



FOCUS ON *ability*

An Update from ODC, Inc.

JUNE 2019

A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW

Words can be so powerful. In my role at ODC, I often hear powerful words that inspire and tug at the heartstrings.

At ODC's recent Celebration of Achievement events, there were many. In Wisconsin Rapids, Marshfield and Stevens Point, we hosted large crowds who turned out to share in the annual presentation of our Champion of the Year, Partnership, Employer of the Year and Personal Achievement awards. As each award was presented, the words of both the presenter and the recipient truly touched us all.



Betty (center) celebrated her Champion of the Year Award with Lorrie Busche (left) and Lorrie's daughter, Cali.

Yet I believe that the words used in presentation of ODC's Champion of the Year award in Marshfield affected me most deeply. This award was presented to Betty Peterson, Retail Manager at Marshfield Medical Center, who has worked with ODC Employment Services for over 20 years and currently has six individuals hired through ODC working in her Food and Nutrition Department.

Cali Busche, one of those individuals hired, and her mom, Lorrie, presented the award. When Lorrie stated that Betty is so much more than a boss to Cali, Cali responded.

"Betty is a great person," said Cali. "She is patient with me and explains what I need to do. If I don't understand something, Betty is always there to help out. She is always checking in with me to see how I am doing. She is the best boss ever!"

Then Lorrie chimed in.

"Betty is amazing," said Lorrie. "She is so supportive of Cali and continues to cultivate all the necessary life skills that Cali needs. Betty has always gone above and beyond in helping Cali and others reach their potential. She has touched the lives of so many."

When it was Betty's turn to speak, I think that she surprised us all a little with her words.

"This award means a lot to me and I am truly overwhelmed," she said. "But I would like to shake things up a little and share my

SEE BETTY / PAGE 2

"Given the proper tools of education and encouragement, we can overcome our disabilities and use our abilities to contribute to personal growth and workplace successes."

- Betty Peterson, ODC 2019 Champion of the Year, Marshfield



Opportunity Development Centers, Inc.
1191 Huntington Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494



Administrative Office
1191 Huntington Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
715-424-2712



2406 East 21st Street
Marshfield, WI 54449
715-387-1161



41 Park Ridge Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481
715-344-4563



www.odcinc.com



Make a gift!
www.odcinc.com/donate
715-818-6451



BETTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

thoughts from a different point of view.”

“I have been working with ODC for over 20 years,” said Betty, “and have always felt that I was the one being coached on the job. The lessons I’ve learned and the experiences that I’ve had have made our workplace a better workplace and me a better manager.”

“I have always believed that all individuals, including myself, have unique abilities and disabilities,” she said. “Given the proper tools of education and encouragement, we can overcome our disabilities and use our abilities to contribute to personal growth and workplace successes. It is because of the ODC job coaches that this belief became a reality for me.”

“I want to thank ODC,” said Betty. “The job coaches and program participants have believed in me and given me the tools that I needed – education and encouragement – and together we have been able to accomplish great things. “

No need to thank us, Betty. You have given so much to others, and are truly deserving of the Champion of the Year award.



**If your business is looking to #HireAbility,
contact ODC Employment Services!**

Wisconsin Rapids - 715-424-2712

Marshfield / Northwoods - 715-387-1161

Stevens Point / Wausau - 715-344-4563

PLEASE NOTE: ODC and the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) work together to fund and support individuals through job search and training services.