

Waukesha County Business Alliance announces Holly Hawkins as 2019 Waukesha County Advocate of the Year

Waukesha, Wis. – The Waukesha County Business Alliance is excited to congratulate Holly Hawkins, president of the Milwaukee office for Tri-North Builders, on being named the 2019 Waukesha County Advocate of the Year.

Hawkins has been in the construction industry for nearly 20 years. Prior to her current position, Hawkins served as project manager and director of sustainability services at Tri-North.

She puts her passion for combating the skilled worker shortage in Wisconsin into action through numerous workforce development and youth outreach efforts. She is deeply involved in Waukesha County Business Alliance's Construction Alliance, which focuses on raising the perception of career pathway opportunities and creating interest for youth in pursuing trades as viable careers. She also sits on the Alliance's education policy committee and has arranged and hosted two Careers Uncovered programs at Tri-North's Waukesha office, which brought together educators and school counselors with construction professionals. Additionally, she has participated in roundtable conversations and was instrumental in bringing Kids Building Wisconsin (an interactive construction event for youth) to Milwaukee in January 2019. She is also working with her children's school to bring additional STEAM programs to the classroom.

The Waukesha County Advocate of the Year Award celebrates an individual who has demonstrated incredible dedication to making Waukesha County a vibrant and wonderful place to work, play and live. The award was created to honor and remember the late Bart Adams, who passed away unexpectedly in 2016. Bart was a consistent voice for business within the Alliance and the broader community. He liked to work behind the scenes but he embodied the characteristics of a dedicated leader.

"We all know that workforce is the number one issue facing businesses in southeast Wisconsin," said Suzanne Kelley, president and CEO of the Waukesha County Business Alliance. "Holly is fully committed to finding solutions for the problem and we value her leadership in this area. The construction industry and Waukesha County as a whole are lucky to have her."

The award will be presented at the second annual Waukesha County Awards Gala on Thursday, June 13, 2019. The program will be held in partnership with the Alliance, the Waukesha County Center for Growth and Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel beginning at 6:00 p.m., with registration beginning at 5:00 p.m. Top-performing businesses and nonprofits will also be honored. Register for the program at waukesha.org.

Photo attached: Holly Hawkins, president – Milwaukee office, Tri-North Builders

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About the Waukesha County Business Alliance

Waukesha County Business Alliance is a countywide chamber of commerce with over 1,200 member companies, representing 75,000+ employees. The mission of the Alliance is to drive economic growth in Waukesha County. The Alliance provides opportunities for its members to advocate on behalf of the business community, develop themselves and their employees, network and build strong business relationships and promote their business. Learn more: www.waukesha.org