



News from THE WALLACE GROUP

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ProAct, Inc.

For Immediate Release

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BOHMBACH NAMED PRODUCTION MANAGER FOR PROACT'S RED WING LOCATION SERVING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

**Well known Red Wing native manages sales and contract work for business
customers, builds on human resources and rehabilitation background**

Jim Bohmbach is the new production manager at ProAct in Red Wing, where people with disabilities perform work at the facility and at area businesses.

He spent 13 years in human resources at Red Wing Shoe and most recently filled the role of ProAct's job developer, assisting people with disabilities to find meaningful employment. Bohmbach's new position focuses on coordination of production work for business customers. These jobs, performed by ProAct participants, often serve as a training ground for competitive employment in the community.

"Jim exhibits the people skills and knowledge needed to keep our Red Wing production area running smoothly, while also working to make it more responsive and competitive," said ProAct President and CEO Steven Ditschler. "His competitive nature and ability to bring people together are crucial to the operation."

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Bohmbach said the production priority has to be client work that meets quality standards and timely delivery. At Red Wing Shoe, he worked with plant managers to improve work flows and employee teamwork to help foster a positive work environment. ProAct has many more products to cover and smaller jobs, he explained.

The new production manager said staff members are there to fulfill ProAct's mission of improving the lives of people with disabilities. "Part of my job is developing a team atmosphere." By working together, ProAct workers can use their strengths and build on their areas that need improvement, he explained. The new production manager said he loves getting up to go to work, goes home with a smile and appreciates the opportunity to influence people.

In addition to human resource management, Bohmbach worked as a teacher's assistant at Red Wing High School and was head coach of the school's varsity baseball team. He served in human resources at group homes for people with developmental disabilities and in youth programming at the Eagan YMCA, and was an assistant baseball coach at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

"Jim has demonstrated that he has an excellent understanding of ProAct's needs and takes a 'proactive' approach to problem-solving and developing effective responses to issues that need action," said Sally Ogren, director of programs at ProAct in Red Wing. Working with Bohmbach and other leaders, ProAct is exploring creative ideas for the production area and improvements in efficiency, she explained.

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After graduating from Red Wing High School in the late 1970s, he left the city to pursue a degree in business administration from Minnesota State University, Mankato, and later earned a Bachelor's degree in business management from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee.

Married and the father of three children and three stepchildren, all of them grown, Bohmbach and his wife make their home in Red Wing.

Headquartered in Eagan, ProAct maintains additional sites in Zumbrota and Hudson, Wis., as well as in Red Wing. Its mission is to serve individuals experiencing barriers to employment and self-sufficiency due to developmental disabilities, brain injuries, mental health issues, physical limitations, impairments that interfere with vision and hearing, and other related conditions. More information is available at www.proactinc.org.

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