



Advancing the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace.

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Indiana Department of Labor Honors Arc Opportunities, Inc. in Howe, Indiana with Safety Award

Indianapolis, IN April 17, 2009 – The Indiana Department of Labor is pleased to announce the certification of Arc Opportunities, Inc. located in Howe, Indiana in the Indiana Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (INSHARP). Arc Opportunities is the first organization in LaGrange County to be INSHARP certified.

First opened in 1966, Arc Opportunities was formerly known as the “School of Opportunity.” At that time, the agency only served school-aged children with disabilities and began with 16 students. Today the agency provides services to more than 500 individuals with disabilities who reside in LaGrange County.

Critical components of a company’s workplace safety and health program include management commitment to and employee involvement in the program. The occupational well-being of the more than 100 employees and staff at Arc Opportunities is a value that management holds in high regard. Management openly promotes and allocates resources needed towards the advancement of the organization’s workplace safety and health program. The organization has a safety committee, in which employees meet at least monthly and sometimes weekly to discuss safety and health concerns.

The INSHARP award ceremony was held on Thursday, April 16, 2009 in Howe, Indiana at the organization’s facility. The ceremony provided an opportunity for Arc Opportunities’ employees, staff and management to showcase their exemplary status to the media, state officials and local elected officials.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Sean M. Keefer at (317) 232-2683 or skeefers@dol.in.gov.

About the Indiana Department of Labor:

The mission of the Indiana Department of Labor is to advance the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace. In order to make significant strides, we emphasize both enforcement and compliance assistance to employers. www.in.gov/dol.

About INSHARP:

INSHARP, a federally recognized program, is one of two of Indiana's exemplary safety and health recognition programs. INSHARP was established to recognize and promote exemplary safety and health management systems throughout the state. INSHARP status can be achieved when management and employees work together to create and maintain a safe and healthy work environment.

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