



NEWS RELEASE

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TVS Receives Two Contractor of the Year Awards from the USDA

Brevard, NC (July 25, 2017) – Transylvania Vocational Services (TVS), a social enterprise contract manufacturer in Brevard, NC, was recognized for outstanding support and service by two distinct agencies within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Marking the fourth time in 12 years that the USDA has honored TVS with such accolades, Becky Alderman, COO, and Nancy Stricker, Board Member and retired CEO, attended the June 22nd ceremony in Washington, D.C. to accept the awards.

TVS was named the AbilityOne Contractor of the Year for 2017 after being nominated by the Farm Service Agency, which purchases TVS's Mountain Maid brand bakery mixes and instant non-fat dry milk for domestic food aid programs. TVS was selected from 550 non-profit organizations providing products and services to the Federal Government as part of the U.S. AbilityOne program. AbilityOne is the largest employment resource in America for adults who are blind or who have significant disabilities, and AbilityOne organizations offer employment opportunities for this population. TVS has been an AbilityOne organization since 1988.

The Agricultural Marketing Service, which purchases a specialized nutrition product called Super Cereal Plus from TVS for international food aid programs, presented TVS with an agency level award from the USDA. In 2010, TVS contributed to the research in commercializing the product, which provides nourishment to children aged 6 to 24 months in food insecure areas. Millions of pounds of the Super Cereal Plus TVS manufactures ships to Africa through the Food for Peace program under the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the government's largest provider of overseas food assistance.

Underscoring each recipient's exemplary performance over the past year, the introductory comments in the USDA awards ceremony program cited, "The companies and individuals honored today represent thousands who work hard to support the Department, the community and our country. They were selected as winners to represent their agencies as the best of an elite group. We congratulate them all."

Becky Alderman expressed appreciation on behalf of TVS as a whole, "The products we supply USDA are very important to all of us at TVS, and our commitment to USDA and the recipients we jointly serve never waivers. We are delighted to have the dedication of our employees recognized and honored by this award."

About TVS

TVS is a social enterprise contract manufacturer specializing in the blending and packaging of dry food and beverage products. Founded in 1967, their mission is to provide quality employment, job training and residential & community services to individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment. In support of this, TVS established a food manufacturing facility in 2001 to offer a consistent source of job opportunities. Since then, TVS has produced

more than 200 million pounds of dry food and beverage products for the U.S. government alone and has served dozens of commercial customers in the food and dietary supplements industries. The support services arm of TVS helps adults with disabilities find and retain meaningful employment, within and outside of TVS, and positively engage with the community. TVS employs 150 people at its 65,000 sq. ft. facility in Brevard, where it earned the Brevard/Transylvania Chamber of Commerce's 2016 Business of the Year award. For more information go to www.tvsync.org

Photos Authorized for Publication:



From L to R: Malcolm Shorter (Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration, USDA); Herbert Brown (AbilityOne Coordinator, USDA); Becky Alderman (Chief Operating Officer, TVS); Nancy Stricker (Board Member and retired Chief Executive Officer, TVS); Bruce Summers (Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service); Michelle Warren (Deputy Director, USDA)



TVS received two awards for outstanding support and service to USDA agencies