



2010 Judd Jacobson Memorial Award Recipient

**Lynn Lehman,
Minneapolis**

**Barber/Owner, Clipper Cuts
2062 West Broadway,
Minneapolis**

Disability can happen to any one, at any time. Lynn Lehman of Minneapolis knows this from personal experience.

In April 1995, Lehman, was a busy single mom, a barber and owner of Clipper Cuts in North Minneapolis. One night, while driving on 35W to her mother's house to pick up her kids, the van in front of Lehman swerved to avoid a car driving the wrong way. Lehman's car was hit head-on by a drunk driver and then rear-ended by several other cars forced into a sudden stop by the crash.

The crash left Lehman with closed head trauma, multiple crushed and broken bones, and in a coma for five months. She woke from her coma to face the hard work of rehabilitation. Lehman spent almost a year learning to walk and talk again, and regaining use of her left arm and hand. Then, she wanted to find out if she could return to work as a barber. Lynn apprenticed with another barber for several months, until she felt ready to return to her shop. Today, Lehman wears braces on both legs and walks with a cane and has difficulty remembering day-to-day events and appointments. Despite her challenges, Lehman is committed to making her business a success and her shop a safe gathering place for the North Minneapolis community.

"The \$5,000 from the Jacobson Award will allow me to replace and update three barber chairs and sinks, and improve lighting and signage," Lehman said. She also plans to purchase hair care products she can sell in her shop. "I want to make this a safe place where people come for all their hair care needs. And, a little love besides," said Lehman.

"Lynn is a fighter: she fought to come out of her coma, she fought through her rehabilitation, and she is fighting for her business. Lynn is an amazing woman who deserves to be recognized for her amazing achievement," said her nominator.