



DRTC 70th Anniversary
Celebration

LEADING A DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE
WORKFORCE AND COMMUNITY

DALE ROGERS TRAINING CENTER



DRTC Executive Director Deborah Copeland, and former Executive Director Connie Thrash McGoodwin

In 2023, DRTC (Dale Rogers Training Center) embarked on a journey in celebration of its [70th anniversary](#). We knew at the heart of our story had to be the successes and accomplishments of people with disabilities, direct support professionals, federal contract employees, along with our business and community partners. Also, an important part of our anniversary year was raising awareness for our mission and vision in creating a more disability inclusive workforce and community for Oklahoma. More than 71 community leaders and partners joined us for Lunch & Learn tours beginning February 2023. The Lunch & Learns expounded on DRTC's plans to continue our legacy in creating innovative programs and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

We hope you are encouraged by our achievements of our spotlight honorees and community champions. A heartfelt thank you to the DRTC Board of Directors for your continued leadership. On behalf of the entire DRTC team, we extend our thanks to those who support the mission of DRTC.

Frank Stone
2023 DRTC Board President

Deborah Copeland, M.Ed.
Executive Director

2022-2023 Board of Directors

Frank Stone, Pres. (Retired)
Helen Stakem, 1st VP (Retired)
Bradley Wallace, 2nd VP (Stride Bank)
Cheryl Moore, Treasurer (Retired)
Eric Shannon, Sec. (Chickasaw Telecom, Inc.)
Angela Ables (Kerr, Irvine, Rhodes & Ables)
Allen Brown (Architect)
Kevin Clifton (K Custom Fabrication)
Andrea Dennis (OG&E)
Andrea Nguyen (NFP Corporate Services)
Brian Smith (Catholic Charities)
Kristi Wilson (Nextstep, Inc.)



Dale Rogers Training Center, Inc. (DRTC) supports people with disabilities through paid vocational training, in-house programs and work opportunities as well as competitive community employment.





DRTC Agency-wide

~700

People with disabilities served,
trained or employed

\$6.2m

Wages earned by people with disabilities
in all programs and employment

8%

Increase in wages earned by people with
disabilities since 2022

64%

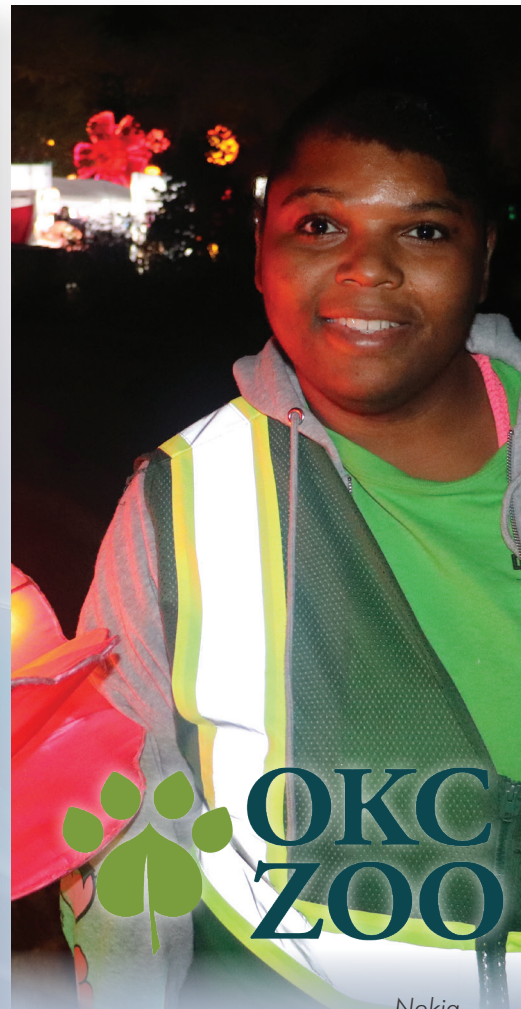
Of DRTC employees have a disability



Kermit



Angela



Nekia

70th Anniversary Honorees

Equitability

For those who have been told the barriers are high, the risk is great; yet continue to reimagine their own future, we commend you. In realizing a new perspective, we also know there are people working as partners with you, by your side. Together we can realize a workplace and community equally accessible to all. Employment first is the future reimaged.

Passionate about his work, **Kermit Walker** exudes an excitement that is contagious. Fiercely independent and determined, Kermit never turns down new opportunities. In addition to 20-years' experience in the DRTC Production Center, Kermit also volunteers his time serving the community, which is why Kermit Walker is our **Vocational Services Spotlight Honoree**.

A trusted advocate for the rights of the people she serves, **Angela Waldrop** is known for her 'out of the box' thinking in breaking barriers down for others. At DRTC since 2016, Angela transitioned to a Case Manager as a new challenge in her career. Since that time, she has championed those she serves, truly meeting people where they are, which is why Angela Waldrop is our **Direct Services Provider Spotlight Honoree**.

One distinctive and colorful opportunity offered unique jobs for people at DRTC. **The Oklahoma City Zoo** was searching for Wayfinders for their Festival of Lights and DRTC answered that call. Nights, weekends, holidays, and cold weather couldn't hinder the DRTC Enclave from directing thousands of attendees through the park. The Oklahoma City Zoo has welcomed the DRTC team as a vital part of their operations, two-years running, making the Oklahoma City Zoo our **CIE Employer Champion**.

DRTC 70th Anniversary Celebration



Left to right: Franklin (Sodexo), John, Vivian

70th Anniversary Honorees Employability

Everyone should have the right to seek employment and find doors are open to them. Inclusion should never be the exception but rather the rule. We all require networks of support to realize our goals; mentors, coaches, educators, co-workers, and our social connections. Simply people investing in each other's success.

Since 2016, DRTC has successfully partnered with **Sodexo** as an employer for more than 35 individuals with disabilities across 13 locations. Year after year, Sodexo's commitment to hiring a disability-inclusive workforce through the DRTC Employment Services Program shines through, which is why Sodexo is our **Employment Services, Employer Champion**.

Over and over **John Hamilton** has proven to be a flexible and adaptive employee for the OU Children's Hospital. He is known for his consistently high-quality work over the past two years. An active listener and skilled communicator, John contributes positively to the overall performance of his team and company. Quiet and focused, it's easy to see why he's a valued staff and mentor for his co-workers, which is why John Hamilton is our **Employment Services Spotlight Honoree**.

As an Employment Training Specialist for 18 years, **Vivian Naegli** has supported more than 400 individuals with disabilities in their employment journey. Proficient in American Sign Language and individualized support for people who are Deaf, Vivian is an unstoppable force in creating a more disability-inclusive workforce and community for Oklahoma, which is why Vivian Naegli is our **Employment Services Direct Services Provider Spotlight Honoree**.



DRTC's Federal Contracts Team: Jason, Kevin, Shawn, Rebecca, Cheryl, Valentin, Kevin, Linda



Hayleigh



Tammy



Joshua and Kim



Bethany Children's Health Center staff and DRTC volunteers: Charles, Nekia, Sue, Sandra, Bailey, Brittanie, LaToya, Claudia



Staff and clients who work on ATC jobs



ATC Drivetrain Team: Cabot, Jessica, Tonja, Mark

ATC Drivetrain: Disability-Inclusive Employer of the Year

A decade-long partnership started with a DRTC crew assembling Thanksgiving food boxes for employees at ATC Drivetrain, a world leader in remanufacturing solutions for vehicles. Advance forward several years and the DRTC Production Center is now de-kitting parts for the Subaru transmission assembly line. From turkeys to transmissions, ATC Drivetrain has continued to embrace a disability-inclusive workforce. A front-runner in hiring enclaves and a leader in increasing wages, ATC Drivetrain has set the standard with close to \$400,000 in contracts. DRTC is extremely honored to be recognized as part of the ATC family, which is why ATC Drivetrain is the DRTC Ability at Work—Employer of the Year. “I enjoy working with ATC and being a part of the team,” said Lindsey. “I love ATC!”



“ATC Drivetrain is committed to supporting DRTC’s mission to create meaningful employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. We believe in the power of an inclusive workforce, and this recognition fuels our passion to continue making a positive impact. Thank you, DRTC, for this incredible honor, and congratulations on 70 years of life-changing work!”

- ATC Drivetrain



Myra



Jason

70th Anniversary Honorees

Dependability

Heroes are people who serve others every day. As frontline employees providing critical mission support for Tinker Air Force Base, the FAA Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, and the GSA buildings, we thank you and want to recognize you for your essential role in our community and nation.

With an impeccable work ethic and heartwarming smile, **Myra Denson-Hartsock** clearly sets the standard for excellence and customer service. For almost 20 years, Myra has been a devoted team player and mentor at the downtown GSA contract. Myra believes in 'paying it forward' not only for her co-workers, but also for her federal customers, who feel like part of her family. Myra's dedication to her work is unmatched and that is why Myra Denson-Hartsock is an **AbilityOne® Spotlight Honoree**.

Capable of assembling data from 2,700 building inspections per month, **Jason Kelleher** spearheaded the current high-tech Quality Assurance Program for all custodial federal contracts. Beginning his career with DRTC as a Floor Tech in 2007, Jason has continued to advance his expertise to become a powerful force, enhancing the integrity and reliability of quality outcomes for the contracts. Embracing new concepts with a positive outlook drives his support of the mission, which is why Jason Kelleher is an **AbilityOne® Spotlight Honoree**.



KFOR Team: Austin, Caitlin, George, Julie



JASCO Team: Dana, Alanna, Justin, Mark



Custom award designed and created at DRTC Awards

70th Anniversary Honorees

Capability

Partners sharing the vision of a more inclusive workforce and community for Oklahoma. Our combined capability is what helps bring this vision to life. Thank you for your commitment to Employment First.

JASCO, an industry leader in electronics, looks to DRTC as a partner for high-quality work in kitting and packaging, placing RFID's on products for placement in Walmart. As a company, JASCO aspires to improve people's lives through partnerships that inspire change. We appreciate JASCO seeing our ability to be a valuable business partner, which is why Jasco was our **Business Partnership Champion**.

A true media partner with DRTC for several years, **KFOR** paved the way in highlighting the agency's mission and successes. Owned by Nexstar Media Group, KFOR-TV has played a key role in raising awareness and supporting people with disabilities as they reimagine their future through employment, which is why KFOR was our **Media Partnership Champion**.

A valued customer within the State Use Program for many years, the **Oklahoma Department of Transportation** has placed their trust in DRTC for many special projects as well as regular orders, providing more than \$1 million in job opportunities for folks at DRTC. Loyalty to the mission of the State Use Program in providing employment for people with disabilities in Oklahoma is why the Oklahoma Department of Transportation was our **State Use Champion**.



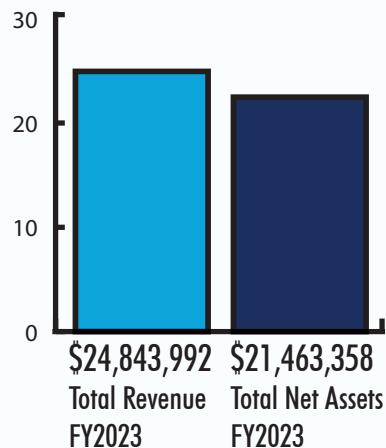
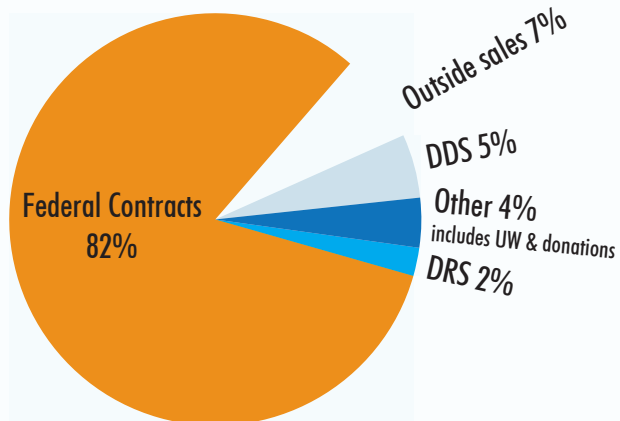
DRTC Employment
Services Program

\$13/hr
Average wages

89%
Client satisfaction

75%
Reached community
employment goals

DRTC Fiscal Year 2023



22%

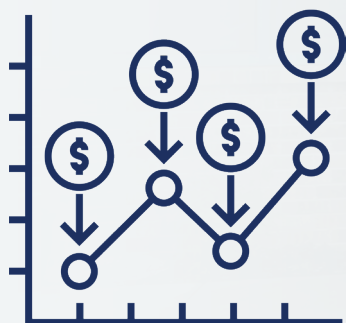
Increase in revenue
>\$1 million in sales
(DRTC Awards, Promos & Framing)

40%

Increase in wages
(Vocational Services)



DRTC wage comparison with industry averages



20% higher (food service)
15% higher (custodial)
11% higher (direct care)
DRTC is in the high range for
these positions

DRTC ENTRANCE

DRTC Awards, Promotional Items, and Framing are all under one roof at 2502 N. Utah Ave. Visit our new Showroom!

82%

Services provided
in the community



20%

Staff who exited Federal
Contracts for job growth
opportunities



18%

Services provided at DRTC's
main campus



3,120

Volunteer hours provided by DRTC
in the community

DRTC Federal Contracts

\$2.66

Generated to the federal
government for every \$1 spent
on the AbilityOne® Program*

\$2m

DRTC's total economic impact
through federal contracts*

**Source: Mathematica Socioeconomic
Impact Analysis Evaluation Report*

*Joslyn (Food Service) and Congresswoman Stephanie Bice during
her tour of Vanwey Dining Hall, August 2023*