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ALABAMA DISABILITIES ADVOCACY PROGRAM
June 22, 2015

The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) is part of the nation's federally-funded protection and advocacy (P&A) system. ADAP provides legal services to Alabamians with disabilities to protect, promote and expand their rights. ADAP's vision is one of a society in which persons with disabilities are valued and exercise self-determination through meaningful choices, and have equality of opportunity. ADAP is part of the [National Disability Rights Network \(NDRN\)](#).

Find us on the Web
www.adap.net

Integrated Employment: Next Advocacy Bridge to Cross

[Governing Magazine](#) recently reported on successes and challenges experienced by states as they seek to move persons with disabilities into **integrated employment**. To read the article, click [here](#).

One of ADAP's priority issues is to ensure that individuals with disabilities have meaningful access to integrated employment and are paid at least minimum wage. We have a long way to go: as of 2013, only Hawaii (2%) had a lower rate of state Intellectual Disability (ID) clients working in integrated settings than **Alabama** (4%).

ADAP has [resources](#) that can help you understand your rights to employment supports. [Contact us](#) if you have questions about an employment issue.

More on Employment

The [Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law](#) has published three new fact sheets on supported employment for persons with serious mental illness.

1. [Supported Employment Works!](#) - highlighting the effectiveness of the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model of supported employment
2. [Supported Employment Saves Money](#) - summarizing funding mechanisms for supported employment services

3. [Supported Employment and Olmstead](#) - explaining how expanding access to supported employment services helps states comply with the ADA and the *Olmstead* decision

What's Happening in Montgomery and Washington D.C.?

Check out ADAP's [summary](#) of state and federal legislation important to persons with disabilities, including state budget news and new statutes related to Medicaid, self-determination, education and juvenile justice.

Reflections on Alabama's ADA Legacy Stop

The 25th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was celebrated on May 19 and 21 with public awareness events in Birmingham and Montgomery. To view photos of the event go to [ADAP Facebook page](#), under Photo albums.



Angie Allen, ADAP Case Advocate, attended the Birmingham event and had this to say: “When I became disabled at age twenty six, the ADA had not been created, so I had no legal rights to enforce if I had a problem with an employer or with a business that had no access for wheelchairs. Now there is, thanks to the ADA. This day has been a great reminder of where we have come from and for a hope that there can be fuller implementation of the law in the future.”

ADAP Is Recruiting Members for its Advisory Councils

Are you committed to supporting the legal rights of persons with developmental disabilities (DD) or persons with mental illness (MI)? Do you support the self-determination, independence, productivity, and full inclusion of people with disabilities in all facets of community life?

If so, apply to be a member of ADAP's DD or MI advisory council. We especially encourage individuals with DD or MI - or their family members - to apply to be council members.

For more information about ADAP's advisory councils, click [here](#). Access a paper copy of the DD application [here](#) and the MI application [here](#). You can complete an application online [here](#). For more information or for help with filling out an application, contact ADAP.

Alabama Family Ties Recruiting Board and Community Advisory Committee

Make children's mental health a priority in Alabama! Volunteer today to serve on the Board of

Directors or Advisory Committee of Alabama Family Ties, Inc. (AFT).

AFT is a statewide nonprofit organization that supports families of youth who have been (or who are at risk of being) diagnosed with an emotional or behavioral disorder. It supports families by connecting them with other families and by providing training and advocacy help. AFT also supports Alabama Youth M.O.V.E. (AYM), a youth-led organization devoted to improving services and systems that support positive youth growth and development.

Learn [more](#) about AFT and the duties of its Board and Advisory Committee members. Download your application [here](#). For more information, contact AFT Board President Lisa King at (334) 327-6782 or via email at jmlaking@bellsouth.net.



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