



Opportunities for Ohioans
with Disabilities

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Media Release

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FOR RELEASE: December 5, 2017

Miami University Receives the Champion of Opportunity Award from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

COLUMBUS, OH – Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) has recognized Miami University as a Champion of Opportunity for its commitment and leadership in hiring individuals with disabilities in Ohio. The award honors companies that have gone above and beyond in their commitment and who serve as statewide examples of what it means to provide quality employment opportunities and increased independence for individuals with disabilities.

“Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities is excited to announce Miami University as a Champion of Opportunity Award winner, they are one of only two schools of higher education who have now received this award,” said OOD Director Kevin Miller. “Miami University participated in the Diverse by Design initiative which provided individuals with a chance to job shadow across the Greater Cincinnati area and increase the success of those seeking internship opportunities.”

Miami University, located in Oxford, Ohio, used a grant received by the Cincinnati USA Chamber of Commerce from the Department of Labor for the Diverse by Design initiative. Upon receiving the grant, they immediately consented to sending several of their students with disabilities for Job Shadowing Week in the Greater Cincinnati area. Miami also strives to have an inclusive environment ensuring any human resource staff member or department heads are involved in the interviewing or hiring process are encouraged to participate in OOD’s Windmills and Disability Awareness training.

The Opportunity Awards are a significant part of OOD’s annual business recognition program and highlight Ohio companies committed to providing employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The awards recognize companies at various levels; from those who have just begun to recruit, hire and retain individuals with disabilities to those with a proven track record of integrating individuals with disabilities into their workforce.

OOD is committed to engaging and educating Ohio businesses on the benefits of recruiting, hiring and retaining individuals with disabilities. Representatives from the Business Engagement Team work directly with Ohio employers of any size to understand their workforce needs, quickly match job seekers with specific openings, and provide needed assistance and training.

OOD is the state agency responsible for assisting individuals with disabilities to gain meaningful employment, to live independently or receive disability benefits through the Social Security Administration. www.ood.ohio.gov

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