

DEPARTMENT

of

REHABILITATION

Employment, Independence & Equality

Russell G. Hayden
Firefighter's ABCs
Founder
www.firefightersabcs.com

June 15, 2021

Dear: Russell G. Hayden,

As you know the Department of Rehabilitation is dedicated to working with individuals living with disabilities to help them obtain jobs and careers within society that lead to financial independence and realizing equality as equal contributing members of society. We work with numerous partners in the public and private sectors to ensure that we are constantly working towards this goal with the individuals we serve. We provide education, training, apprenticeship opportunities, On-The-Job Training opportunities and Work Experience opportunities for those we serve. Firefighter's ABCs has become one of our partners in this endeavor.

You have worked with our Central Office and the Business Specialists across the state, while provided us with your expertise in what will assist our consumers entering the firefighting industry. In fact, you assisted our department in March 2020 during a statewide call among the Business Specialists, while sharing the resources, information, and benefits of the Firefighter's ABCs program to those who provide direct employment services to youth and job seekers.

You have made yourself available to us to help us ensure that those living with disabilities may have the opportunity to be exposed to the numerous opportunities that exist within the firefighting industry. Our partnership has included your learning more about the abilities of our consumers while we have been able to learn more about training and job opportunities within the firefighting profession. This exposure has been, especially, important to the youth we serve who are graduating from high school, attending community college as well as four-year institutions.

We hope to continue developing this relationship with you in the years to come not only because of the opportunities you have presented to our department but also because your goal is to also ensure that all marginalized communities have the opportunity to be integrated into all aspects of the firefighting profession.

Sean Richardson
Roundtable Planning Committee
Department of Rehabilitation
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