

**2017 MSEC AWARD WINNERS**

Glendive JSEC – Continuing to build partnerships at both the local & state level. They are bringing the right groups to the table and focused on networking at each meeting. With the size of the JSEC and program, they are providing scholarships within their community, driving partnership with DCC through curriculum, seminars and scholarships.

Billings JSEC – Billings JSEC continues to drive the mark of success and supports both the state and local level with partnerships with BSEDA, SHRM, MSU-Billings and Chamber of Commerce. The job fair allows for the group to serve the community with 2000 job seekers, veterans, and employer needs. They give funds to different local groups to encourage continued success of local non-profits and give job seekers resources to filling jobs in the community.

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Joyce Mandau, Butte JSEC Coordinator – Wow as a JSEC Coordinator to take it on and change/grow a JSEC job fair. She was able to articulate her vision and keep the group on the path. I think she did a great job in keeping things moving and reviving a program that is strained is not easy. Very impressed by her commitment to JSEC and her community.

Cheryl Peterson, Sidney JSEC Coordinator – Supported by the Job Service manager, understands the needs of the community and worked to provide awareness to such things (i.e. human trafficking). Also coordinated a fair booth in order to continue to provide solutions to our business communities. Well done!!

Trisha Glen, Billings JSEC Coordinator – Some would believe that our JSEC exists because of Trisha. The nomination paints a fabulous picture of what Trisha does in growing JSEC membership, keeping us all organized and accountable, she gets involved in the pulse of the community. Coordinates, manages and ensures we never miss a beat in the Jobs Jamboree (160 employers/2000 job seekers), Lunch & Learns, Scholarships, P&P. Overall, she is just a friend to all that come in contact with her within the community and she will even admit that to them before they know they are her friend.

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The Spark Plug Award goes to the Glendive JSEC has been sponsoring a golf tournament to raise funds for scholarship opportunities to Dawson Community College (DCC), and for other projects, since the committee's inception. For 28 years, this event has continued to grow and gain popularity. The tournament sub-committee comprised of Mel Fohl, Stacey Stanfill, Carlena Quinn, Traci Masau, Suela Cela, and JSEC Coordinator Darla Handran should be commended for the outstanding job they did in 2016. This year the event nearly doubled the proceeds taking in a record amount of \$1973.27. Congratulations!

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**The 2017 Fred Unmack Scholarship** was awarded to Amber Stout from the Helena JSEC. Amber is currently attending Helena High and plans to attend MSU Bozeman to major in Psychology.

Amber has been involved in multiple local programs including Pennies for Patients, the Food Drive, the NAMI walk, One Warm Coat Drive, and nearly all of the 40 community service JMG projects that were completed in her school. She has been employed by Chili O'Brien's Catering as a waitress, event set up person, and all aspects of food delivery and clean up.

The Helena JSEC chooses a recipient for their local scholarship and the group unanimously chose Amber for persevering in spite of her obstacles. They felt that Amber exemplifies those qualities they look for in their scholarship recipient. She has overcome health challenges one would hope no one would ever experience at any age, but in her case she has to go out of state for treatment. Despite this, she is enrolled at HHS which has helped her move forward and into the next chapter of her young life. She has become motivated to obtain a college degree in Psychology, after a family member attempted suicide. She would eventually like to become a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor.

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**Missoula's Spirit At Play Employer of Choice for 25- Employees** – Spirit at Play (SAP) is a premier area preschool & kindergarten readiness program with an emphasis on sustainability for children between the ages of 2.5 and 5 – 9 years of age, depending on school year or summer terms. SAP focuses on teaching children how to work within the school and local community to utilize its resources.

SAP also believes it is important for children to explore their community and therefore they schedule field trips multiple times per week to include activities such as hiking the "M", enjoying city parks and participate in garbage cleanups with the Clark Fork Coalition. This focus of teaching the benefits of recycling and composting have assisted SAP in achieving Champion Status with the Montana Sustainable Business Council.

Our judges stated that SAP has “Excellent employee benefits and initiatives!!!” & “Great commitment to the community”

**Missoula’s Allegiance Benefit Plan Management Employer of Choice for 25+ Employees** – Allegiance Benefit Plan Management, Inc develops and administers employee benefit plans for companies, associations and government agencies. As a third-party administrator, we offer our clients the flexibility to contract with multiple preferred provider organizations, managed care organizations, physician hospital organizations, tertiary care centers of excellence, dental and vision plans, and stop-loss insurance carriers.

Since its earliest days, our company has been a leader in providing health and flexible benefit plans to employer groups and plan participants throughout the American West. We have always remained dedicated to one thing: outstanding customer service. That commitment continues today as strong as ever.

Allegiance believes that their employees “are the backbone of Allegiance. Without dedicated, engaged, enthusiastic and responsible employees who share in our mission, we would not be able to provide the service that we do. Our culture is one of appreciation, respect for co-workers and clients, teamwork and recognition for a job well done.”

Our Judges stated that Allegiance had a “Nice array of employee benefits and initiatives” and “Enjoyed leaders listening to feedback and making changes”.