

Media Contact:  
Jean Bennett; 800.450.5627 or 605.332.7991

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## **Experience Works searches for South Dakota's 2006 Outstanding Older Worker**

**PIERRE, S.D.** — The South Dakota Department of Labor announces Experience Works, the nation's largest training and employment organization for mature workers, is searching for South Dakota's outstanding older worker. Outstanding older workers from every state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico; America's Oldest Worker; and outstanding employers of older workers will be honored in Washington, D.C. and in their home states for their contributions to the workforce and local communities. Experience Works Prime Time Awards program is part of Experience Works' national effort to raise awareness of the contributions made by older individuals and to break down barriers associated with the hiring of older workers.

South Dakota Experience Works is currently soliciting nominations from businesses and individuals. Applicants must be 65 years of age or older, a resident of South Dakota, currently employed and working at least 20 hours each week for pay. The honoree must be willing and able to travel to Washington, D.C., in September for the Prime Time Awards events. The visit will include meetings with congressional representatives, a tour of the city's landmarks, and the awards banquet and ceremony. Applicants who are part of a subsidized employment program funded by the local, state or national government are not eligible for this award.

Official nomination forms may be obtained from your local Experience Works representative at any South Dakota Career Center. To view an office directory, visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org). Forms are also available through Experience Works, 120 South Indiana Ave., Sioux Falls, SD, 57103; phone 1-800-450-5627 or 605-332-7991. A nomination form can also be accessed online at [www.experienceworks.org](http://www.experienceworks.org). Entries may be turned in to your local Experience Works representative or mailed to Experience Works, Prime Time Awards Program Prairie Lakes Region (MN/SD/ND), 2204 East Broadway, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-4930; or faxed to 701-258-8874 or e-mailed to: [connie\\_moench@experienceworks.org](mailto:connie_moench@experienceworks.org). The deadline

for nominations is May 15, 2006.

A search for America's Oldest Worker for 2006 is also under way. Last year, Dwight Hauff, 100, Sioux City, Iowa, was named America's Oldest Worker. Hauff opened his first sporting goods store in Sioux City in 1933 at the height of the Great Depression. Today he owns a chain of sporting goods stores.

South Dakota's 2005 outstanding older worker was Joe Doyle, Rapid City, a CDL Third Party Examiner for the Western Dakota Technical Institute. Doyle, who spends his work life making roadways safer for Americans and for the commercial drivers that he trains and tests, is a great example of someone who demonstrates the dedication, skills and experience needed to succeed in today's workforce.

The South Dakota Department of Labor sub-grants the Senior Community Service Employment Program funds to Experience Works which operates the Older Workers program in South Dakota. Senior Experience Works is a national, nonprofit organization that provides training and employment services for mature workers. Established in 1965 as Green Thumb, and renamed Experience Works in 2002, the organization reaches more than 125,000 mature individuals in all 50 states and Puerto Rico each year.