

Reed Honors Public Employees for Outstanding Leadership

The Washington State Leadership Award honors individuals at all levels of management who show exemplary vision, innovation and inspiration.

Individuals receiving the 2008 Leadership Award include:

- **Dan Pachoke**, Department of Corrections – While Pachoke had only been at Stafford Creek Correction Center for a short time, he had an immediate impact. He empowered staff to meet objectives and implemented alternative work schedules for counselors and recreation staff. His innovative ideas around sustainability, conservation and recycling are cutting edge; he demonstrates what a positive attitude and leadership can accomplish.
- **Sandy Crews**, Employment Security Department - After only four months as the administrator of WorkSource Lewis County, Crews found herself, her office, and her community immersed in a major flood disaster. She understood the importance of being able to serve the community, so she worked hard to reopen the office as quickly as possible and after nine days had a makeshift office in the hallway. Through it all, she provided a calm, decisive leadership to her staff.
- **David Trujillo**, Gambling Commission – Despite Trujillo's extremely hectic work life, he willingly volunteered to become a mentor to an employee, which saved a public servant's career by helping develop strategies to achieve professional goals. He serves with a sincere heart and leads by encouraging and challenging his employees.
- **Marc Brenman**, Human Rights Commission – As Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission, Brenman made the agency a leading expert on civil rights issues. He forged partnerships with state agencies, the business community, advocacy groups and any others seeking guidance. He models the commitment that he expects of his staff and holds himself and staff accountable; yet he is supporting and sensitive to staff's well-being and provides opportunities for professional development and recognition.
- **Jennifer Freeze**, Department of Retirement Systems – Because of Freeze's leadership, the team has gone from a group that one had to join to a group one wanted to join. She not only engages staff but encourages the team to take the lead on issues and allows staffers to run the program, which led to a major streamlining of processes. Her personality, sense of humor and dedication to her team has cemented her team's loyalty to her leadership.
- **Dawn Tatman**, Department of Social and Health Services – Tatman is taking Washington's Children's Administration into the future by championing a Web-based computer program system. Her vision, leadership, and innovative and enthusiastic approach brought implementation of FamLink, a Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS). This system will significantly change the way work is done and documented statewide. She inspires confidence in everyone.
- **Tom Cushman**, Department of Transportation – Cushman shows great leadership by mentoring inspectors in the Hood Canal Bridge project to achieve their personal best. He has enormous patience, a wonderful sense of humor, and thinks of his crew first before himself. He would not ask anyone to do anything he would not do himself. Because of his time and effort and team, the project will be completed on time.
- **Robert Blegen**, Department of Transportation – As well as motivating employees, Blegen makes it a point to encourage them to take action to better their knowledge. He understands that preparing employees for advancement is the only way to ensure that there will be qualified personnel to fill openings and maintain a high level of competence. He always gives more than he demands, which causes others around him to strive to keep up. He is willing to stand up for his values and beliefs and at the same time promote the values of the organization.
- **Jerry Towne**, Department of Veterans Affairs – When Towne began with the agency he made assessments of the individual and team strengths, then went about developing strategies that would not only allow each of his staff to utilize his or her personal assets but enhance the performance of the team. He is invested in the personal and professional

growth and advancement of those under his leadership. He helps staff focus on the future, and create change within the work environment and community based on shared values. His personal integrity is apparent and his dedication as a leader and manager is exceptional.

- **Sgt. Dale Retzlaff**, Washington State Patrol – Sgt. Retzlaff inspires others and understands the need to offer constructive criticism, suggestions and recommendations to help the individual, detachment, district, State Patrol and ultimately the State. He is looked to for guidance and is a shoulder to lean on. The office is run in a professional manner with staff working together thanks in large part to the personal integrity and dedication to service he provides.

Individuals nominated for the Leadership Award included: Rica Helberg and Brian Watkins, Office of Administrative Hearings; Richard Reeves and Kirk Robinson, Department of Agriculture; Faisal Jaswal and Sandra Wyrick, Bellevue Community College; Patricia McKeown, Bellingham Technical College; Suzy Ames and Amy Hatfield, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; Karen Blatman Byers, Tracy Daniel, Patricia Green, John Holeman, John Little, Stefani Meusborn and Robert Story, Department of Corrections; Mike Angle, Albert Garza, Henly Kitty and Kathy Loeb sack, Employment Security Department; Capt. Bill Hebner, Charles Lenberg and Guy Norman, Department of Fish and Wildlife; Lois Speelman, Department of Health; Lourdes Fuentes, Department of Labor & Industries; Kathy Eberle, Jeff Johnson, Karla Lamanna and Rita Nucciarone, Department of Licensing; Scott McEuin and Mike Wolfe, Liquor Control Board; Jennifer Connelly, Don MacSparran, Mark McElroy, John Ufford and John Vollmer, Military Department; Pete Holmberg, Department of Natural Resources; Teresa McDermott, Olympic Community College; Kate Burke and Ritannette Cooper, Department of Parks and Recreation; Kevin Gripp, Michelle Hardesty and Lori Lencioni, Department of Retirement Systems; Eric and Nancy Anderson, Skagit Valley College; Karen Adams, Peria Duncan and Darrel Friedt, Department of Social and Health Services; Capt. Kip Fillmore, South Puget Sound Community College; Robert Barnes, Paul Brodeur, Lucinda Broussard, Janet Buoy, Todd Harrison, Kevin Littleton, Elvira Loranz, Judy Lorenzo, Rick Phillips, Manuel Quinteiro, Carol Lee Roalkvam, Stan Suchan, William (Chip) Tantum, Dean Torkko, Doug Vaughn, Brian Walsh, Joey Warren, Troy Watts and Don Whitehouse, Department of Transportation; Capt. Jeff DeVere, Washington State Patrol.