



Employee Example Ripple of Hope Nomination Form

In 2005, The Network established the Ripple of Hope Award to recognize the most outstanding among us—employees, Mentors and other independent contractors—whose passion, energy and skill have created a positive impact in the lives of others. Whether they work in direct care, operations or supporting business roles, these outstanding employees, foster parents and Host Home providers create a “ripple of hope,” and a legacy of compassion and caring for others to follow.

Remember to include plenty of detail! The most compelling nominations include specific examples that show why the nominee is deserving of this special award.

All nominees must be employees of or individual independent contractors with The MENTOR Network or its partners. Nominations received from individuals who are related to a nominee by birth or marriage or nominees’ significant others will not be considered.

***required**

1. Please provide the following information about your Ripple of Hope nominee:

Nominee’s First Name: *** Beth**

Nominee's Last Name *** Collins**

Job Title/Position/Role: *** Program Coordinator**

Program Name & Location: *** Enter Program Name & Location**

Partner Organization: **Enter Partner Organization**

State: ***Enter State**

Nominee's Phone (work): *** 888-888-1234**

Nominee's Phone (home or cell phone): *** 888-888-1234**

Email: **bethcollins@email.com**

2. Please provide the following information about yourself:

Your First Name: * **John**

Your Last Name: * **Brown**

Job Title/Position/Role: * **Program Director**

Program Name & Location: * **Enter Program Name & Location**

Partner Organization: **Enter Partner Organization**

State: * **Enter State**

Phone (work): * **888-888-1234**

Phone (home or cell phone): * **888-888-1234**

Email: **johnbrown@email.com**

3. Tell us how the nominee's accomplishments have set positive change in motion. Please include specific examples of acts of leadership, commitment or caring on the part of your nominee.

An important component of a Direct Support Professional's job is to integrate and successfully link individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) into their communities. This not only allows for those with I/DD to live fulfilling lives, but it also enlightens communities to realize that everyone has unique gifts to offer each other. Beth, a Program Coordinator, has taken this mission to heart. Over the past ten years, she has instilled so many positive concepts in the individuals she serves each day. Beth demonstrates the skills of a seasoned advocate and actively connects people through volunteer opportunities in the community.

Beth began her career with The MENTOR Network as a Direct Support Professional (DSP) in various shared living sites. She was soon promoted to a Program Coordinator supervisor position. Approximately five years ago, she transitioned to her current program. The participants in this community employment program have both a wide variety of skills and interests. Beth has dedicated herself to expanding real work and paycheck options to meet their unique needs. Beth inherently recognized and supported each participant employee in their personal desire to earn a real paycheck, live in the community of their choice, and connect as a valued role in society. In addition, she has been very successful in instilling a sense of humility and gratitude—and promotes this as a role model every day. Beth is highly involved in encouraging and opening opportunities for others to actively interact and also give back to their communities.

Beth maintains and values her own community interests and contributes. She is a natural advocate and has successfully linked many others together. During the holidays, when the work typically slows down, Beth offers the participant employees volunteer opportunities. One of these options is to volunteer at a local church. As a result, each year more and more individuals volunteer their time by serving food at the soup kitchen or by filling food baskets for local distribution. The result has been a sense of helpfulness, connecting with others, and helping their communities.

After this overwhelmingly positive response and participation, Beth was further motivated to offer even more opportunities to expand the goodwill successes. As a result, many have volunteered at the Humane Society by walking the dogs and interacting with the cats. For some, this was their first time they were able to interact with so many different animals and discover their new found love for them.

Under her guidance as the program supervisor, the number of participants has quadrupled in size. It is currently at capacity and there is often a waiting list with individuals who are excited to be a part of this program. "Beth has strong moral convictions that set a standard of behavior for the individuals served and their staff," says John Brown, Program Director. "She never stops thinking about the good of the program and services that she provides. Beth is always looking for new ideas to bring to our programs to enrich the lives of those who participate."

Beth's personal connection to individuals with disabilities, her community linkage to volunteer opportunities, and enduring mission to connect people together has strengthened not only the confidence and sense of accomplishment in the individuals she serves, but undoubtedly enhances the local community. Her tireless dedication and leadership is truly an inspiration to everyone she meets.

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