

PRESS RELEASE

Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. recently held their 45th Annual Meeting of the Corporation, at the Eastside Restaurant in Newport.

Forty three employees were recognized for their 5, 10, 15, 20 and 30 years of service, with a Certificate of Appreciation, or plaque, and a small gift.

The Board of Directors presented the second Annual Patricia L. Rhodes Employee Achievement Award to Jim Christie, Assistant Director of Developmental Services in St. Johnsbury. This award was established to honor Patricia Rhodes, who retired in 2003 after 35 years of service to NKHS. A total of 10 employees were nominated by their peers for demonstrating creativity, commitment, competence, and collegiality in their work with service recipients and in relationships with fellow employees, as exemplified by Pat Rhodes. The other nominees were Robin Burnash, Jeannine Hawkins, Cathy Hinchey, Denise Lepine-Whitehead, Kathy Monty, Nancy Morley, Jonathan Phyfe, Angela Walters and Patsy Whitcomb.

“There is no other who is more committed to the success of NKHS, our consumers and employees. I have heard countless stories from other employees and consumers, of all the sacrifices Jim has made over the years to ensure quality of life and care for our consumers. He is never judgmental or condescending. He offers sage advice, or knows exactly who or where to go to for answers if he doesn't have them”, wrote one of his colleagues in nominating Christie. Eric Grims, Executive Director, concluded the remarks with his personal view that “in the toughest and most challenging situations, you want Jim Christie in your foxhole.”

The award and recognition gift were presented at the Annual Meeting Dinner and the plaque describing the award and listing each year's recipient will be mounted in the lobby of the St. Johnsbury building for the ensuing year.

Northeast Kingdom Human Services provides community-based Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services to residents of Orleans, Essex and Caledonia counties.