

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2019 Conference	1
Keynote Spotlight	1
CMS	2
Project SEARCH	3
AL-APSE	4

### *AL-APSE CONFERENCE*

**JULY 10—12  
EMPLOYMENT—  
IT TAKES A VILLAGE!!**



The 2019 Alabama APSE Conference will be held July 10—12, 2019 in Montgomery at the Renaissance Hotel & Spa. Conference information, including registration, hotel, awards, etc. can be found at the Alabama APSE website: [www.al-apse.org](http://www.al-apse.org)  
Email [alabamaapse@aol.com](mailto:alabamaapse@aol.com)

### 2019 Featured Speaker

#### Denise Bissonnette



For those who support others to prepare for, enter, re-enter, and retain or change jobs within “the world of work”, Denise Bissonnette is a beacon, a compass, a teacher, a mentor, and a colleague. She passionately inspires individuals to look beyond traditional notions of career & job development and, instead, help craft livelihoods that are rooted in the individual genius of each person. With a unique ability to bring people to the “heart” of their work, Denise opens up new insights about ourselves and the people we serve.

Denise has authored several outstanding publications on subjects that include creative job development, state of the art job search techniques, the cultivation of the human spirit, and how to “shine” on the job. Throughout North America, thousands of human services professionals are regularly challenged, inspired and affirmed through installments of her True Livelihood newsletter.



Thanks Beth for your service as Co-President!  
Best Wishes in all your future endeavors!!

## 2019 Conference Scheduled Schedule

July 10

1:00 Welcome &amp; Opening Session

3:00 Keynote: Denise Bissonnette

July 11

8:00 Opening Session Denise Bissonnette

9:45 - 4:30 Breakout Sessions

6:00 - Until: Awards and Fun

July 12

8:30: Opening Session

10:30 Closing Session

# AL-APSE 2019 Register Now

Don't miss out on early bird registration discount. Click on link below:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=eq8in9eab&oeidk=a07efrm6rlkd8ff4ba4>

**\$220.00 - Members**

**\$250.00 Non-Members**



## Alabama Preparing for 2022 HCBS Compliance

The HCBS Settings Requirements Final Rule is meant to ensure that Medicaid's home and community-based services programs in residential and non-residential

settings provide full access to the benefits of community living and offer services in the most integrated settings.

In this final rule, CMS is moving away from defining home and community-based settings by “what they are not,” and toward defining them by the nature and quality of individuals’ experiences. The home and community-based setting provisions in this final rule establish a more outcome-oriented definition of home and community-based settings, rather than one based solely on a setting’s location, geography, or physical characteristics. The changes related to clarification of home and community-based settings will maximize the opportunities for participants in HCBS programs to have access to the benefits of community living and to receive services in the most integrated setting and will effectuate the law’s intention for Medicaid HCBS to provide alternatives to services provided in institutions.

### The rule applies to all settings that receive HCBS funding and requires that each setting:

1. is integrated in the greater community;
2. supports the individual’s full access to the greater community, including opportunities to **seek employment, work in competitive integrated settings**, engage in community life, control personal resources, and receive services in the community;
3. is selected by the individual from among different setting options, including non-disability specific options and an option for a private unit in a residential setting;
4. ensures an individual’s rights to privacy, dignity, respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint;
5. optimizes individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices, including in daily activities, physical environment, and personal associations; and
6. facilitates individual choice regarding services and supports and who provides them.

The requirements are designed to ensure that people with disabilities living in the community have access to the same kind of choice and control over their own lives as those not receiving Medicaid HCBS funding.



**Project SEARCH** in Alabama has expanded to 13 sites across the state with new sites starting in the fall. In 2018, more than 75% of the participants obtained employment. Nationally, Project SEARCH has expanded to more than 600 programs in 46 states.

Project SEARCH helps to address the critical unemployment rate of people with developmental disabilities, with recent National Core Indicators (2017) reporting that almost 80% do not have paid jobs in their communities. The data from the Institute for Community Inclusion -

Boston (2015 - 2016) revealed that only 19% of working age adults supported by state Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities agencies were employed in the community. Only 14% worked in individual competitive integrated jobs.

The Alabama state team recently hosted a Project SEARCH mini conference in two sites. National liaison Paula Johnson was the featured trainer at the events. Several individuals and programs were recognized for outstanding work and outcomes. This year's award winners included: Baptist Hospital South Montgomery (Montgomery County Schools) as well as their business liaisons, Kay Bennett and Judy Redden, Shelby Baptist Hospital in Alabaster (Shelby County Schools), Providence Hospital in Mobile (Mobile County Schools), Huntsville Hospital (Huntsville City Schools), Gadsden Regional Medical Center (Etowah Project SEARCH), and Ann Kennamer, Marshall County Schools. Congratulations Winners!!!



**Project SEARCH Huntsville**



**Project SEARCH Marshall County**



**Alabama APSE needs you to submit nominations for this years awards. Winners will be recognized in several categories. You can submit your nomination(s) online at**

<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eg0sr6zfqxxmhcl/start>

**Awards will be presented during the banquet on Thursday evening, July 11th.**



## **Happy Retirement!!!**

Alabama APSE congratulates our friend and colleague Myra Jones-Banks on her recent retirement from the Alabama Council on Developmental Disabilities. Under Myra's leadership, ACDD partnered with Alabama APSE to introduce Employment First to our state, support customized employment initiatives and provided seed money for the Alabama Project SEARCH initiative. Also, ACDD partnered with Alabama APSE for several years to co-sponsor the annual conference. Good luck Myra and enjoy your retirement!!





Don't miss this year's conference because you'll miss an opportunity to strengthen friendships, network with others and learn something new about your co-workers, all while growing personally and professionally!!!

*2014 Conference with memories and fun from the first ever womanless wedding*

a



Alabama APSE celebrated 20 years as state chapter at last year's conference in Birmingham. Former board members were invited back to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Those former members included: Cindy Phillips, Wendy Dean, Latricia Mitchell, Brenda McComb, Tim

Green, Jessie Chestnut, John Payne, Randy Phillips, Stacey Miller, and Sherri Trulove. More than 325 individuals attended the event. Alabama APSE hopes to bring everyone back for the next milestone celebration!!!!