

Valued Relationships Inc. (VRI)

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At Valued Relationships Inc., employees have plenty of room for advancement.

In fact, many of the managers at the West Carrollton-based home care monitoring solutions company, also known as VRI to its customers, started in the company's call center and rose through the ranks.

"People advance throughout the company by just doing a really great job and moving up," said Chris Hendriksen, co-president of VRI. "It can be as fast or as slow as that person develops; we're very focused on giving more responsibility and more opportunity if someone is doing a great job."

Career opportunity was just one of the reasons the employees at VRI said it was a great place to work, giving it one of the Best Places to Work honors for 2010.

VRI provides device-based medical alert systems, medication monitoring and vital sign

monitoring. The company was founded in Cincinnati in 1989 and relocated several times before settling in West Carrollton in 2006. It has about 100 employees.

Hendriksen said VRI is growing fast, it provides a challenging and exciting environment. In addition, the company pays 100 percent of employee health care costs and provides an annual bonus program.

The job itself focuses on helping people and Hendriksen said management empowers workers to make decisions when it comes to fixing customer issues.

"It's a culture of helping people and doing the right thing, no matter what," he said. "At the end of the day, most of our folks can say I helped save somebody's life or today I helped someone take care of their 85-year-old mother; there's a lot of those moments that are very rewarding."

While the business of home health care monitoring is serious stuff, management works to relieve employee stress by having some fun. That could mean anything from an ice cream sundae party to a company trip to Kings Island.

Hendriksen said it's all part of a philosophy that happy employees lead to happy customers.

"I wouldn't work any place where I didn't get a lot of fulfillment and enjoy my job, so I think it's our job to make sure there's that environment for our employees," he said.

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