There are different perspectives of the word BEST just as there are with the word ABILITY. The goal is to keep challenging employers to be the BEST they can be to embrace the broadest definition of ABILITY so that each individual can be hired for what they are able to do. We thank our Transitions to Work employers listed below who have embraced ABILITY and strive to be the BEST inclusive employers. Transitions would also like to recognize two prestigious organizations that are helping to set the bar to encourage companies to be the BEST and most inclusive companies possible.

2016 Ruderman Best In Business Award
The Ruderman Family Foundation, a national leader in disability inclusion, announced the winners of the 2016 Ruderman Best In Business Award! This award recognizes businesses that have demonstrated a history of employing people with disabilities, training and supporting them and developing innovative approaches to maximizing employee’s abilities. In partnership with the Jewish Week Media Group, the award highlights businesses selected through a national nomination and review process by judges from the business and disability communities, including Richard E. Marriott, Chairman of Host Hotels & Resorts and the Marriott Foundation for People with Disabilities and John Hockenberry, NPR journalist and four-time Emmy award winner. The 18 companies selected this year have shown exemplary practices in training and employing people with disabilities, and deserve recognition for serving as shining examples of how people with disabilities can enhance any business. Congratulations to Uber, SAP, Xerox, UPS, Sodexo USA, Wawa, H-E-B, Giant Eagle, Pharmore Drugs, Grand & Essex Market, Scotty's Brewhouse, Coco Cafe & Cedar Opportunities Co-operative, Evanston Subaru in Skokie, Power Cafe, Centerville Pie Co., NextCure and Barkan Management. Learn more about the Prize and our winners here: http://goo.gl/tscT6o

2017 Disability Equality Index
The US Business Leadership Network (USBLN) and the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) officially open the registration process for the 2017 Disability Equality Index (DEI). The DEI® is a joint initiative of the USBLN and AAPD and is a national, transparent, annual benchmarking tool that offers businesses an opportunity to receive an objective assessment of their overall disability inclusion policies and practices. It is an aspirational, educational, recognition tool that goes far beyond legal compliance, helping companies identify opportunities for continued improvement, while building their reputations as organizations that value diversity and inclusion. This year the USBLN and AAPD have expanded the criteria for companies to participate. To learn more about the DEI and if your company is
eligible to register please visit DEI website. Companies that score 80 points or higher on the 2017 DEI will be awarded the “2017 DEI Best Places to Work” designation.

Transitions to Work Employer Training and Hiring Partners (as of 9/12/16)

AMC Theatres
Anton’s Cleaners
Au Bon Pain
Bake n’ Joy
Barnes & Noble
Bed Bath & Beyond
Bertucci’s Italian Restaurant
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Border Café
The Boston Globe
Boston Children’s Hospital
Brigham & Women’s Hospital
Bright Horizons Family Solutions
Bruegger’s Bagels Boston
Combined Jewish Philanthropies
Cohen Hillel Academy
Costco Wholesale Corporation
CVS Health
Destination XL Group, Inc.
Dollar Tree
Donelan’s Supermarkets, Inc.
Fairhaven Health, LLC
Faux Designs
Fresh Pond Entertainment Cinemas
The Home Depot
Goddard House
Hannaford
Honey Farms
House of Blues - Boston
Hebrew SeniorLife - Roslindale
J.P. Licks
Kmart
Kappy’s Fine Wine & Spirits
Kesher Center for Jewish Learning and Culture
Legal Sea Foods
LEGOLAND® Discovery Center
Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center
Little Sprouts
Margaritas Mexican Restaurant
Modell’s Sporting Goods
More Than Words
My Little Best Friends Early Learning Center
NCCC
The New England Aquarium
NewBridge on the Charles
North Bridge Child Care Center
Ocean State Job Lot
Panera Bread
Petco
Primark Limited
RSIG Security
SAGE Dining Services
Santander Bank
Shaws
Star Market
Prime Motor Group
Rebecca’s Café
Reebok
State Cleaning Service
The Stop & Shop Supermarket Company
Sudbury Farms
Taco Bell
Target
TJX Companies, Inc.
Urban Hops
Value Store It
Walgreens
Walmart
Whitson’s Culinary Group
Whole Foods Market

Transitions to Work continues to connect with new employers to educate on inclusive hiring and build employer partnerships. Please let us know if you or someone you know might be interested in exploring Transitions to Work as a fit for your or their company. We appreciate the leadership of our employer partners in hiring individuals of all abilities for employment opportunities. Please support these companies and spread the word by joining Transitions to Work on Facebook at www.facebook.com/transitionstoworkboston. To learn more about Transitions to Work or view inclusive hiring tools, please visit: www.cjp.org/transitionstowork.