



## **NEWS**

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### **St. Petersburg program recognized for helping students with disabilities join the workforce** *St. Petersburg College Foundation receives award from The Able Trust*

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – The St. Petersburg College Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports St. Petersburg College by promoting philanthropic partnerships with the community, received the 2015 Beverly Chapman Ability Award for helping students with disabilities earn job placements.

The award was 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.

In 2012, the Foundation received a three-year strategic grant from The Able Trust to create a Career Placement program, which has since assisted more than 225 students with disabilities with career placement services. The student support and outreach relationships with employers have enabled more than 150 students in the program gain 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.

"The St. Petersburg College Foundation is incredibly honored to receive the 2015 Ability Award," said Frances Neu, vice president institutional advancement, foundation executive director. "The Able Trust has truly been an outstanding partner in helping to ensure that students with disabilities are best prepared to secure successful and meaningful employment."

"The St. Petersburg Foundation's dedication to helping students with disabilities gain meaningful employment makes a remarkable difference in the lives they touch," said Dr. Susanne Homant, president and CEO The Able Trust.

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.

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**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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