

News Release
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Lighthouse School Students Attend Career Conference

Youth Advisor Receives Statewide Award

BEAVER ISLAND, MI –Two students from the Beaver Island Lighthouse School participated in the Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) Career Conference April 28 in Lansing. At the event Northwest Michigan Works! Youth Advisor Dana Venhuizen received the JMG Specialist of the Year Award.

The Lighthouse School students attending the conference were Traverse City senior Tasha Herrera and Beaver Island senior Jordan Marsh. Both students participated in an employability skills competition, networked with other JMG students from around the state, and heard presentations from speakers including Michigan Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley.

The conference also included an awards presentation where Venhuizen received the Specialist of the Year Award. She was recognized for her inspirational service, consistently superior performance, and dedication to high standards of excellence. Venhuizen is the Northwest Michigan Works! Youth Advisor for Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau counties, and also coordinates the JMG program at the Lighthouse School, the Wexford-Missaukee Career Tech Center in Cadillac, and the Club 180 out of school youth program in Traverse City.

The statewide Jobs for Michigan's Graduates program helps Michigan's young people who are at risk of dropping out of high school, or who have already dropped out, graduate and make successful transitions to postsecondary education or meaningful employment. Students enrolled in the program are youth who have barriers to success, including deficiencies in basic skills, transportation, income and economic status.

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Dan Boss at danboss@networksnorthwest.org and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: networksnorthwest.org/media

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our web site, networksnorthwest.org

Networks Northwest's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.