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MCFI's Lutzow receives Rehabilitation Leadership Award

For the second consecutive year, a Milwaukee Center For Independence (MCFI) official has been named the recipient of the Rehabilitation Leadership Award by the Wisconsin Rehabilitation Association and Rehabilitation for Wisconsin, Inc.

Tom Lutzow, Ph.D, vice president of employment services at MCFI, accepted the 2008 award April 10 at Rehabilitation for Wisconsin's state convention in Kohler, Wi.

Mike Kirby, president of Rehabilitation for Wisconsin, said Lutzow received the statewide honor in part for his work in developing the Business Tax Credit for Wisconsin – legislation that encourages state employers to include workers with severe disabilities in the workforce. Lutzow, of Wauwatosa, was instrumental in drafting the legislation and in working with the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee to get the bill adopted.

Lutzow chairs Rehabilitation for Wisconsin's Legislative Committee and, in that capacity, is currently working on LifeVEST, (CQ) a program which would provide incentives for families to begin saving for the long-term care costs of a child with severe disability.

Howard L. Garber, Ph.D, MCFI's president and chief executive officer, was the recipient of the 2007 Rehabilitation Leadership Award.

The Milwaukee Center For Independence is a nonprofit agency assisting children, adults and families with special needs to better live and work in our community. The agency is celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2008, and currently serves more than 10,000 people each year. For more information, visit mcfi.net.

Rehabilitation for Wisconsin is a statewide nonprofit association based in Madison. Its members include more than 50 organizations and individuals dedicated to addressing employment, residential and community support needs of people with disabilities. For more information, go to rfw.org.

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