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# **Conference Notes**

- Dress is casual attire.
- Your name tag must be worn at all events.
- Don't forget to complete the conference evaluation form at the conclusion of the conference.
- Questions? See Scott Farmer, AARC Conference Chair or Sharon Darrington, AARC Administrator.
- Keep your blue door prize ticket with you -door prizes will be given away at General Sessions, Tuesday Luncheon and Closing Lunch
- Two red drink tickets for the opening reception are included in your registration fee.

# **Sunday October 13**

9:00 am - 3:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Setup  Ballroom 1	
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Registration	
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Opening Session Keynote Speaker: Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth  Ballroom 2, 3 & 4	
6:15 pm - 7:30 pm	Opening Reception Sponsored by GA Food Services Ballroom 1	
7:30 pm	Evening on your own	

# **Monday October 14**



7:30 am -	Registration			80/b 8/1/2°	
12:00 pm	Registration				
7:30 am - 8:45 am	<b>Breakfast with Exhibitors</b> Sponsored by Alabama Association of RC&D Councils & PowerSouth Energy Cooperative Ballroom 1				
9:00 am - 10:15 am	<b>General Session: Keynote Speakers:</b> Congressman Robert Aderholt, Joe McKinney (NADO), Autumn Campbell (N4A) Ballroom 2,3 & 4				
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by Alabama Association of RC&D Councils  Ballroom 1				
Breakout Sessions	Towns & Counties/ Community & Economic Development (Live Oak 1 & 2)	Professional Development (Ballroom 2)	Aging (Ballroom 3)	Title V (Live Oak 3)	
10:30 am - 11:45 am	"Healthy" Communities: Creating & Sustaining Environments for Health Care Delivery Moderator: Bevin Tomlin; Speakers: Carolyn Bern & Nisa Miranda	Employment Law: Do's and Don'ts Scott Hetrick, Adams & Reese LLP	Opening Remarks Jean Brown, Commissioner ADSS  Live From DC: A Federal Aging Policy Update Autumn Campbell, N4A	Advancing The Case for Our Nation's Older Workers Gary Officer, CEO SSAI	
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch on your own				
1:45 pm - 3:00 pm	"Healthy" Communities: Creating & Sustaining Environments for Health Care Delivery (continued) Moderator: Bevin Tomlin; Speakers: Carolyn Bern, Jeff Brannon, Vanessa Hall, Nisa Miranda, Mayor Ken Sunseri	Management and Supervision for New Supervisors Rachel M. Godwin, Hartmann, Blackmon & Kilgore, P.C.	Effective Advocacy Strategies in Uncertain Policy Times Autumn Campbell, N4A	Performance Measures Strategies Janet Ray, SSAI Scott Stabler, ADSS	
3:00 pm	Afternoon on your own				

Check the website, www.alarc.org, for updates and upcoming conference dates

# **Tuesday October 15**

7:30 am - 8:45 am	Breakfast with Exhibitors Sponsored by TVA Ballroom 1						
8:00 am - 3:30 pm	Registration						
9:00 am - 10:15 am	General Session: Keynote Speaker: Dr. Malcolm Portera  Ballroom 2, 3 & 4						
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by Alabama Association of RC&D Councils  Ballroom 1						
Breakout Sessions				Il Development / Ballroom 2)		Title V (Live Oak 3)	
10:30 am - 11:45 am	State & Local Economic Incentives for Recruitment & Retention Chris Grissom, Bradley; Angela Till, Alabama Dept. of Commerce		Motivational Interviewing Allison Everett, Alabama Select Network		Alabama Career Center Resources and Partnerships Laura Bethea, Alabama Career Center		
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	<b>Awards Luncheon</b> Sponsored by the Alabama Association of Regional Councils Ballroom 2,3 & 4						
Breakout Sessions continued	Towns & Counties (Live Oak 1 & 2)	Professional Development (Ballroom 2)		Aging (Ballroom	3)	Title V (Live Oak 3)	
1:45 pm - 3:00 pm	ADEM State Revolving Fund Program Kris Berry, ADEM	Social Media Policy for Employees Dr. Valerie James, Visionspot Consulting Group, LLC		Preparing for the survey to maintain NCQA accreditation Tim McNeill		Employer Partnerships with Community Mental Health Agencies and How Mental Illness Impacts Work Performance Shelia Baker & Deanna Thompson, M4A	
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm	Contracting Resources & Assistance / Basics of Cybersecurity Requirements Jerry Ellison, Alabama Procurement Technical Assistance Center; Glenda R. Snodgrass, The Net Effect, LLC	Social Media Policy for Employees (continued) Dr. Valerie James, Visionspot Consulting Group, LLC		Preparing for the survey to maintain NCQA accreditation Tim McNeill		Anything Goes! Sharing and Brainstorming Janet Ray, SSAI & Scott Stabler, ADSS	
4:45 pm	Evening on your own			1		1	



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# **Wednesday October 16**



7:45 am - 10:30 am	Registration			
7:00 am - 8:00 am	Breakfast Sponsored by PeerPlace Networks LLC Ballroom 1			
Breakout Sessions	Towns & Counties, Community & Economic Development (Live Oak 1 & 2)	Professional Development (Ballroom 2)	Aging (Ballroom 3)	
8:15 am - 9:15 am	Rural Economic Development Brenda Tuck, Alabama Department of Commerce	Medicaid Waiver Team Lead Quarterly Meeting Jean Stone, ADSS	A4A Meetings	
9:30 am - 10:30 am	<b>Census 2020</b> Kenneth Boswell, ADECA	Medicaid Waiver Team Lead Quarterly Meeting Jean Stone, ADSS	A4A Meetings	
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Checkout Break			
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Legislative Luncheon: Keynote Speakers:</b> Senator Greg Albritton & Representative Randall Shedd <i>Sponsored by Alabama Power</i> <i>Ballroom 2,3 &amp; 4</i>			

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## ALABAMA ASSOCIATION

## 1. Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

P.O. Box 2603 Muscle Shoals, AL 35662-2603

Phone: (256) 389-0500 Fax: (256) 389-0599 Website: www.nacolg.org Director: **Keith Jones** kjones@nacolg.org

## 2. West Alabama Regional Commission

P.O. Box 509 Northport, AL 35476

Phone: (205) 333-2990 Fax: (205) 333-2713 Website: www.warc.info Director: **Dennis Stripling** dennis.stripling@westal.org

#### 3. Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

2 Twentieth Street N., Suite 1200 Birmingham, AL 35203

Phone: (205) 251-8139 Fax: (205) 328-3304 Website: www.rpcgb.org Director: **Charles Ball** cball@rpcgb.org

#### 4. East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission

P.O. Box 2186 Anniston, AL 36202-2186

Phone: (256) 237-6741 Fax: (256) 237-6763 Website: www.earpdc.org Director: **Lori Hodge Corley** lori.corley@earpdc.org

## 5. South Central Alabama Development Commission

5900 Carmichael Place Montgomery, AL 36117-2345

Phone: (334) 244-6903 Fax: (334) 271-2715 Website: www.scadc.net Director: **Tyson Howard** thoward@scadc.net

#### 6. Alabama-Tombigbee Regional Commission

107 Broad Street Camden, AL 36726-1701

Phone: (334) 682-4234 Fax: (334) 682-4205 Website: www.atrcregion6.org Director: **John Clyde Riggs** jcriggs50@gmail.com

# OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

5900 Carmichael Place Montgomery, AL 36117-2345

> Phone: (334) 277-2221 Fax: (334) 277-3899 Website: www.alarc.org

**AARC Administrator: Sharon Darrington** 



#### 7. Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission

P.O. Box 1406 Dothan, AL 36302-1406

Phone: (334) 794-4093 Fax: (334) 794-3288 Website: www.searpdc.org Director: **Scott Farmer** sfarmer@searpdc.org

## 8. South Alabama Regional Planning Commission

P.O. Box 1665 Mobile, AL 36633-1665

Phone: (251) 433-6541 Fax: (251) 433-6009 Website: www.sarpc.org

Director: John F. (Rickey) Rhodes

rrhodes@sarpc.org

#### 9. Central Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission

430 South Court Street Montgomery, AL 36104

Phone: (334) 262-4300 Fax: (334) 262-6976 Website: www.carpdc.com Director: **Greg Clark** gclark@carpdc.com

## 10. Lee-Russell Council of Governments

2207 Gateway Drive Opelika, AL 36801-6834

Phone: (334) 749-5264 Fax: (334) 749-6582 Website: www.lrcog.com Director: **Lisa Sandt** lsandt@lrcog.com

#### 11. North-Central Alabama Regional Council of Governments

P. O. Box C Decatur, AL 35602

Phone: (256) 355-4515 Fax: (256) 351-1380 Website: www.narcog.org Director: **Jeff Pruitt** jeffrey.pruitt@adss.alabama.gov

## 12. Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments

5075 Research Drive NW Huntsville, AL 35805

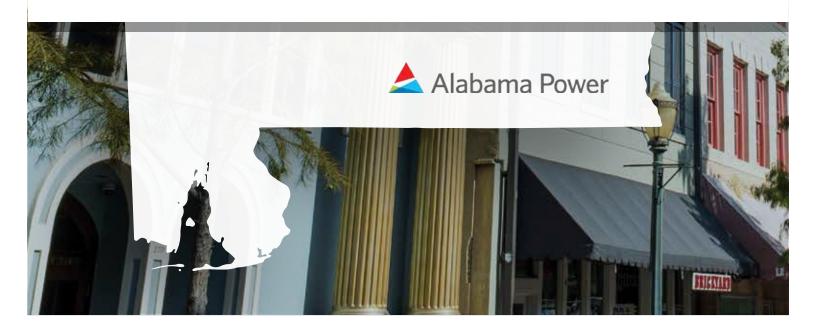
Phone: (256) 830-0818 Fax: (256) 830-0843 Website: www.tarcog.us

Director: Michelle Gilliam Jordan

michelle.jordan@tarcog.us



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# **Conference Speakers 2019**

## **Robert B. Aderholt**

On January 3, 2019, Congressman Robert B. Aderholt took the oath of office to serve his twelfth term representing Alabama's Fourth Congressional District.

Aderholt is a member of the powerful House Committee on Appropriations, which has jurisdiction over funding the operation of the federal government. He serves as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science and supports greater transparency, accountability and oversight to the appropriations process. Aderholt also serves as a member of the Agriculture and Rural Development Subcommittee and the Defense Subcommittee. An advocate of fiscal responsibility, truth in budgeting and a federal government that operates within its means, Aderholt tries to bring common-sense solutions to the Appropriations Committee.

Aderholt also serves as a commission member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (commonly known as the Helsinki Commission). Founded in 1976, the Helsinki Commission is comprised of 56 countries around the world that together monitors human rights in Europe and Central Asia.

A staunch supporter of his community, district and the state of Alabama, Aderholt believes the federal government serves a critical role in assisting state and local projects regarding economic development. He continues to support pro-growth initiatives that create jobs, strong immigration standards, and robust national security.

Prior to his election to Congress, Aderholt served as Assistant Legal Advisor to Governor Fob James as well as Municipal Judge for the city of Haleyville, Alabama. Educated through Alabama's public school system, Aderholt went on to receive his B.A. from Birmingham Southern College and his J.D. from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University.

Born on July 22, 1965, and raised in Alabama, Aderholt and his wife, Caroline, have their residence in Haleyville along with their daughter, Mary Elliott, and their son, Robert Hayes. When Congress is in session, his family joins him in Washington, D.C. area..

## **Will Ainsworth**

Will Ainsworth is a committed Christian, a father, a husband, and a small businessman from Marshall County.

Prior to entering public service, the Boaz native worked as a youth pastor at Albertville's Grace Fellowship Church, where he taught young people how to have a committed relationship with Christ. He was a co-founder of Dream Ranch, one of the most recognized hunting and fishing lodges in the United States, and also operated the annual Tennessee Valley Hunting and Fishing Expo, which draws more than 20,000 attendees each year.

In 2014, Ainsworth felt the call to serve his community through elected office and won a seat in the Alabama House of Representatives against a veteran lawmaker who was staging a political comeback. As a state representative, Ainsworth championed issues that included school safety and security, term limits and recall measures, farming and agriculture, and others. He was among the first lawmakers to call for former Gov. Robert Bentley's removal from office and was one of the original signers of Articles of Impeachment against him.

Keeping a self-imposed legislative term limit promise, Ainsworth chose to seek the lieutenant governor's office rather than running for another term in the Alabama House. Campaigning statewide on a platform of job creation through workforce development, public school improvements, and protecting traditional values, he received the most votes of any candidate for constitutional office on the 2018 general election ballot.

His father, Billy, is the founder of Progress Rail, a locomotive and rail car manufacturer that was responsible for the famous 4141 train engine that recently carried former President George H.W. Bush to his final resting place. Ainsworth's mother, Sharon, is a respected pro-life activist and serves as director of the Real Life Crisis Pregnancy Center in Arab.

Ainsworth and his wife, Kendall, a former Pre-K public school teacher, met while students at Auburn University, and they have three children - twin boys, Hunter and Hays, and a daughter, Addie. They attend Gilliam Springs Baptist Church in Arab, Alabama.

#### **Sheila Baker**

Sheila Baker is the SCSEP Project Director for Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging.

#### **Laura Bethea**

Laura Bethea, from Mobile, AL. Started with the Workforce under JTPA in 1990. Due to legislative changes through the years, the Skill Centers were merged with the two year colleges then to the Department of Labor. I served in the financial office, to Training Coordinator to Assistant Area Manager, in which at one time I covered half the State of Alabama. I recently was promoted to Area Manager to cover Region 7. Region 7, WIOA funds are operated through Southwest Alabama Partnership for Training and Employment (SWAPTE).

## Carolyn Bern, MPA

Governmental Affairs and Community Relations, Director Alabama Department of Public Health

In August 2019, Carolyn was appointed Director of Governmental Relations and Community Affairs for the Alabama Department of Public Health. Prior to this appointment, Carolyn established the ADPH Office of Community Affairs in August 2016 to focus on healthcare transformation and evolving roles of public health in regional care organizations and other population-focused healthcare initiatives. Carolyn also served as the Office of Primary Care and National Health Service Corps Coordinator as well as the coordinator of the statewide 2015 Community Health Improvement Plan addressing the top three public health care concerns of Alabama stakeholders: Access to Care, Physical Activity and Nutrition, and Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

Carolyn continues to focus on collaboration across and within various levels of government, communities, and non-profit organizations to improve access to primary care, mental health, and dental health care services in health professional shortage areas across Alabama and promote wellness and prevention.

Prior to joining the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health, Carolyn directed several early care and health projects including the Birth to Five Initiative, the Kids and Kin Initiative, the Immunize by Two Campaign, and Healthy Child Care Alabama. Carolyn created the Voluntary Certification Program for the Kids and Kin Initiative which was named by ABT and Associates as one of 150 National Innovative Initiatives funded by states. She created the Brain Train educational outreach curriculum as well as organized the Governor's Conference on Success in the Early Years and the Governor's Conference on Early Learning.

Carolyn graduated from Vanderbilt University with a BA in Economics and has a Master's degree in Public Administration from Auburn University Montgomery. Carolyn currently serves on the boards of the Alabama Rural Health Association, the Statewide AHEC Advisory Committee, the Alabama Public Health Association, the Southeast Alabama AHEC, and is a former member of the 3RNet National Membership Committee. She was recently appointed to the Governor's Executive Team for the Alabama Campaign for Grade-Level Reading.

Awards include the UAB Civitan International Unsung Hero Award and the Alabama Communities of Excellence Volunteer of the Year Award. Carolyn has presented at many national conferences including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Carolyn is married to Dr. Jeffrey Bern of Montgomery and they have two children, two adorable grandsons, and recently adopted a "rambunctious" rescue from the Montgomery Humane Shelter.

## Kris Berry, ADEM

Kris Berry is a 2011 graduate of Auburn University with a Bachelors in Biosystems Engineering. He currently resides in Auburn with his wife & two little boys (ages 4 and 2). Currently, Kris serves as the Chief of the State Revolving Fund Section with ADEM where they provide towns and authorities with water & wastewater infrastructure financing.

## **Jeffrey M. Brannon**

I am a lifelong resident of Hartford, Alabama and a 1976 graduate of Geneva County High School. I attended Troy University, Dothan / Fort Rucker campuses receiving a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1981. I received my Associate Degree in Nursing in 1985 (Registered Nurse) from Wallace Community College and was the Colleges inaugural Alumnus of the Year in 2011.

I worked in banking from 1976 to 1983 when I began a career in healthcare as an orderly at Flowers Hospital in Dothan, Alabama while attending Wallace Community College Associate Degree Nursing (RN) program. I completed the ADN program in February 1985 and worked as a staff nurse in the Medical Intensive Care Unit from that time until January 1986 when I transferred to CVICU (Post — Op Open Heart Unit). I became the Nurse Manager of CVICU in March 1986 and served in that capacity until being promoted to an Administrative position as Vice President of Clinical Services and remained a vital part of the executive leadership team at Flowers until April 2002 when I became the Chief Executive Officer of Medical Center Enterprise in Enterprise, Alabama. I served in the CEO of Medical Center Enterprise until February 2013. I served as CEO of Monroe County Hospital, Monroeville, Alabama from October 2013 until July 2017. I am the CEO of Wiregrass Medical Center in Geneva, Alabama since August 2017 until present.

I have served in various leadership roles at the State and local level during my career as follows: Chairman of Alabama Hospital Association Board of Trustees – 2010 to 2011 and I am currently serving as a Member at Large on the Board. I serve on the Wiregrass United Way Board and is an active member of Hartford Baptist Church.

I am married to Nina Mitchell Brannon for 35 years and we have three daughters, Tina, Jennifer and Mindy. We have 7 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

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# **Conference Speakers 2019** continued

## Kenneth W. Boswell

Community development and economic development are a strong focus of Kenneth W. Boswell's career in public service.

In May 2017, Governor Kay Ivey appointed Boswell as director of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and asked him to put the skills and knowledge he cultivated at the local level to work in her administration's mission to move Alabama forward.

As ADECA Director, Boswell serves in the Governor's Cabinet, oversees a staff of 167 and manages an annual budget of more than \$165 million. ADECA awards hundreds of grants each year to city and county governments and nonprofit organizations throughout Alabama.

Boswell was serving his fourth full term as mayor of Enterprise when he was selected to lead ADECA. Prior to becoming mayor in 2003, he served as a member of the Enterprise City Council, having been elected to that post in 2000.

During his 14 years as Enterprise mayor, Boswell worked hard to build on the Wiregrass city's solid foundation of growth and prosperity, earning a positive reputation as one of Alabama's most aggressive mayors. The city saw steady growth during Boswell's tenure with a strong focus on economic development.

## **Autumn Campbell**

Autumn Campbell is the Senior Director, Public Policy and Advocacy at n4a. In this role, Autumn leads many and supports all of the association's public policy and advocacy efforts. Autumn brings a broad portfolio of experience to the position and has worked for nearly 15 years for DC-based associations and nonprofits.

Most recently, Autumn served as the Director of Community Programs at the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC). At NARC, she led the organization's community and economic development program, managing priorities for NARC's member metropolitan and rural planning organizations, which include many Area Agencies on Aging. Autumn has experience in transportation, workforce development, rural development, housing, and community and social services policies and federal programs. She has also worked both for Congress and as a reporter for the Capitol Hill-based publication Roll Call, where she gained an extensive understanding of the legislative process.

## Jerry Ellison

Jerry Ellison is the Program Manager for the Alabama Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), a position he has held since 2012. The PTAC program, based at The University of Alabama, works statewide to provide technical assistance to small businesses in Alabama on government contracting opportunities. Jerry, a retired lieutenant colonel. spent twenty-five years in the Alabama Army National Guard. He served twenty-two years on active duty with the Guard in the active guard reserve (AGR) program. In 1988, Jerry was selected as the "Most Outstanding Company Grade Officer" in the Alabama Army National Guard from approximately 1,100 company grade officers. He led the Alabama National Guard Recruiting and Retention Command to achievement of its annual recruiting goal in 2001, an achievement not since accomplished by his successors. Upon retirement in 2004, Jerry was awarded the Legion of Merit, an honor rarely bestowed upon officers below the rank of full Colonel. In 2004, Jerry went to work for MTCI, a government contractor in Virginia. He started as a business developer and was soon promoted to Vice President, Business Development and later Vice President, Southeastern Region. In 2007, Jerry was awarded "Vice President of the Year." During his four years with MTCI, Jerry secured over \$16M in government contracts. He also managed the contracts he won and upon his departure from MTCl in 2008, he was managing 75 personnel on 15 contracts in 9 different states. In 2008, Jerry started his own consulting business where he provided assistance to small businesses pursuing government contracts. Additionally, he led government contracting workshops providing instruction in multiple states on topics such as business development, contract management, and proposal development.

Jerry has a Master's degree in Teaching with a discipline in psychology and a Bachelor's degree in Resource Management, both from Troy University. He is married to the former Janet Hill and they have three children and five grandchildren.

## **Allison Everett**

Allison Everett is a Training Development Consultant with Alabama Select Network's Integrated Care Network (ICN). In previous roles, Allison was an educator

for Occupational Health Clinics across the US, and provided OSHA compliance training for a number of large organizations in heavy equipment, construction and general industry. Allison has worked in a variety of other healthcare roles including software development and patient surgical education. She has a BA in Journalism and Telecommunication Arts from a state University in Georgia that people in Alabama probably wouldn't care for. When she's not demanding the attention of large groups of people, she resides in Nashville, TN with her husband and dog, where they all try to avoid bachelorette parties.

## **Rachel Godwin**

Rachel Godwin is a Shareholder with Hartmann, Blackmon and Kilgore, PC in the Brewton, Alabama office. She joined the firm in 2001 and is currently serving as the Director of Audit and Attestation Services. She received her Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Masters of Accountancy from the University of West Florida. Rachel is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

She currently serves on the University of West Florida's Accounting Council. Rachel was recognized as a Bridging the Gap 2015 Winner through the Emerging Leader award, an award presented by Boomer Consulting, Inc. each year. Rachel has spent much of her career specializing in Governmental and Non-profit audit and accounting services as well as working with small business clients. As the chairperson of the firm's Technology Committee, she enjoys helping the firm develop innovative solutions to its technology needs. Rachel has a love for helping people and building relationships which resonates both within the firm and with her clients.

## **Chris Grissom**

Chris Grissom practices primarily in the areas of economic development, state and local tax planning and controversy work, and state and local tax and non-tax incentives. Through his tax controversy, planning and incentives work, he deals with a wide variety of industries including pulp and paper, software technology, automotive, telecommunications, and textile manufacturers. In the Economic Development Practice arena, Chris assists business clients in obtaining, negotiating, and documenting economic incentives for job creation and capital investment in Alabama and other states. He frequently works with local industrial development agencies and various state agencies, including departments of economic and community development, revenue, transportation, and environment in the development of effective tax incentives strategies for attracting businesses. Chris has represented Brose Tuscaloosa, North American Lighting, Hyundai Heavy Industries and POSCO AAPC in the location of their plants in Alabama. He also represents several automotive suppliers in Alabama on a variety of matters. Chris is an active member of the Economic Development Association of Alabama. He is on the Board of Directors for the Alabama Germany Partnership, the Japanese America Society of Alabama and on the Advisory Board for the North Alabama Industrial Development Association. Chris currently serves as Vice Chair for the firm's Economic Development Practice. Chris has also been a leading member of several overseas industrial recruiting delegations which served to be successful initiatives for Alabama's economic growth.

#### Vanessa Hall

Vanessa Hall is the Executive Director of the Southern Alabama Area Health Education Center (AHEC) in Brewton, Alabama. She is an Air Force veteran having served 15 years as an avionics technician, radiologic technologist, instructor/trainer, and manager. While serving, Vanessa achieved the rank of Master Sergeant (E-7) and was stationed in Mississippi, Japan (twice), California, Texas, and Florida. In 2002, she deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Southeast Asia. After her separation from the Air Force in 2013, she served as a Radiology Clinical Instructor at Gulf Coast State College in Panama City, Florida. Vanessa has a master's degree in Human Services Counseling and holds a national certification from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. She is a member of the Alabama Rural Health Association Board of Directors. Her work with AHEC has allowed her opportunities to work with health care professionals, clinics, hospitals, students, veterans as well other community-based organizations in the rural areas in Southern/Southwest Alabama.



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# **Conference Speakers 2019** continued

## **Scott Hetrick**

Scott Hetrick joined Adams and Reese in 2000 and is a management rights advocate who focuses on federal and state labor and employment law compliance and disputes arising from claims in this arena. He counsels employers in all aspects of labor and employment law to help avoid claims arising from day-to-day employment decisions, particularly terminations of employees and large-scale layoffs. Scott also assists in the drafting and revising of employment policies and procedures, employment applications, background check disclosure and consent agreements, employee handbooks and employment contracts, including non-compete agreements, trade secret agreements and arbitration agreements. Since 1994, Scott has defended hundreds of "charges of discrimination" filed against employers with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He has litigated numerous discrimination and retaliation lawsuits in federal and state courts, of which most were resolved by summary judgment and dismissal of all claims against the employer.

Scott has developed a practice focus in preparing affirmative action plans for U.S. government contractors and subcontractors and responding to compliance audits of those plans by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP). To date, he has prepared more than 200 affirmative action plans and defended against more than 15 OFCCP compliance audits. Scott is a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program, Inc. (VLP). In 2013, he will begin his term as President of the SAVLP. He formerly served as the organization's Treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee and Recruitment Committee. Scott speaks frequently on employment law and human resource management issues at seminars for personnel managers and business owners and has published several articles on employment law topics.

## Dr. Valerie D. W. James

Clients, peers, former administration, and staff have called Dr. Valerie D. W. James the architect of accelerated learning, leadership, and operational efficiency strategist for companies, and professionals whose aim is to take their careers, teams and organizations higher. She is the Founder of VisionSpot Consulting Group, LLC, home of the SMB School of Leadership BOOST CAMP®. A business management firm with a national reach. She is a Harvard trained leader and author of four works: three books on leadership and one on professional development. Dr. Valerie has been studying, assessing, and researching organizational management and leadership practices since 1994. She spent over two decades leading sales, service and human resources teams and her tenure includes nine years at middle management and seven years of executive-level leadership in human resources and administration management.

Her aptitude for leadership effectiveness, talent development, and process improvement strategies help expand the knowledge, growth, and engagement of employees at all levels. Dr. Valerie's advice is highly sought-after by current and future leaders, as well as C-level executives. She has studied leadership abroad and holds a doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership from Pepperdine University.

Dr. Valerie has received numerous leadership and service awards for streamlining processes, building continuity between leaders and their teams, and increasing customer and employee retention levels well into the 80th percentile, along with accolades for designing and launching leadership and organizational learning and training centers across the globe. As part of her advocacy for community enrichment Dr. Valerie serves on several non-profit boards in her City. She is featured in Who's Who in Black Los Angeles and most recently her company received the 2018 Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce Business Eagle Award and the 2019 March Business of the Month award.

## Joe McKinney

Joe McKinney serves as Executive Director of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO). Headquartered in Washington, DC, NADO provides advocacy, education, research, and training for the nation's 540 regional planning and development organizations.

Joe has twenty-eight years of experience having served in city, county, regional and national association and government management since 1991. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Public Policy Analysis from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is a candidate for a Master's Degree in public administration from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director of the National Association of Development Organization, Mr. McKinney served as Executive Director of Land-of-Sky Regional Council in Asheville, North Carolina from January 2003 until October 2012. Under his leadership, Land-of-Sky became recognized nationally for its innovation and program expansion in areas such as planning and economic development, workforce development, transportation and transit, aging services, volunteer services, and geographic information systems.

## **Timothy P. McNeill, RN, MPH**

Timothy P. McNeill is an independent healthcare consultant, specializing in health program development and sustainability. His customers have included the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), U.S. Administration on Aging (AoA)/ Administration for Community Living (ACL), the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and various Foundations and National Non-profit organizations. Under an HHS/ ACL contract, Mr. McNeill has been the lead technical assistance provider to establish and support integrated networks of LTSS providers in 26 States.

Mr. McNeill is a Registered Nurse with a bachelor's degree from Howard University and a Master of Public Health from Eastern Virginia Medical School. Mr. McNeill is also a U.S. Navy Nurse Corps Officer Veteran.

Mr. McNeill has started or expanded multiple sustainable health programs including community-based free clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, two Medicare Shared Savings Program Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), and LTSS networks.

## Nisa Miranda

Nisa Miranda is the Director of The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development (UACED), a position she has held since 1995. Prior to this appointment, she served for ten years as the Director of the William R. Bennett Alabama International Trade Center, a premier research and trade development program in the State. UACED was established in 1989 as a focal point to leverage University resources in support of community and economic development throughout the State of Alabama.

The focus of UACED is to provide research, guidance and technical assistance to Alabama communities, community and economic development organizations, and to work in tandem with the Alabama community and economic development resources, in order to ensure sustainability and diversification of Alabama's economy. As Director, Ms. Miranda's responsibilities include the development of programming and resources to support non-traditional development, utilizing asset-based approaches, and expanding the spectrum of strategies implemented throughout Alabama.

At the core of UACED's mission is the commitment of building local economic capacity, expanding the base of civic leadership, improving the workforce pipeline, and utilizing Alabama's assets in arts, culture, heritage and nature in order to increase visitation and tourism. The sum of these efforts results in improved local economies, which offer opportunities for Alabamians in rural areas and small towns.

Ms. Miranda has successfully developed nationally recognized demonstration projects at the Center for such agencies as the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Tennessee Valley Authority and several foreign organizations. She is a founding member of two nonprofits that support economic development in communities across the state, the Alabama Communities of Excellence, Inc. (Past-President and on the Board of Directors) and Your Town Alabama, Inc. (Board of Directors). Miranda serves on the Alabama Productivity Center Advisory Board, Board Member, Alabama Export Council; Officer/Board Member, Alabama Agribusiness Council Foundation; on the Board of Directors for Black Belt Treasures Cultural Arts Center; Board Member of Japan America Society of Alabama (JASA); Co-Chair of the Alabama Rural Action Commission, Board Member, The David Mathews Center for Civic Life, serves on the Shoal Creek Park Foundation Board, member of the Alabama Resource Advisory Committee, appointed to the Alabama Bicentennial Committee, serves on the Alabama Trails Commission Advisory Board; Board member of Wilcox Works and MainStreet America and member of Black Belt National Heritage Area Task Force.

A native of Brazil, Ms. Miranda holds a B.S. and M.B.A. from The University of Alabama.

## **Dr. Malcolm Portera**

Dr. Malcolm Portera, Chancellor Emeritus of the University of Alabama System

B.A. in Political Science from Mississippi State University, Ph.D. in Political Science from The University of Alabama

Previous Professional Experience:

Chancellor of The University of Alabama System

Interim President of The University of Alabama at Birmingham and The University of Alabama at Huntsville

President of Mississippi State University

Involved in the recruitment of industrial projects that have resulted in over \$15 billion dollars of capital investment in the Southeast U.S. including: Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, Mercedes-Benz U.S. International, Inc., Yokohama Tire Manufacturing Mississippi, Nissan Canton (Mississippi)Vehicle Assembly Plant.

In 2013, named as one of seventeen (17) Global Leader Mentors of the Korea Innovation Center.

# **Conference Speakers 2019** continued



## **Gary A. Officer**

Gary A. Officer is the President and CEO at Senior Service America, Inc.

Mr. Officer previously served in senior executive positions at the Newseum, the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, and Rebuilding Together, the nation's largest volunteer-based homeownership preservation non-profit. During his tenure, Mr. Officer achieved a seven-fold growth in operating income and created award winning partnerships with blue chip corporate brands in support of the organizations mission. He studied and has degrees from Manchester Metropolitan University and the London School of Economics in England and has completed the prestigious Advanced Management Program at the Said Business School at Oxford University.

## **Janet Ray**

Janet Ray is a Program Officer for the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) with Senior Service America, Inc. (SSAI), providing programmatic and performance oversight to multiple SCSEP programs across 13 states. She works with SSAI subgrantees in Alabama, Illinois and Wyoming to ensure older adults who are looking to return to the workforce receive training and employment opportunities through their SCSEP grants.

## **Randall Shedd**

Representative Randall Shedd was sworn in as a member of the Alabama House of Representatives on April 11, 2013 following a special election to fill the House District 11 seat that was vacated in late 2012.

Representative Shedd is a graduate of Wallace State College and is the retired director of the Cullman County Commission on Aging. He served as chairman of the Cullman County Commission from 1977 until 1985, and served as mayor of Fairview from 1996 until 2012.

Representative Shedd is the chairman of House Committee on Urban and Rural Development and is a member of the Sunset Committee.

Representative Shedd and his wife, Debbie, have two sons and two grandchildren; a grandson, Ben Shedd and granddaughter Maddie Claire Shedd. He is a Baptist.

## **Scott Stabler**

State SCSEP Director for Alabama Department of Senior Services (ADSS).

#### Ken Sunseri

Ken Sunseri, current Mayor of Haleyville, was elected in November of 2008. He served as an Infantry Platoon Leader with the First Infantry Division in Vietnam and retired from combined military service as a Colonel. He was the 2004 Haleyville Civitan's Citizen of the Year recipient. He served as the Local Coordinator for Haleyville through the Alabama Communities of Excellence (ACE) program, where he was named 2005 Outstanding (ACE) Volunteer. He was awarded the 2011 Haleyville High School Alumni Association Service and Dedication Award. He has held numerous Board positions and received many awards receiving the 2015 Outstanding ACE Mayor award. In 2017 he was named the Alabama Resource, Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) Council Member of the Year.

## **Deanna Thompson**

Deanna Thompson is on staff with Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging SCSEP program.

## Angela Till

Angela Till serves as the Deputy Secretary of the Alabama Department of Commerce, Business Development Division. Till joined Commerce in July 2014 after a lengthy tenure at the Alabama Department of Revenue, where she specialized in economic development issues.

Till is active in many economic development and industry organizations. She serves on the board for the Alabama Communities of Excellence program and as a board member of the Automotive Manufacturers Association of Alabama. She also serves on the Advisory Board for the Alabama Department of Tourism and the University of West Alabama Economic Council.

Before joining Commerce, Till worked for the Office of Economic Development in the Alabama Department of Revenue, where she helped craft the tax-related elements of incentive packages for various projects. She administered Alabama's tax incentive programs for the Revenue Department for 14 years.

Till holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Auburn University at Montgomery.

#### **Bevin Tomlin**

Bevin Tomlin works for Alabama Power Company in the Economic & Community Development organization. She worked in the Business Intelligence department and worked on special projects for the Executive Vice President for Customer Services before moving into her current role as Community Development Manager.

Bevin graduated from the University of Alabama in December 2004 with her Bachelor's

degree in Business Administration, majoring in Financial Management. She received her Master's of Science in Finance from UA in May 2007.

Bevin is active in the Junior League of Birmingham and serves on the Junior Board of the YWCA of Central Alabama. She has held various leadership positions in multiple community service organizations and graduated from the Junior League's Leadership Institute, as well as Leadership Hoover. Bevin serves on the Board of Directors for several non-profits—Alabama Communities of Excellence, Main Street Alabama, Cahaba Medical Care, Pregnancy After Loss Support, and her own non-profit, Leah's Legacy Foundation. Bevin is also an active member at Hunter Street Baptist Church in Hoover, AL.

Bevin is a native of Northport, Alabama and has lived in the Birmingham area since July 2007. She has been married for 16 years and has four children.

## **Brenda Tuck**

Brenda Tuck is a native of Limestone County, Alabama. She has spent the last 24 years in Southwest Alabama, with the vast majority of that time in economic and community development throughout many of the rural counties there. Additional experience has been in manufacturing, as well as with nonprofit management. Her economic development career began as a member of Pioneer Electric Cooperative's economic development team, prior to becoming a partner in, and vice-president of, Alford & Associates, a community and economic development firm working throughout southwest Alabama and neighboring states. Their work included retention, recruitment, small business incubation, industrial park creation and management, site selection, retail, and research. Brenda also served as the Executive Director of the Marengo County Economic Development Authority until she accepted a position with the Alabama Department of Commerce Workforce Development Division in 2016. Most recently, Brenda was named the Rural Development Manager for the Alabama Department of Commerce Business Development Division.

Brenda holds an Associates in Science, Bachelor of Business Administration, and Master of International Relation degrees. She serves on numerous boards and organizations throughout the State to further economic and community development. When not at work, Brenda and her husband, Shane, enjoy sports and traveling, and spending time with their six children, one daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

## Glenda R. Snodgrass

Glenda R. Snodgrass has been President, Lead Consultant, and project manager at The Net Effect since the company's inception in 1996.

Ms. Snodgrass is primarily engaged in cyber security training, threat analysis, and mitigation for commercial, non-profit, and governmental organizations. In addition, to conducting security-related workshops, corporate training, and delivering cyber security defense presentations at professional conferences and conventions, she spends time drafting network security procedures developing employee security awareness training programs for clients.

Glenda is experienced in managing database applications (litigation support, POS, accounting, ecommerce, CRM/ERP) in the US and in France and has developed browser-based applications in PHP and mySQL. Her extensive hands-on software background gives her unique insight into the user's perspective and the challenges of securing data while preserving functionality.

A popular speaker across the Southeast, Glenda enjoys giving presentations on information security at conferences and conventions, as well as civic and professional organizations. She is currently president of Gulf Coast Industrial Security Awareness Council, Vice Chair of Mobile Chapter 117 of the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS International), member of the steering committee for Gulf Coast Technology Council and serving on the board of directors for the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Snodgrass is also an active member of InfraGuard and recently graduated from the FBI Citizens' Academy.

She holds a B.A. from the University of South Alabama (1986) and a maîtrise from Université de Paris I - Panthéon-Sorbonne in Paris, France (1989).

## **Jean Stone**

Ms. Stone is currently employed with the Alabama Department of Senior Services as the Division Chief for Long Term Care Programs. In this position, Ms. Stone is responsible for oversight of the home and community based waiver programs that provide access to services that allow individuals to live in a safe and healthy home environment as an alternative to nursing home placement.

Ms. Stone has worked with Medicaid and other state agencies on a variety of long term care initiatives. Ms. Stone's other state government experience includes a tenure of over 15 years with the Alabama Medicaid Agency. During her employment with Medicaid, she gained extensive knowledge of the policy and operating procedures for a wide variety of programs.

Ms. Stone received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Auburn University at Montgomery and has continued to receive additional training in management and administration. She earned her certification as a Managed Care Professional Healthcare Manager through the Academy for Healthcare Management.

# **Enjoying Gulf State Park**

#### **Trails**

The Park features 28 miles of paved trails, including seven trails of the Hugh S. Branyon Backcountry Trail complex, that allow the curious visitor to explore the diverse ecosystems of the Alabama Gulf Coast. Discover the timeless beauty of the Butterfly Garden, majestic Bald Eagle and Osprey nests, the mystical Freshwater Marshes, and the Coastal Hardwood Swamps. Catch a glimpse of a Bobcat on Twin Bridges or a White-Tailed Deer on Sawgrass Trail. View an Alligator basking in the sun and be sure to bring your camera to capture the adventure! With terrain suitable for walking, running, or biking; you are sure to enjoy the stunning natural scenery only found on the Alabama Gulf Coast.

Bike Rentals are available at the Campstore, Lake Shelby through Ike's Beach Service, and the Rosemary Dunes trailhead through Beach Bike Rentals.



Gulf State Park Fishing & Education Pier: 251.967.3474 Nature Center: 251.948.7275 Interpretive Center: 334.315.5905

## **Rentals**

Coastal Segway Adventures: Hiking, Biking, Kayaks, Segways 251.509.8687

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**Bike Share:** Free bike rentals located throughout the Park

based on availability

Ike's Rentals: Banana Boat Rides, Paddle Boards, Kayaks,

Beach Umbrellas, Beach Chairs - 251.948.3757

Parasailing 251.981.0055

## Wildlife

Gulf State Park is home to many types of wildlife including alligators. Please be aware at all times and respect the wildlife.

Gulf State Park offers a diversity of habitat for residential and migrating birds! Osprey, Herons, Brown Pelicans, Rails, Owls, and much more frequent the Park. Keep an eye in the sky for one our nesting Eagles souring above! When storms occur in the Gulf of Mexico, the wind pushes pelagic birds to our shoreline, such as Magnificent Frigatebirds and Northern Gannets.









We Impact Lives of Alabamians Everyday, Everywhere... Moving The State Forward

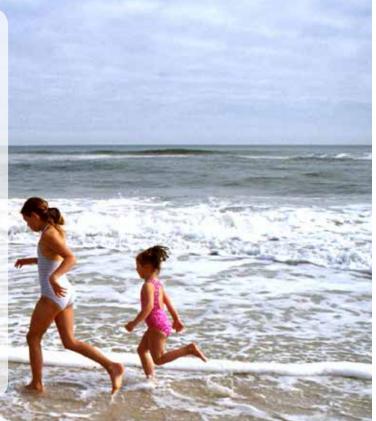
## **AARC 2019 Training Conference Evaluation**

The Alabama Association of Regional Councils thanks you for attending the AARC 2019 Annual Training Conference. We hope your experience was educational as well as enjoyable. We want to provide the very best training conference possible each year. To assist us we ask that you complete this evaluation form and place it in the collection box at the Conference Registration desk or email it to AARC at sdarrington@scadc.net.

1.	Was this your first time	e attending an AARC Training Conf	erence? (check one)
	Yes	No (If "No" how many have you	attended)
2.	How would you rate the	e following? (check one in each ca	tegory)
	Conference Quality Excellent	Conference Presenters Excellent	<u>Facility</u> Excellent
	Good Average Poor	Good Average Poor	Good Average Poor
3.	Were opportunities pro	vided to network with others in yo	ur profession?
	<u> </u>	YesNo	
4.	List least three things y	ou learned at the conference.	
	•		
	•		
	•		
5.	Which breakout sessi	on(s) did you find most informative	9?
	•		
6.	What are your recomm	endations to increase attendance	at AARC's Training Conference?
	_		
7.	Pacad on your experience	a this year do you plan to attend th	ne AARC Training Conference next year?
7.	•	YesNo	ie AARC Trailling Conference next year?
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Add	litional Comments		

# Things to do on the coast!

- Take a walk along the great Hugh Branyon Backcountry Trails system.
- Check out numerous Seafood Restaurants in the area!
- Shop at the Foley Outlet Malls!
- Take a Sail & Watch Dolphins!
- Take a Stroll on Alabama's White Sandy Beaches!
- Drive along Alabama's Coastal Connection, one of four Nationally Designated Scenic Byways in Alabama!
- Go bird-watching along the Coastal Birding Trail for a chance to get outside and enjoy nature at its best!
- \* For more information about any the above items contact Sharon Darrington at (334) 277-2221 or sdarrington@scadc.net





**Alabama's Natural Wonders: Can you name them all?**