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For Immediate Release

Reinventing Michigan: Michigan Works! Celebration Features Employment Successes, Personal Transformations

This event features 25 outstanding individuals who, with support from Michigan Works!, were able to overcome significant barriers to seek education and training resources and secure gainful employment in high demand occupations.

LANSING, Mich. (January 20, 2011) – The Michigan Works! Association will celebrate employment successes of Michigan workers at the 2011 Michigan Works! Association Alumni Celebration, held **Tuesday, January 25**, beginning at **12:45 p.m.** at the **Anderson House Office Building, Mackinac Room**, in Lansing, Mich.

The Alumni Celebration is an annual event and opportunity for state leaders to recognize successful participants from the Michigan Works! System whose hard work and persistence, along with support from Michigan Works!, led to gainful employment.

Businesses who have partnered with the Michigan Works! System and made invaluable contributions and commitments will also be recognized. Honorees receive awards from their district legislators, and share individual stories of success and triumph.

The celebration features an introduction by United States Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis via DVD. Additional opening remarks will be provided by Kali Fox, Senator Stabenow's office; Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley; Charlie Mahoney, chairperson, Michigan Works! Association Board of Directors and Luann Dunsford, chief executive officer, Michigan Works! Association.

A reception follows the ceremony at the Radisson Hotel Lansing from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

"The success stories of our 2011 Alumni not only highlight personal triumph, but also represent the innovative programs and services at work in our state," said Luann Dunsford, chief executive officer of Michigan Works! Association.

Established in 1987, the Michigan Works! Association fosters high-quality employment and training programs serving employers and workers by providing support activities and a forum for information exchange for Michigan's workforce development system.

For more information, visit www.michiganworks.org, or call 517-371-1100.

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