

## August 7, 2008 - Murtha Praises the Manufacturing Capabilities of the Cambria Association for the Blind and Handicapped

JOHNSTOWN, PA -- Congressman John P. Murtha, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, visited the Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped (CCABH) today to discuss their successful manufacturing capabilities with employees and staff.

"I'm impressed with the work performed at the Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped," said Murtha. "Their employees are both talented and dedicated, and the product they are producing is further proof that those with disabilities perform at levels that meet or exceed others in the industry."

The Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped has three areas of manufacturing: hooks and hangers for above and below ground mining, sewing, and food service kits. Today over 1,000 mines in over 15 countries around the world depend on CCABH cable hangers and mine safety products, including the Quecreek coal mine in Somerset County.

The Association also is a certified preferred supplier for The Boeing Company, where their insulation blankets are produced for the nose of the Boeing C-17 cargo aircraft. They also produce skull caps and head harnesses for gas masks, head straps for night vision goggles, strap assemblies and cot covers for state and federal agencies. Their food service kits consist of various customized condiments and flatware manufactured for hospitals and institutions throughout the country.

The Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped has facilities in both Johnstown and Ebensburg with more than 142,000 square feet of manufacturing and office space. They currently employ 350 people with severe disabilities and offer service programs, including employment training, rehabilitation, recreation and blindness prevention to hundreds of people living throughout Cambria County.

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