Dues have increased - Member \$132, Student \$42

Activities

Please welcome new members: Noel Estrada-Hernandez, Kelly Walters, and Mary Ott!!

Additionally, we recently lost a Lifetime NRA member: Albert Libby of Des Moines.

Don't forget about the Membership Campaign. For each new member you sign up (three is the max), you will receive \$20 off your IRA training conference registration. That can be a savings of \$60!! That fall conference will be held at the Ameristar in Council Bluffs. I'm sure you'll want to use your savings at the Bass Pro Shop!!

New member applications must be sent to me with the sponsoring member's name on the NRA application in order to receive the

perk. Or, for online registrations, the new NRA member needs to send me an email confirmation.

Please email me your address, work and home phone, fax, and email to update our roster. VP Matt has suggested putting this information into a database. That's a great idea to keep our information and that of former members.

Anyone wanting to be a part of this committee, or having suggestions or comments, please contact me at victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us or 319-230-8737. Enjoy the rest of your summer!! See you in Council Bluffs.

Victoria, IRA Member Chair
319 Marie Avenue, Elk Run Heights, IA 50707
victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us
319-230-8737



In this newsletter, I want to introduce you to Dr. Matt Bruinekool. He is IRA's Vice President this year.

Matt's educational background includes a BS in Physical Education and Sports Studies from Iowa, an MS in Rehabilitation Counseling from Drake, and a EdD in Educational Leadership from Drake. He is also a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor.

For over the past twelve years, Matt has been employed as the Director of the National Rehabilitation Institute at Drake University. His duties include teaching courses in career counseling, understanding employers and their needs, and rehabilitation leadership. Matt has worked with Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Iowa Workforce Development on statewide systems change grants geared

toward improving services to individuals with disabilities. Additionally, he spent three years working with the Rehabilitation Continuing Education Program at the University of Missouri-Columbia developing distance education learning modules and training state agency personnel and community rehabilitation personnel on how the Internet could be used in improving the delivery of rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities.

Currently, Matt's research interests are focused on identifying effective employer development strategies and creating employer development models to aid rehabilitation counseling in building relationships with business and industry.

Matt shares, "I am very excited to be serving as the Vice President of IRA and hope that I am able to help the association achieve its goals for the year. One of the most thrilling aspects of my services has been to see so many Drake alumni actively engaged in the association and more specifically in leadership positions within the association. There has been nothing more rewarding than to see alumni leading our profession into the future."

In addition to being a member of the National Rehabilitation Association, Matt belongs to the following NRA divisions: Job Placement and Development, National Association Rehabilitation Leadership, and Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association.

In his "spare" time, Matt is busy with his two boys and their summer activities. They enjoy time at the lake, waterskiing, and wakeboarding.

Welcome Matt!! Thanks for being a part of the Iowa chapter of NRA.

Victoria Kollmann
IRA Membership Chair

Legislative Report

Washington is quiet as the House and Senate started their summer recess. Most members of Congress will remain in their home states during this time to campaign for re-election.

US Congress...Even though Congress is in a lengthy recess, leaders in the House and Senate are plotting the agenda for the anticipated three week session when they return on September 8th. Top priority items include addressing the energy crisis (particularly gasoline prices), extending certain tax credits, and passing a Continuing Resolution that will keep the federal government in operation after the beginning of the 2009 fiscal year on October 1. Other key issues include the American with Disabilities Act Amendments Act, low income energy assistance and a second economic stimulus package. Most of these bills face difficulty in the Senate where many of these bills have been tied up in filibusters.

ADA Amendments Act...On July 31, the Senate introduced S. 3406, the Senate's version of the ADA Amendments Act, with 57 co-sponsors. This bipartisan supported bill is intended to address much of the discrimination faced by persons with disabilities despite the passage of the ADA in 1990. The House passed its version (HR 3195) by a vote of 402-17 on June 25. Should the Senate pass its bill after its return from the summer recess, any differences in the House and Senate versions will need to be addressed before Congress is expected to adjourn at the end of September.

On July 15th the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee convened a public roundtable meeting entitled, "Determining the Proper Scope of Coverage for the Americans with Disabilities Act." The roundtable was convened by Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA). Three key issues were raised: 1) the importance of process and the need to make changes to the House bill (HR 3195); 2) concerns that the proposed changes to the

definition of disability would trigger an abundance of accommodation eligibility for students in the K-12 system and higher education and could lower academic standards; and 3) a desire to have the new term "materially restricts" defined ("substantially limits" a major life activity is redefined in the ADAAA as materially restricts). Proponents of the ADAAA addressed the concerns, noting that eligibility for service (i.e. qualifying as a person with a disability) doesn't mean that reasonable accommodation is necessary, and that substantially limits is a nebulous term in law, never had a definition and materially is a standard well understood by the courts.

FY2009 Appropriations.... Democratic leaders in the House and Senate have pledged to send a FY 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill for signature by President Bush prior to the start of FY 2009 on October 1. This is the first clear signal that at least one of the twelve FY 2009 Appropriations bills will clear the Congress this year. The VA Military Construction Appropriations bill may be another candidate for passage.

It is not likely that floor time will be scheduled for another other FY 2009 appropriations bill unless the Congress and the White House can reach a deal that will avoid promised Presidential vetoes. The House Appropriations Committee has stopped work on most appropriations bills since House Republicans tried to add oil drilling proposals to the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bills.

The Defense Appropriations bill may then become the vehicle to pass a Continuing Resolution to keep all non-defense programs operating until sometime next year when the new Congress and President can work to complete action on the remaining bills.

Immigration and Naturalization....On August 1, the Senate passed the SSI Extension for Elderly and Disabled Refugees Act (HR 2608).

This bill continues access to the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program for certain refugees, people seeking asylum and other categories of immigrants. The bill was passed by voice vote and will return to the House for another vote since the Senate version differs somewhat from the bill passed by the House on July 11, 2007. Refugees, asylees, and certain other immigrants who are elderly or disabled currently qualify for up to seven years of SSI benefits. They are expected to become naturalized citizens within those seven years of SSI benefits. The bill would extend the maximum period for SSI benefits to nine years (through FY 2010) in response to complaints that it has become increasingly difficult to attain citizenship, in part because of delays of processing applications.

The Social Security Administration has projected that by the end of 2008 more than 30,000 elderly and disabled refugees will have lost their benefits. More than 19,000 refugees are projected to lose their benefits in the coming years. The Bush Administration supports extending the deadline.

Employment...On July 24th the Federal minimum wage increased from \$5.85 to \$6.55. The final increase will be \$7.25 next July 24th.

Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act...This bill was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush. It prohibits discrimination by employers and insurance companies of persons with disabilities who have genetic based diseases

Bills passed and signed into law in Iowa:

HF 2407...Accessible Parking Registration Fee..Currently there is a \$60 annual registration fee for multi-purpose vehicles modified for persons with disabilities or used by persons in wheelchairs. This bill makes it apply to any vehicle or station wagon, not just multi-purpose vehicles(trucks, motor homes, ambulances, hearses, motorcycles, motorized bicycles are still not included.)

HF2620-Elections/VoterRegistration...Requires all polling places be accessible to persons with disabilities and requires all polling places have voting equipment for use by voters with disabilities in counties where paper ballots are not used. Prohibits the use of cell phones, cameras, pagers, and other electronic equipment while voting.

SF 2161-Homelessness Council...Creates a 38 member council on the homelessness, 26 of which will be from the general public appointed by the Governor. The council is required to make annual recommendations to the Governor regarding matters which impact homelessness, prepare and file with the Governor and the General Assembly a report on homelessness in Iowa, and assist in the complete of the state's continuum of care application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Requires a study of issues relating to low-income seniors and low-income persons with disabilities, including lack of affordable and dependable transportation and housing near work. The study is also to review issues related to low-income persons at risk of becoming homeless and availability of affordable rental housing and access to financing for low-income homebuyers.

SF2425-Health/HumanServicesBudget..Miscellaneous changes include the creation of an Iowa Autism Council. This will be a 13 member council to advise the state in developing and implementing a comprehensive, coordinated system to provide appropriate diagnostic, intervention and support services for children with autism and to meet the unique needs of adults with autism. Members are to include autism specialists, persons with expertise in best practices in diagnosing, treating and educating persons with autism, residential service providers, mental health professionals with expertise in autism, private insurers, and teachers/AEA representatives. Also includes state agencies representatives.

Dependent Adult Abuse Checks...Requires hospitals to do background checks on criminal,

child abuse, and dependent adult abuse registries for all employees. Persons with founded child or dependent adult abuse record may not be employed by a hospital unless they are cleared by a state investigation that considers the severity of the charge, circumstances, and time elapsed. Also requires these checks for homemaker home health aide, adults day services, home-care aides, other in-home services providers, elder group homes, assisted living programs, hospices and other providers of direct services to consumers under the Medicaid Home and Community Based Services.

Why attend the Iowa Rehabilitation Association and the Association of Persons in Supported Employment annual training conference October 8-10, 2008?

Network with your partners and make new connections! Congratulate outstanding Iowans receiving awards! Learn more about ethics, creative problem solving, disability management, inclusiveness, brain injury and other specific disabilities, reentry from corrections, managing change, effects of legislation on your industry, and much more! Expand your knowledge of resources from vendors! Improve your services to Iowans with disabilities!

AND enjoy the camaraderie offered at karaoke and the reception for IRA President John TenPas and APSE President Lonnie Matthews. The Ameristar Hotel & Casino offers a great venue for the conference. Reservations can be made by contacting them at 712-328-8888 and mention the Iowa Rehabilitation Association conference to get the reduced rate.

See the registration form in this newsletter or visit our web site at www.iraiaowa.org.

See you in Council Bluffs!

**2008 IRA Board Member
Contact List**

President-John TenPas, 515-281-5969
john.tenpas@iowa.gov

Vice President-Matt Bruinekool,
matt.bruinekool@drake.edu

President-Elect-Harlietta Helland,
harlietta@marshallnet.com

Secretary-Mary Augustus, 515-573-8175
mary.augustus@iowa.gov

Treasurer-Rosie Thierer,
rosie.thierer@blind.state.ia.us

Past President-Gary Herrig,
gary.herrig@mchsi.com

Board Member-Curt Jones,
curt.jones@iowa.gov

Board Member-Vienna Hoang,
VHoang@mercydesmoines.org

Board Member-Becky Cox, 515-266-1801

Board Member- Jonathan Ice 319-365-9111
ice.jonathan@blind.state.ia.us

Board Member-Gary Johnson,
gary-johnson@uiowa.edu

Board Member-Mike Williams,
mike.williams@iowa.gov

Membership Chair-Victoria Kollmann
victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us

Newsletter-Suzanne Paulson 515-229-7748
Suzanne.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov

Awards Chair-Marcia Gracey, 515-281-7643
t.gracey@mchsi.com

Nominations Chair-Gary Herrig,
gary.herrig@mchsi.com

Legislative-Ellen Sokolowski, 1-800-432-5852, ext. 3280 ellen.sokolowski@iowa.gov

APSE Liaison-vacant,
Division Chairs

RCE Association-John Lee-Egan,
john.lee-egan@iowa.gov

JPD-Job Placement Division
Vacant

Please contact any of these individuals if you have questions about or suggestions for IRA!

Iowa Rehabilitation Association & Association of Persons in Supported Employment collaborate on training conference

Conference Highlights

Wednesday, October 8

Exhibits Open at 11:00 a.m.

Opening Luncheon

Tamara Rogers presents ***“Creative Thinking and Problem Solving”*** with a follow-up concurrent session on ***“Tools to Assist in the Process”***.

Other concurrent sessions include:

Background & Credit Checks”

Ethical Decision Making by **John Lui** from Stout

Reentry from Corrections

Disability Management

And more...

Thursday, October 9

Exhibits open at 8:00 a.m.

Carl Suter, Executive Director of CSAVR, will provide an ***“Overview of the Political Landscape”*** immediately following the awards luncheon.

Concurrent sessions for the day include:

Immigration

Litigation

Video Technology for Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Community Based Retail Sales Training

Ethics in Placement

Use of Wii as a Rehabilitation Tool

Diversity

And more....

Friday, October 10

Dr. Dave Demarest, Clinical Neuropsychologist at On With Life, will present the ***“Many Faces of Brain Injury”***

Ray Feroz, President of the National Rehabilitation Association will address ***“Managing Change”***.

APSE and IRA will have board meetings and division meetings in the evenings and two opportunities to socialize will be provided including Karaoke at the President’s Reception on Thursday evening.

Most speakers and times are confirmed and a detailed program will be available at www.iraiowa.org.

**2008 Annual Training Conference
Iowa Rehabilitation Association &
Association of Persons in Supported Employment
October 8-10, 2008**

REGISTRATION

Name: _____ **Phone: (w)** _____ **(h)** _____

Address: _____

Place of Employment _____

Name you want on nametag _____

Email Address _____

Membership:

NRA or APSE (circle one)

Early Member Registration by 9/23/08 \$90.00 _____

Wednesday only \$40.00 _____

Thursday only \$55.00 _____

Friday only \$25.00 _____

Member Registration after 9/23/08 \$100.00 _____

Early Non-Member Registration by 9/23/08 \$100.00 _____

Non-Member Registration after 9/23/08 \$110.00 _____

Student Registration by 9/23/08 \$60.00 _____

(Student at _____)

Award Luncheon Ticket Only \$20.00 _____

Social Work CEU fee \$10.00 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Other Accommodation Needs: _____

MAIL registration form and check payable to Iowa Rehabilitation Association to:

Kathy Winter

3822 Bel Aire Rd.

Des Moines IA 50310-4223

CEUs are being requested for: CRC, CDMSC and Social Work.

Hotel Information

Ameristar Hotel & Casino

Council Bluffs, Iowa

712-328-8888 or 1-877-432-7827

Please contact the hotel directly to get the discounted rate of \$109.00 per day. Special rate cut off date is September 25, 2008. Mention that you are with the Iowa Rehabilitation Association. Reservations made after September 25, 2008 are not guaranteed the discounted room rate and will be subject to availability.

2008 CHUCK WOOD MEMORIAL AWARD

The **Iowa Rehabilitation Association** is seeking nominations for the Chuck Wood Memorial Award. This award is given to recognize the achievements of a person with a disability who has attained a high level of independence, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency in the community.

If you know of a person who has demonstrated achievement of their goal of independence in their community and personal life, we strongly encourage you to submit a nomination packet.

The Chuck Wood Award will be presented at the Iowa Rehabilitation Association Annual Conference Awards Banquet.

NOMINEE _____

ADDRESS _____

SPONSOR _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

A nomination packet may include:

- One or more nomination letter(s)
- Information concerning the nominee's disability
- Nominee's personal achievements

Please send your nomination packet to:

Jonathan Ice
Iowa Department for the Blind
411 3rd Street SE, Suite 745
Cedar Rapids IA 52401-1811
jonathan.ice@blind.state.ia.us

Nominations should be submitted no later than September 1, 2008

IRCA COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR AWARD 2008

IRCA is asking for nominations for the annual Counselor of the Year Award. We are seeking individuals who have given time and commitment beyond the call. *The nominee must be a current member of the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association, and be verified as working as a rehabilitation counselor by an NRCA member!*

The award winner will be considered for regional and national consideration as well. Please take a moment to recognize one of your peers who has demonstrated exemplary performance in their profession by completing the form below.

Please complete and attach supporting documents. Submit to: Marcia Gracey, 510 E 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 **SUBMIT NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2008**

NOMINEE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **PHONE:** _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

TITLE: _____

NOMINATED BY: _____

ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____

MEMBER OF IRCA? YES _____ **NO** _____

Signed: _____ (IRCA member signature)

Supporting documentation in addition to the above:

1. Nomination letter from the nominator stating the qualifications of the nominee.
2. Biographical information: education, special recognitions, employment background, service organization and other memberships (include NRA and divisions), examples of community service, and any other professional acknowledgments.
3. Letters of support from co-workers, supervisors, clients, and community organizations.

IRA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2008

NOMINATION FORM

(To be submitted by September 1, 2008)

SPONSOR (S) _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (H) _____ (W) _____

NOTICE: The committee will not have access to actual case file records. Please provide as much information as possible.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Does the candidate know of this nomination? (Y) _____ (N) _____

Date of Birth _____

Primary Disability _____

Secondary Disability _____

Educational Level _____

REHABILITATION PROCESSES -- Describe the service/treatment as it related to vocational need including any special programs or facilities and the dates of involvement.

NOMINEE'S

Employer _____

Job Title _____

Dates of Employment _____

What, if any, promotions or added responsibilities have occurred?

Is employer interested in attending conference (at own expense)?

Please provide reasons why you feel the candidate should be considered, aspects where the candidate has demonstrated progress, examples of candidate's satisfaction, vocational evaluation results, etc.

Criteria for Selection: The individual must have an identifiable disability; must have been involved in some type of rehabilitation process; must have been successfully placed in competitive or sheltered employment for at least three months; and shown competency in taking care of most personal daily living skills.

Use as many sheets as necessary to complete the application and submit to:

Marcia Gracey, Awards Chairperson
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
510 E. 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50310

THE GERRY BYERS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

2008

Gerry Byers spent most of his adult life dedicated to helping persons with disabilities achieve their employment goals, and to the National/Iowa Rehabilitation Association. He spent 30+ years employed as a placement specialist for the State of Iowa Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVRS) assigned to the Council Bluffs office. As a member of NRA/IRA, he was tireless in his efforts, particularly in the area of membership. Often the recipient of a free membership (but already a lifetime member), he would donate it to a new person. He rarely missed a state, regional, or national convention, and throughout his tenure, held several offices. He was a Bill Donohue and Margaret Fairbairn Award recipient for his exemplary achievement in job placement.

In memory of our friend who passed away Christmas Day 1998, the IRA Board of Directors has established an annual award. **This award will be presented by the President of IRA at the Awards Luncheon at the Annual Conference.**

NOMINEE _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (H) _____ **(W)** _____

SPONSOR _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (H) _____ **(W)** _____

NOMINEE'S EMPLOYER _____

JOB TITLE _____

Nominations should include this cover page and a letter from the sponsor detailing the nominee's achievements. Letters from clients, co-workers and other Association members are encouraged.

CRITERIA

- Must be member of the National Rehabilitation Association
- Employed in the field of rehabilitation or closely related occupation relevant to persons with disabilities
- Demonstrated a significant impact on persons with disabilities and to the Association
- **Nominations should be submitted to Matt Bruinekool, Drake University, School of Education, 25th & University, Des Moines, IA 50310, no later than September 1, 2008.**



National Rehabilitation Association of Job Placement and Development

Dear Rehabilitation Colleague:

The Job Placement Division of the Iowa Rehabilitation Association is soliciting nominations for the **Bill Donohue Memorial Award**. This award is given to the professional who has demonstrated the most outstanding effort in placing Iowans with disabilities.

The winner of the Bill Donohue Award will be presented with a plaque and savings bond. The award will be presented in September of 2008, at the Iowa Rehabilitation Association's annual meeting.

Criteria for the Award:

I. Nominee

- A. Name
- B. Title, brief job description
- C. Address, phone number, social security number
- D. Employer

II. Reasons for Nomination

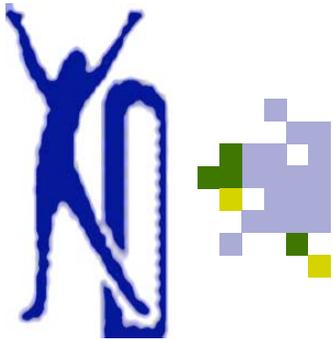
- A. Describe nominee's involvement in placing individuals with disabilities, especially severe disabilities.
- B. Describe any innovative approaches to placement.
- C. Describe use of community and national resources such as JTPA, The Workforce Development Centers, NARC, organizations, etc..
- D. Discuss the nominee's contribution to the field of job placement.
- E. Submit documentation such as statement or letters from peers, consumers, cooperating agencies, supervisors and employers.
- F. Membership in JPD, IRA or the National Rehabilitation Association is not a requisite.

III. Nominator

- A. Provide name, address, phone number and job title.
- B. Provide signature.

The winner of the Bill Donohue Award will receive his/her letter(s) of nomination. **Nominations will be accepted through September 1, 2008.** Please send your nomination to:

Marcia Gracey, Awards Chairperson
Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
510 E. 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50310



THE IOWA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

PLEASE CONTACT ANYONE OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



The Iowa Rehabilitation Association
needs your help in
expanding membership.

We are offering you an **incentive** to encourage your friends and colleagues to join IRA and begin receiving the benefits of this vital organization.

IRA will deduct \$20.00 dollars off the cost of 2008 IRA Training Conference fee for every new member up to three members.

That is a potential savings of **\$60.00** towards your conference fee. If you are interested, please contact Victoria Kollmann or anyone on the membership committee.

PLEASE CONTACT
ANYONE OF THE
FOLLOWING PERSONS
FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION

Victoria Kollmann
319-230-8737

Maureen McClain
515-956-2691

Shelia Stoeckel
641-422-1500

Tim Gracey
515-243-0042

Marcia Gracey
515-281-4268

IOWA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION
Victoria Kollmann, MEMBERSHIP
319 MARIE AVENUE
Elk Run Heights, IA 50707