



NEWS

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Orlando employer and CEO lead the way toward an inclusive workforce

*Lee Nasehi and Lockheed Martin received honors
from The Able Trust*

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Lee Nasehi and Lockheed Martin are among the 2015 Ability Award recipients for their work in helping people with disabilities get to work. Nasehi was presented with the Dr. George Spelios Leadership Award for her substantial efforts in improving employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Lockheed Martin the Employer of the Year Award for its outstanding commitment to people with disabilities in its diversity and inclusion practices.

The awards were presented by The Able Trust, a statewide nonprofit with a mission to be a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment.

The Able Trust's annual Ability Awards ceremony honors businesses, organizations and individuals for their employment, leadership and services that allow more Floridians with disabilities to enter the workforce.

Nasehi has been the president and CEO of Lighthouse Central Florida since 2000. Nasehi has worked to strengthen the overall infrastructure of the organization, demonstrating the vision to expand the employment services for those in Central Florida with sight impairments. In 2012, this expansion included the founding of Lighthouse Works!, created to increase employment opportunities and establish working relationships with area businesses.

“Dr. George Spelios, a former chairman, sought community leaders who created meaningful and long-term change for individuals with disabilities,” said Dr. Susanne Homant, president and CEO The Able Trust. “Lee Nasehi exemplifies those qualities. Her commitment to helping people with disabilities gain independence and experience has made a remarkable difference in the lives she touches.”

Lockheed Martin engages with multiple groups and organizations dedicated to the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in the workforce. Internally, Lockheed Martin maintains Employee Resource Groups that assist with the development and retention of employees with disabilities, and support the company's disability education and recruitment efforts.

“Lockheed Martin has shown exemplary leadership and commitment to a diverse workplace, developing and retaining employees with disabilities,” said Dr. Homant.

The Able Trust is celebrating 25 years of making a positive impact on the state of Florida. In that time, The Able Trust has awarded more than \$35 million in grants to organizations whose goal is to help Floridians with disabilities gain employment and has developed the nationally recognized Florida High School High Tech (HSHT) program and Florida Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) to help Florida’s teens learn self-advocacy and pursue post-secondary education and/or entry into the workforce. The HSHT program has a 99 percent graduation rate for all seniors.

About The Able Trust

The Able Trust, also known as the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, is a 501(c)(3) public-private partnership foundation established by the Florida Legislature in 1990. Its mission is to be a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment. Since its establishment, The Able Trust has awarded more than \$35 million throughout Florida, enabling thousands of Floridians with disabilities to enter the workforce.

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