



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 18, 2019

Contact: Shannon Webb, phone 608-318-0700 or email shannon@incontrolwisconsin.org

Employing Young Adults with Barriers: Finding Workforce Solutions, A Community Conversation

Stevens Point – The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities, Wisconsin Promise, a program administered by the Department of Workforce Development, and Opportunity Development Centers, Inc. (ODC) are hosting a Community Conversation breakfast event focused on increasing employment opportunities for youth with disabilities on March 26, 2019 from 8:30am to 10:30am in the Atrium room at SentryWorld.

At the event, area employers who are interested in learning how to leverage local resources to meet their workforce needs will learn from teachers, job developers, job coaches, youth and families about resources available so they can find skilled, reliable employees and provide more opportunities for training and permanent employment for youth with disabilities and other barriers. Employers will have an opportunity to network and learn while talking with area youth and families about their own hiring needs.

ODC, a local employment services agency for people with disabilities, was awarded a Partners with Business grant from the WI Board for People with Developmental Disabilities in 2018 to build capacity with employers to hire and support workers with disabilities. The "Partners with Business" initiative was signed into law in April 2019 and has shown success reducing the need for outside job coaches and has demonstrated increased numbers of hours worked per week by employees. The Wisconsin Promise is a program for 2,000 youth and their families who receive Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI). The goal is to support teens receiving SSI and their families in achieving their education and career goals.

To RSVP for the event, visit or <https://stevenspointforum.splashthat.com> contact Shannon Webb at shannon@incontrolwisconsin.org

When people with disabilities work in the community at a competitive wage, they are less likely to rely on publicly-funded programs and 87 percent of consumers say they are more likely to patronize businesses that employ people with disabilities.