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Communications Office

## News Release

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**For Media Use:**  
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### Media Alert

#### **Disability Employment Awareness Celebration Canceled!**

Due to the federal shutdown and the effect it has had on Vocational Rehabilitation, the Disability Employment Awareness Celebration originally scheduled for Friday, October 25 honoring outstanding local employers for their commitment to hiring people with disabilities **has been canceled**.

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is committed to helping people with disabilities become part of Florida's workforce. VR has 80 offices across Florida, and last year helped 6,523 Floridians with significant disabilities find or keep jobs. For more information about VR and its services, call (800) 451-4327 or visit **Rehabworks.org**.

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REMINDER FOR MEDIA--When reporting on stories about people with disabilities, remember to use language that puts the person first, rather than the disability. For example, use phrases such as "people with disabilities" (instead of "the disabled") and "person who uses a wheelchair" (rather than "wheelchair bound"); and "people with a mental illness" (rather than "the mentally ill").