

New Beginnings Day Care Center



Amie Troyer receives her award from Secretary of State Patty Judge.

Business

New Beginnings Day Care Center located in Madrid, Iowa owned by Amie Troyer was given the 2008 Small Employer of the Year Award from the Commission of Persons with Disabilities.

In her nomination letter for Amie and New Beginnings, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services Counselor, Marsha Burright, noted Amie had only been open a short time when she was approached to work with a student receiving special education services. This student had a love of children, babysitting experience and a desire to have a job. Amie was very open to this proposal and decided to give the student a chance.

The first thing Amie did was to seek out disability information and accommodation strategies from IVRS and other resources and provided disability education to her staff so they would be able to work well with this student. Amie also sought out and gained the support of the parents of the children in her day care in order to provide this opportunity to the student.

Amie took the time to visit with Counselor Burright and the student's mother to review progress, identify other possible accommodations needed and set clear expectations for the student, who is now an employee of the day care working 30 hours a week.

This is a wonderful example of how teamwork and a positive working relationship between local school staff, an IVRS Counselor and an employer can be a winning combination for successful employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities.