

Dear Rob;

Really enjoyed the content on your show, 'Nonprofit Leadership Podcast', specifically your episode, ['What is your Personal Mission?'](#) mostly because of how inspirational it is to learn more about companies and people who sincerely want to help better our community and society especially as nonprofit leaders.

On that note, please let me place Michele Ford, Inroads to Opportunities' President & CEO, for guest consideration on an upcoming segment. She is a profound leader and exhibits strong leadership throughout her nonprofit company and their actions that they take for their community.

Since 1959, Inroads to Opportunities, formerly the Occupational Center of Union County, NJ, has provided programs and services to over 400 individuals each year with all types of disabilities and ranging in age from 16 through retirement. Programs and services include vocational preparation, transition from school to work, job placement and mental health services.

Ford, an award-winning leader and advocate, can authoritatively discuss the critical need for this population to find employment. She has persistently helped people with disabilities get the training they need to become employed. Until every individual with disabilities who wishes to work, has a job - this remains a very timely and relevant topic.

With over 35 years of experience, Michele has made a tremendous impact on the lives of employees and participants in the Inroads to Opportunities program. Demonstrating selflessness and compassion, Ford has dedicated her life to support individuals with disabilities.

Despite hardships pertaining to the pandemic, Michele and her team never lost sight of their goal.

Within the last year, Michele has been recognized as a NJBIZ 2022 ICON, by The Union County Board of Commissioners with the Shero Award as well as receiving the 'Inventive Leader in Adult Services, Courage and Compassion Award' presented by the NJ Association of Mental Health & Addiction Agencies (NJAMHAA).

In December 2022, Inroads to Opportunities, was named a Finalist in NJBIZ' 'Business of the Year Non-Profit Category' competition.

Below is information on both Michele and Inroads to Opportunities. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Amy Delman, Amy Delman Public Relations, LLC, 201.563.4614

ABOUT MICHELE FORD:

For over 35 years, Michele has dedicated her life to serving the needs of individuals with disabilities. A life-long advocate, Michele has been a champion for this most vulnerable population by serving on Union County Non-Profit Consortium, Union County Crisis Consortium and most recently addressing members of the US Commission on Civil Rights in Washington, D.C. to raise awareness of choice in defense of employment options for individuals with disabilities.

ABOUT INROADS TO OPPORTUNITIES:

Since 1959, Inroads to Opportunities, formerly the Occupational Center of Union County, has provided programs and services to over 400 individuals each year with all types of disabilities and ranging in age from 16 through retirement. Programs and services include vocational preparation, transition from school to work, job placement and mental health services.

Below are some highlights of Michele's recent interviews:

NJBIZ CONVERSATIONS:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/1h3qXoKBqamJOExQ1Qs1gog9DF3VCzZbasaAA9Ow8sdb7AgXCuusQMt8hF85NGTjd2qtbStNmkB0okxe.ZBr-bRyYFUPyIVri>

OUR CITY: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsuQUgDpX9E>