



2018 Honoree Videos

| Individual Honorees | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Joe Coleman (4:38) | Burlington, IA | https://vimeo.com/292341310 |
| Michael Willoughby (4:23) | Norway, IA | https://vimeo.com/292340477 |
| Corporate Honorees | | |
| Hahn Ready Mix (4:57) | Davenport, IA | https://vimeo.com/292342615 |
| Broadlawns Medical Center (4:31) | Des Moines, IA | https://vimeo.com/292339196 |

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winners Announced in 2018 Iowa Job Honor Awards

Initiative aims to employ disadvantaged jobseekers by celebrating “A New Kind of Hero”

CORALVILLE — The Iowa Job Honor Awards, an initiative aimed at recognizing Iowans who have overcome barriers to employment, has announced its top honorees for 2018.

The awards were presented in partnership with the Iowa SHRM State Council (Society for Human Resource Management) at their annual statewide conference on September 27 in Coralville. Hundreds of human resource professionals from across the state were in attendance, as biographical videos recounted honoree efforts to win life-changing jobs.

One of this year’s success stories is Joe Coleman of Burlington. Born with cerebral palsy, Coleman worked in a sheltered workshop sorting cans for piece rate wages. He later performed janitorial and sub-assembly work in supported small group settings, but he wasn’t happy in those occupations: His goal was to find competitive employment in the community. With the help of Hope Haven Area Development Center, a nonprofit provider of support services for people with disabilities, Coleman was hired by Great River Health System in Burlington in 2015 as an Environmental Services Aide. He now works and lives independently, with minimal supported community living services. His colleagues at Great River Health System credit him with transforming the workplace culture there. “I love to work, and I love the people” says Coleman, “Everybody appreciates a good working guy like me.”

Michael Willoughby was honored for his work at Frontier Co-op in Norway, IA. Willoughby’s teen years were filled with drug abuse and criminal activity, until an armed robbery conviction sent him to Anamosa State Penitentiary with a 14-year prison sentence. While at Anamosa, Willoughby resolved to change the direction of his life. He enrolled in the Iowa Department of Corrections Registered Apprenticeship Program and graduated with the highest grade point average in the program’s history. Six weeks before his release he interviewed with Frontier Co-op and was hired. He began work immediately after his release. “He exceeded expectations immediately,” says Carrie Albaugh, HR manager for Frontier Co-op, “He was actually promoted within his first two months.” Willoughby describes the opportunity as life-changing. “When you leave prison, you walk out of the door with a \$100 check,” he says, “Now we’ve bought a house ... I have a wonderful job and I’ve built a future. I never would have imagined it.”



Iowa Job Honor Awards

JobHonor.org

Two Iowa companies were recognized for their inclusive hiring practices. Hahn Ready Mix in the Quad Cities was honored for their longstanding commitment to hire disadvantaged candidates, including people with criminal convictions. The company partners with IowaWORKS and Eastern Iowa Community College to hire newly-trained professional drivers. Vice president Griffin Hahn says the company's willingness to offer second chances has provided them with a competitive advantage in a tight labor market. "It just fits our mold," says Hahn, "We want to do right by everybody. We're just here to get along and make a living and provide for our employees and the community."

Des Moines-based Broadlawns Medical Center is located in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Central Iowa. "We look at Broadlawns as the anchor for the North side," says President & CEO Jody Jenner, "as an organization that can give this part of the community hope." To improve the health and economic vitality of the local neighborhood, Broadlawns collaborated with Urban Dreams and Central Iowa HealthWorks to launch programs that offer training and potential employment to people with barriers including criminal convictions. "Broadlawns opened the door for me and changed the trajectory of my life," says Saleem Hamilton, healthcare tech at Broadlawns, "It's like the butterfly effect: many lives are affected in so many different ways."

Sponsors of the 2018 Iowa Job Honor Awards include ManpowerGroup and Central Iowa Works.

Launched in Iowa in 2014, the awards are expanding nationally under the banner of America's Job Honor Awards.

About the Iowa Job Honor Awards:

The Iowa Job Honor Awards celebrates Iowans who overcome barriers to employment, and the employers who hire them. A subsidiary of America's Job Honor Awards, IA-JHA's mission is to rekindle hope and energize the work ethic across the nation through the celebration of a new kind of hero. www.JobHonor.org. Lead sponsor of the Awards is **ManpowerGroup**, world leader in innovative workforce solutions.

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