The winner of the Cornerstone Award for Developing Others: Rick Axtell, Building Care. Nominated by Steve Devlen.

For the past 8 months – Rick Axtell has given direct support and mentoring to an acting manager who was stepping into a management position. He has shared his institutional knowledge and experience with this acting manager and has provided guidance as needed. Rick is careful not to overshadow the manager, he allows him to grow into the position and make his own decisions.

Rick’s patience and ability to build skills and awareness among others is also evident in his current supervising of a TST BOCES student several days a week. Rick works hard to provide a learning opportunity for him. He reinforces expectations regarding positive attitude, work ethics, and workplace behavior in addition to technical skills. He also helps raise diversity awareness and acceptance among his regular full time employees. His leadership and mentoring ability has been instrumental to making this experience successful for all.

Rick has been an integral member of the campus community for 28 years. He is an outstanding manager, most recently with Building Care Student and Academic Services Zone. He is respected by his colleagues within Building Care and also within other departments across the University.

Rick holds himself to the highest standards and helps his staff achieve high level results as well. He is a mentor for his Lead and Custodial staff – ensuring that they have the necessary knowledge and information to succeed on a daily basis. He promotes learning opportunities for continued growth for all of his employees.

Rick has such a positive attitude and outlook on life. He has an infectious laugh that brightens everyone’s day. He can be counted on to keep morale at a high level. Even during challenging moments – Rick seeks to find the bright spot. He refuses to speak negatively about or towards others. He is respectful and honest. Rick epitomizes the Cornerstone qualities and characteristics and Cindy and Steve say they are privileged to work with him!

Congratulations and thank you Rick Axtell!!