

W News from THE WALLACE GROUP

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**Minnesota Organization for Habilitation
and Rehabilitation - MOHR**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PCs for People named Outstanding Disability Employer by major Minnesota disability organization

Award presentation Oct. 18 at Midwest Special Services

St. Paul-based PCs for People has been named an Outstanding Employer of people with disabilities by the Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR).

PCs for People, a nonprofit which strives to put functional computers into the hands of low-income individuals and get them online, was nominated by Midwest Special Services (MSS), a Twin Cities nonprofit which supports adults with disabilities.

An award ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 10 a.m. at MSS' St. Paul location, 900 Ocean St. The recognition marks the 27th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the 72nd Anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, which is celebrated every October.

“We cannot overemphasize the importance of employers in our efforts to provide meaningful services to people with disabilities in Minnesota,” said Mike Burke, president of MOHR. The organization represents more than 110 disability service providers across the state.

PCs for People provides persons served by MSS with hands-on experience through work training, internship and volunteer opportunities. It also works with other disability service providers.

The company is on pace to distribute 12,000 to 13,000 computers in 2017, and it also operates an electronics recycling operation to gather equipment and materials. Individuals with disabilities help with the sorting process, and, in an upcoming phase, will be powering up computers and taking hardware inventories.

PCs for People partners with MSS in several ways. They are a partner in the new MSS Community Hub in St. Paul, where they employ four MSS people. In addition, they partner on MSS work crews and independent employment opportunities. PCs for People also provides training to others interested in exploring a career working with computers.

“We are proud to partner and work with Midwest Special Services,” said Sam Drong, PCs for People’s chief program officer.

Midwest Special Services’ state association, [MOHR](#), has a mission to advocate and support its nonprofit members in providing meaningful services to persons with disabilities and communities served. Members are committed to respect each individual, a person-centered approach and expanding work opportunities.

This year’s theme for [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#) is “Inclusion Drives Innovation.” It celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and educates about

the value of a workforce inclusive of their skills and talents. The national observance began under a different name in 1945.

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