

For IMMEDIATE RELASE September 17, 2015

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INARF Appoints State Use Director

The Indiana Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (INARF) the principal association representing agencies that provide services to Indiana citizens with disabilities, is pleased to announce that Nick Rhoad will lead the Indiana State Use Program. The State Use Program is a preferential purchasing program required by state law for state government and municipalities that creates employment and training opportunities for Hoosiers with disabilities.

Rhoad will lead the program in fulfilling its mission of creating more workforce opportunities for people with disabilities and the agencies that support them.

"The employment rate for people with disabilities is only 17.1% and we must continually aim higher to make Indiana an even better place to live and work regardless of their abilities", Rhoad said.

Most recently, Rhoad served as the Executive Director of the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency whose 38 boards of directors licenses and regulates over 200 different professions throughout Indiana. Prior to that, he served as the Director of Business Development for the Indiana Manufacturer's Association. Rhoad is also an active member of the community where he volunteers his time to assist other amputees and their families and encourages them to live active lives as they transition living a life with limb loss.

Products and services through Indiana's State Use Program are available in all ninety-two counties. Indiana's State Use Program is governed by the statutory Committee that reviews and monitors its activities. In order to receive more information about this program please visit <u>www.smartpartnersalliance.org</u>.

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