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Media Advisory for ANCHORAGE

Governor's Committee to Announce Award Recipients Sept. 25

The Governor's Committee on Employment and Rehabilitation of People with Disabilities will hold its annual awards ceremony in Anchorage on Tuesday, Sept. 25, to recognize the individuals, employers and organizations that have made a significant contribution to the employment of people with disabilities.

The ceremony will be held at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel in the Kuskokwim Ballroom from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The ceremony, which is free, will help kick off activities across the nation that recognize October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Award nominations were made throughout the state and all award recipients will be present at the ceremony. The following awards will be presented:

The Governor's Award honors an individual who has done the most to improve awareness of individuals with disabilities.

The Small and Large Employer of the Year awards honor businesses that have made an exceptional effort to employ people with disabilities. The small employer award is for a business with fewer than 200 employees; the large employer award is for a business with 200 or more employees.

The Youth Award recognizes an Alaska student with a disability who excels academically or contributes to the community and serves as an inspiration to other youth with disabilities.

The Carolyn Peter Volunteerism Award honors a person who devotes a considerable amount of time to volunteer activities that affect people with disabilities at the local, state or national level.

The Chairperson Award recognizes someone who is a role model and who has increased the awareness of employing people with disabilities.

The Hewitt Memorial Award recognizes an outstanding rehabilitation professional who has been an extraordinary benefit to individuals with disabilities.

The Removal of Attitudinal Barriers Award recognizes a person who has made a significant contribution to the reduction or elimination of attitudinal barriers for people with disabilities.

The Barrier-Free Design Award recognizes an architect or builder whose facility design and construction has done the most to improve the awareness of the abilities and potential of people with disabilities.

The Alaskan of the Year Award honors a person with a disability whose achievements are an inspiration to all.