



Partnership Resources, Inc. – partnershipresources.org

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**LUNDS & BYERLYS NAMED OUTSTANDING DISABILITY EMPLOYER
BY MINNESOTA ORGANIZATION FOR HABILITATION AND REHABILITATION**

**Recognition presentation set for Friday, November 18 at 2 p.m. at Lunds & Byerlys
Highland Bridge, 2170 Ford Parkway, Saint Paul, MN 55116.**

Nominated by Partnership Resources, Inc. (PRI), Lunds & Byerlys was named an Outstanding Disability Employer by the Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR) during National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October.

"People with disabilities are engaged and thriving in jobs across our state and we are very thankful for the employers who extend these opportunities," said Julie Johnson, president of MOHR. "We would encourage more employers to get on board and discover the talent pool they are missing." MOHR represents about 100 disability service providers across the state.

In providing community-based services to individuals with disabilities, PRI has partnered with three Lunds & Byerlys locations – Highland Bridge, Saint Louis Park and Golden Valley. Lunds & Byerlys has been family-owned for three generations, and they believe

in giving their customers the same personal attention and exceptional value they would expect for their own family. Their employees are chosen for their expertise and dedicated to giving customers the best shopping experience possible. Lunds & Byerlys has 28 stores throughout the Twin Cities and St. Cloud.

Partnership Resources, Inc. supports individuals at three different stores. At Highland Bridge, the individual is part of the custodial team and completes detailed cleaning in multiple departments, including, but not limited to, produce, meat & seafood, dairy, bakery, front end, breakroom and outside seating areas. At St. Louis Park, the individual is a courtesy clerk and cashier. As a Courtesy Clerk, he primarily works outside, loading groceries into customer vehicles. He also cashiers regularly for both the sales floor and café. He expects to begin training for same-day online orders. At Golden Valley, both individuals are courtesy clerks. They bag groceries and take them out to the vehicle. They also watch the hot and cold bars to ensure customers are following health and safety protocols.

“We are grateful to partner with Lunds & Byerlys, a trailblazer that has a long history of knowing the value that individuals with disabilities bring to the workplace. Partners like Lunds & Byerlys provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to thrive in an inclusive community,” remarks Julie K. Zbaracki, CEO, Partnership Resources. Lunds & Byerlys gives the individuals a steady paycheck at a job the individuals like and can succeed at. They are valued members of the team and hope to continue to work at their

store for many years to come. Management at each location goes above and beyond to support individuals with disabilities in the workplace. Each general manager, including Doug Loe at Lunds & Byerlys Highland Bridge, creates a culture of kindness, patience and valuing employees as individuals. Doug calls every employee by name and seeks to understand their strengths. The employee's schedule and task assignments then align with the employee's strengths and help them be successful. Doug looks at the big picture and works with the job coach to ensure the employee's success.

"We deeply value a diverse workforce where every member of our company's family plays a meaningful role in creating a sensational working and shopping experience," said Brian Kopp, vice president of retail operations at Lunds & Byerlys. "Our company, our community and our world are all a better place when we focus on the abilities of each individual and ensure everyone has an opportunity to succeed."

"With help wanted signs everywhere, more Minnesota employers are discovering that people with disabilities can meet their needs and become part of their workforce," said Johnson. "Every year, we see more people with disabilities entering the workforce as their talents and skills are recognized, valued and put to good use for our economy."

Johnson will present the award at an event on November 18 at 2 p.m. at Lunds & Byerlys Highland Bridge, 2170 Ford Parkway in Saint Paul.

Celebrated every October, this year's theme for [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#) was "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation." The theme reinforces the important role people with disabilities play in a diverse and inclusive American workforce.

About Partnership Resources, Inc. (PRI)

Partnership Resources, Inc. (PRI) is a nonprofit organization which has served adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1960. Partnership Resources' state of the art programs provide flexible options including vocational exploration, functional skill development, community involvement, and opportunities for artistic expression.

Learn more at partnershipresources.org.

About Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR)

MOHR is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit association that serves 100+ member organizations across Minnesota who provide day and employment services to tens of thousands of Minnesotans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The purpose of MOHR is to provide leadership, inspire excellence, engage in advocacy, and facilitate the success of its members through collaboration, research, networking, awareness building, resources, and active participation in legislative and policy-making forums. MOHR is governed by a volunteer board of directors who present a clear and authoritative voice

on issues affecting the independence and well-being of youth and adults with disabilities. Learn more at <https://mohrmn.org/>.

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