



DATE: November 5, 2018

TO: Mayor Chelminiak, Deputy Mayor Robinson and Councilmembers

FROM: Joy St. Germain, Human Resources Director, 452-4581
Human Resources Department

SUBJECT: 2018 Washington State Governor's Employer Award – Supported Employment Program

The City of Bellevue was honored by the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment with the Governor's 2018 "Public Employer Award" for the Supported Employment Program.

The award recognizes the City of Bellevue's leadership and commitment to building a work environment that values the abilities of everyone. This has been achieved by the organization's efforts to proactively remove barriers and providing accommodations for full participation.

Supportive employment programs are based on the values of full inclusion and the principle that individuals with disabilities have the right to be employed by community businesses, where they can earn comparable wages and work side by side with co-workers with or without disabilities, experiencing the same benefits as other employees in an organization.

The City of Bellevue's first supported employee was hired in October 2016 and Bellevue currently employs eight (8) supported employees who work for a number of departments. These include Finance, Transportation, City Attorney, City Clerk, Parks, and Human Resources.

Thank you for your commitment to the Diversity Advantage Plan that focuses on helping the city better serve everyone in the community.