

# *YTP Practitioners Shine at Oregon Employment and Training Association (OETA) Conference*



This Award was Presented to **Anne Burns** who is the **YTP** Transition Specialist in the **West Linn/Wilsonville YTP**. Anne was nominated by Teresa Findley (VR Counselor in Clackamas County). Anne is the second from the left in the photo:

Commitment In Action Award is given to an Individual who, through service and leadership has demonstrated commitment in action and excellence in the field of employment and training.

They have made a significant contribution at the local, regional, state or federal level in the area of workforce. The recipient is selected by the OregonETA (**OETA**) Board of Directors.

3 Words describe this CIA: Spirited, Tenacious and Multi-faceted

The Oregon Youth Transition Program (YTP) is an Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Services program which operates as a partnership between VR, The Oregon Department of Education and the University of Oregon. YTP/ Vocational Rehabilitation operates in 146 high schools in Oregon serving students with all disabilities since it started in 1990. In 2013 Oregon YTP was recognized as one of 10 Best Practices in Employment Support for People with Disabilities by EASPD – European Association of Service provider for Person with Disabilities. Other countries that were recognized included Australia, USA Cincinnati, Luxemburg, Northern Ireland, Belgium, USA Oregon, Austria, Netherlands, Spain and Romania. Our success has been working closely with school districts and YTP. We have 38 school districts that we work with in the

state of Oregon. This Commitment in Action Recipient has long been an advocate for employment with youth with disabilities.

This CIA recipient has been a Board Member of the State Rehabilitation Council, appointed by the governor, Board Member and Past President of OAVSNP (Oregon Association of Vocational Special Needs Personnel) and a Member of the local Chamber of Commerce. As a member of these organizations, they have often been an advocate for the YTP Program sharing both the struggles and successes of the students of Oregon. Through their contacts they have created job shadows, internships and often mentored other YTP Specialists in different school districts.

This CIA has made a difference in 100's of student lives. One example is a previous student who now is the Director of Community Outreach at Incight.

Incight is a non-profit organization focused on the needs of employed people with disabilities. This particular student got their start as an YTP youth in an internship program while in high school.

Besides the 3 Words of Spirited, Tenacious and Multi-faceted, Anne is also Compassionate and Passionate about her work.



In addition, the following individual's received OETA's "All Star Team" award. OregonETA members can honor the efforts of a dedicated

workforce professional by nominating them for an OregonETA "All-Star Team" award. The organization annually recognizes up to twelve outstanding individuals around the State who show exceptional dedication to work and make significant contributions to their workforce team. Awards are announced at the evening Awards Banquet held at the Rendezvous for Workforce Development Professionals. Honorees are invited to the podium to be recognized by OregonETA and workforce professionals across Oregon.

Those individuals are: **Diane Johnson** (YTP Transition Specialist, Oregon Trail SD, pictured far left in the opening photo), **Teresa Findley** (VR Counselor, Clackamas Branch, pictured third from the left in the opening photo), **Toni DePeel** (Transition Specialist, Gladstone School District, pictured far right in the opening photo), and **Renata Beck** (VR Counselor, Bend Branch, not pictured)