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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brevard Achievement Center and Wuesthoff Medical Center - Rockledge Team to Provide Work Experience Opportunities for People with Disabilities

Rockledge, Fla. – <u>Brevard Achievement Center</u> (BAC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides innovative services and opportunities to assist people with disabilities achieve personal success, is working closely with Wuesthoff Medical Center – Rockledge to provide work experience opportunities for adults with disabilities. Thanks to this effort, several people with disabilities, under the supervision of BAC and Wuesthoff team members, are now working at Wuesthoff Medical Center – Rockledge assisting with maintaining the exterior appearance of the facility.

As part of the contract, Wuesthoff is now employing three people with disabilities and one supervisor to work at Wuesthoff Medical Center - Rockledge three days per week. Each day the group performs outside facility enhancement activities, such as ensuring the parking lots and grounds are free of debris, as well as keeping the main and Emergency Room entrances clean and maintained. The relationship marks the first prime commercial contract for BAC.

"We are very grateful to Wuesthoff for giving us the opportunity to employ more persons with disabilities," said Wayne Wells, vice president of operations at BAC. "Our more than 25 years of experience providing government agencies with quality business services makes us an excellent resource for the private sector as well. Thanks to Wuesthoff, we're off to a good start finding additional job opportunities for those we serve."

Since its first contract was secured in 1991, BAC has provided custodial services, grounds maintenance, warehousing and dining operations services to a variety of federal government sites. Today, the agency employs over 400 individuals with disabilities at 11 federal sites located throughout Florida, in Puerto Rico and Virginia. To put more people with disabilities to work, these same services are now being offered to the private sector.

"We are pleased to be working with the Brevard Achievement Center in this effort to provide real job opportunities for people with disabilities," said Gary Malaer, Chief Executive Officer, Wuesthoff Medical Center – Rockledge. "As a steward of the overall health of the community, it is part of our mission to continue to play a vital role in programs such as this that elevate the well-being of our citizens."

BAC is certified in CIMS-GB with Honors, LEEDS, CLLM, ServSafe, Facility Management Professional, Sports Turfgrass Maintenance and holds Top Secret Clearance. For more information about BAC's contract services,

contact John Nederhoed, business development manager, at jnederhoed@bacbrevard.com or (321) 632-8610, ext. 261.

About Brevard Achievement Center

Brevard Achievement Center (BAC) was founded in 1968 to assist people with disabilities in reaching their full potential. Today, the Center is the largest employer of persons with disabilities in Brevard County, holds the highest accreditation offered by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF International) and is a United Way partner.

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