



# CISCO

## CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org) - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

### CISCO ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2022

CISCO's Annual Meeting will return to its regular annual time-frame and be held on Friday, February 11, 2022. The event will also return to a familiar venue - Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant in Schaumburg, 1901 E. Woodfield Road. Invitations will be sent out soon, so members should watch their mailboxes, email boxes, social media and other outlets for the official notice. The event begins at 8:00 a.m. with Breakfast and the formal program starting at 9:00 a.m.

The event will feature the presentation of CISCO's Pride in Construction Awards - now in its 17th year with 6 projects winning in respective categories.

In addition to the Project of the Year Awards, two individuals and one entity are recognized as Educator of the Year, Public Body of the Year and Labor Advocate of the Year.

The Board approved **John Daniels**, Teacher/Counselor at Stagg High School as Educator of the Year. The Public Body of the Year is **DuPage County**, and the Labor Advocate of the Year is State **Comptroller Susana Mendoza**.

### RECEIPT OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATIONS CONTINUES



CISCO continues to accept applications for its long-standing Annual Scholarship Awards Program.

The applications for these different categories can be found on CISCO's website/homepage at [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org).

The three scholarship program categories are: **1) Four-year college scholarships for high school seniors;** **2) Two-year awards for seniors**

**planning on attending a community college; and 3) Two-year continuing education awards to union members or contractor employees.**

The deadline to submit the applications is Friday, February 18, 2022. Interested students may email the completed applications, or send in the mail. For more information, call CISCO at (630) 472-9411.

### GATEWAY TO LEARNING & BEST BUDDIES ILLINOIS DISCUSS UNIFYING GOALS

Exploring ways to better benefit and assist individuals served respectively by *Gateway to Learning* and *Best Buddies Illinois* was the objective of a meeting attended on December 20, 2021 by representatives of both organizations.

Gateway to Learning's staff leaders Kathryn H. Lavin, MSW (President/Executive Director) and John Ratzenberger (Sr. Director of Operations) welcomed Best Buddies Illinois State Director Adam Wilt to tour the Chicago facility and discuss possible synergies that could prove helpful to those served separately by each organization. Also in attendance were CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen and PCA of Greater Chicago Executive Director S.J. Peters, who jointly coordinated the meeting.

With its mission "to provide lifelong learning for adults with intellectual challenges and developmental disabilities," *Gateway to Learning* – with a focus mainly on culinary training and experience – continually seeks to expand its contacts and programs by building relationships from various sources with the goal of leading to additional

opportunities for those who rely on the organization.

Based in Chicago with a mid-state office in Peoria, *Best Buddies Illinois* (a chapter of the national organization) is known for its ongoing and evolving goal of "offering one-to-one friendship, integrated employment, and leadership development programs for individuals with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in Illinois."



*Pictured (from left): John Ratzenberger (Gateway to Learning); Dan Allen (CISCO); Kathryn Lavin (Gateway to Learning); Adam Wilt (Best Buddies Illinois); and S.J. Peters (PCA).*

The suggested visit was due in part to *Gateway to Learning* having earned a place as a recipient in recent years of CISCO members and public awareness efforts, donations derived from CISCO's annual golf outing, and successful efforts to engage skilled union construction contractors to address the physical needs of the facility; (often through pro-bono work through the contractors and/or the union) which contains five culinary training kitchens and offers a variety of practical employment and communication learning experiences.

*Happy New Year!!*