



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:**

Gina Gowin  
Vice President, Alphapointe  
816.237.2025  
ggowin@alphapointe.org

**Alphapointe Earns 2015 Employment Growth Award  
From National Industries for the Blind**

*Award Honors Success in Sustaining and Increasing Employment  
For People Who Are Blind*

**September 19, 2016, Kansas City, MO** ~ Alphapointe was honored by National Industries for the Blind (NIB), the nation's largest employment resource for people who are blind, with the 2015 Employment Growth Award. The award recognizes Alphapointe's outstanding efforts to maintain and grow employment opportunities and economic independence for people who are blind.

"We are proud to provide aspirational career opportunities for people who are blind in Missouri, New York and in other areas across the country," said Reinhard Mabry, President & CEO. "This is the second year in a row that Alphapointe has won this national award, and we are very proud to receive this honor. Our associates are talented and dedicated professionals, and we are delighted that they are being recognized as an example of the capabilities of people who are blind."

Employment Growth Award recipients receive a cash payment from a fund created to recognize and encourage NIB associated nonprofit agencies that grow or sustain employment for people who are blind. Emphasis is also placed on efforts to increase upward mobility in the workplace and job placements. Alphapointe had the largest increase in work provided to people who are blind in the nation: an increase of over 200,000 labor hours in the past year.

“It is an honor for me to recognize Alphapointe with the 2015 Employment Growth Award,” said Kevin Lynch, president and CEO of NIB. “Alphapointe continues to lead the way in creating employment and high-growth career opportunities for people who are blind.”

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### **About Alphapointe**

Alphapointe, headquartered in Kansas City, MO has been empowering people with vision loss to achieve their goals and aspirations since its founding in 1911. Alphapointe, one of the largest employers of people who are blind in the U.S., with manufacturing facilities in both the State of Missouri and the State of New York, has nearly 400 employees, of which 220 are blind or visually impaired. Alphapointe is one of the region’s largest resources for people with vision loss, offering products and services nationwide. Alphapointe’s business lines include plastics, micro-molding, office products manufacturing and sales, textiles manufacturing and sales, janitorial products, contact center services, retail stores and a comprehensive rehabilitation and education program for people who are blind or are losing their vision. For more info about Alphapointe, visit [www.alphapointe.org](http://www.alphapointe.org).

### **About National Industries for the Blind**

For more than 75 years, National Industries for the Blind (NIB) has focused on enhancing the opportunities for economic and personal independence of people who are blind, primarily through creating, sustaining and improving employment. NIB and its nationwide network of 94 associated nonprofit agencies serve as the largest employer for people who are blind by the sale of SKILCRAFT® and other products and services through the AbilityOne® Program, established by the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act. For more information about NIB, visit [www.nib.org](http://www.nib.org).