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News Release

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October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month *Inclusion Drives Innovation*

LANSING, MI – Peckham is proud to celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual awareness campaign that takes place each October. The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate (the public) about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "Inclusion Drives Innovation."

"NDEAM is about showcasing the power of people with disabilities," says Mitch Tomlinson, President & CEO of Peckham, Inc. "We have seen the results and achievements of what people with disabilities can do at work. But nationally, there is much more work to be done to expand work opportunities for people with disabilities."

Peckham believes people with disabilities should have every opportunity to become fully integrated into the communities where they live and work. Peckham is committed to working with employers to serve as a resource and solution to build an inclusive workforce that includes individuals with disabilities.

"Peckham is one of the largest employers in the Lansing area, and partners with local businesses and organizations who want to create a more inclusive workforce," says Caleb Adams, Senior Director of Vocational Services. "Last year, because of the support of local employers and their commitment to creating a more inclusive workplace, we were able to support more than 650 individuals with disabilities in earning employment outside of Peckham."

Peckham provides people a platform to demonstrate their ability, learn new skills, participate in work and enjoy the rewards of their success and experience meaningful employment growth. Peckham is committed to assisting job seekers secure and maintain long-term employment, allowing for job upgrades and career advancement. A wide range of services are offered with a focus on job readiness skills, career exploration, resume development, interviewing, guided job searches, as well as developing interpersonal and coping skills to enhance job retention.

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“Peckham’s goal is to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to earn and maintain meaningful employment,” says Tomlinson. “We hope our work inspires other employers to consider the skills, talents and valuable contributions of this amazing workforce.”

Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ways they can promote its messages — during October and throughout the year — by visiting www.dol.gov/ndeam.

Peckham, Inc.

Peckham, Inc. is a nonprofit community vocational rehabilitation organization that values quality, diversity and performance. Our mission is to provide a wide range of opportunities to maximize human potential for persons with disabilities who are striving for greater independence and self-sufficiency. To learn more about Peckham, visit www.peckham.org

If you are an employer who is interested in creating a more inclusive workplace, visit our website at www.peckham.org .

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