



**ABLE Award
Hy-Vee Food Store
Human Resources Department**

Hy-Vee Food Store Human Resources Department has been chosen as a recipient of the A.B.L.E. (Ability, Belief, Leadership and Effort to Achieve Access For All) Award for 2017, presented by the Brookings Committee for People who have Disabilities.

The A.B.L.E. Award (Ability, Belief, Leadership and Effort to Achieve Access For All) is presented annually to recognize the outstanding commitment of a business, public entity or individual in fulfilling the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Hy-Vee Food Store's signature slogan is "Where there's a helpful smile in every isle." This message is indicative of the dedication to quality that Hy-Vee has to its stores and customers. Additionally, it also speaks to the employees who work there and their commitment to exceptional service.

What makes the Brookings Hy-Vee Food Store Human Resources Department so unique in our community, is not only their dedication to service but also their desire and willingness to employ individuals who have disabilities. While each new employee can bring unique challenges and abilities, the Human Resources Department has taken it upon themselves to ensure that each new employee receives unique training and support they may need to be successful on the job.

Support begins at the initial interview with reasonable accommodations provided for an applicant based on their disability and continue into the training period. Hy-Vee provides personalized, and occasionally extended, training periods for their new employees. In addition to the in-house accommodations that the Human Resources Department provides, they also work closely with agencies in the community that can provide additional job coaching support to employees who many need it.

The Committee specifically appreciates the inclusive environment the Brookings Hy-Vee Food Store has created. This culture extends beyond the management staff to all employees and shows that accessibility for individuals with disabilities in the Brookings community can also extend to employment.

It is the Committee's intention to highlight the efforts of an outstanding business or entity, which in turn may motivate others to provide improved accessibility to goods, services and recreational opportunities. Since 1996, there have been 77 nominees for the A.B.L.E. Award.

