



News from THE WALLACE GROUP

**P.O. Box 21303, Eagan, MN 55121
3750 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan, MN 55122
(651) 452-9800 (651) 452-3504 fax**

**Minn.Governor's Council on
Developmental Disabilities**

**For Immediate
Release**

Contact: Aaron Hustedde, The Wallace Group, 651-452-9800
aaron@wallacegroup.com, cell-651-307-1365

NOBLE PARKWAY MOBIL STATION NAMED 'INNOVATIVE EMPLOYER' BY STATE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities cites Brooklyn Park station for creatively utilizing the skills of people with disabilities in nontraditional ways

Recognized for its work in employing people with developmental disabilities, Noble Parkway Mobil in Brooklyn Park was honored as an "Innovative Employer" by the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council).

The retail, car wash and service facility employs two people with developmental disabilities, who work in the car wash and in retail store operations. Store owner Bryan Boesen said everyone needs a chance to work, and that his employees with disabilities are great assets to his team and his organization. "One of the tasks where they excel is in monitoring the tunnel car wash equipment and helping with the variety of car wash processes," he said.

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A survey of employers conducted jointly for the DD Council and the Department of Employment and Economic Development found that in general work situations, people with developmental disabilities performed as well or better than other employees by every standard, other than speed.

Companies and organizations engage people with disabilities either as direct employees or through organizations that provide employment services and training for people with disabilities. A recent survey revealed that there are now nonprofits serving all regions of the state that can provide such access to qualified employees.

A total of 11 Innovative Employers were chosen from 45 Minnesota nominations for recognition made to the DD Council. Winners were selected based on site visits and analysis of employer practices. The nominees chosen were also found to have an inclusive work environment and typically offered opportunities for advancement.

The Mobil facility has 52 employees. In addition to the car wash, it offers fuel, a deli and convenience store, a Verizon retail center and vehicle service.

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