

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential

For More Information

Contact Melanie Hogan: 216.696.2716 or mhogan@leapinfo.org

Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP) awarded Three-Year CARF Accreditation

Cleveland, OH — March 28, 2017- CARF International announced that Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP), a disability services non-profit located in Cleveland, OH, has earned Three-year Accreditation based on a recently completed survey. “The leadership and staff members of LEAP are congratulated for their commitment to quality and continuous quality improvement” noted the final CARF survey report.

This recognition by CARF International represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and shows the organization’s substantial conformance to established CARF standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process. LEAP has demonstrated to a team of CARF surveyors during an on-site visit its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable, and of the highest quality.

Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP) is a Northeast Ohio non-profit organization with offices at 2545 Lorain Ave. in Ohio City. The majority of the LEAP Board and staff members are persons with disabilities themselves. The agency has been providing a comprehensive array of programs to individuals with disabilities since 1981, including employment services, advocacy, independent living, nursing home transition, access to benefits and resources, recreation, and youth transition services, a program which prepares teens and young adults with disabilities to leave school and prepare to enter the workforce.

Among the many accolades included in the CARF final report are the observation that LEAP provides a “high level of compassion and dedication to assisting consumers in enhancing their quality of life” and that “LEAP excels in its advocacy and public policy endeavors.” According to Melanie Hogan, Executive Director of LEAP, “these areas of excellence are sources of immense pride for me and the LEAP staff, who are privileged to serve some of Northeast Ohio’s most vulnerable residents and help them realize the highest possible levels of personal independence and empowerment.”

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now

known as CARF International, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services. For more information about the accreditation process, please visit the CARF website at www.carf.org. To learn more about the many programs and services offered by LEAP, visit online: www.leapinfo.org.

###

About LEAP

Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP) is an agent of positive change, working to advance participation and equality in society for people with disabilities in Northeast Ohio. Founded in 1981 by people with disabilities, LEAP serves nearly 2000 individuals annually, and works to promote social change to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities. To ensure an authentic connection to the consumers served, the majority of staff and board members at LEAP are people with disabilities themselves. Through a comprehensive array of services, LEAP assists people with disabilities in living independently in their own homes, participating in community life, and finding and maintaining employment.