AAIDD AWARDS

Inclusive Communities: Pathways to Realizing the Vision

AAIDD Annual Conference
June 6–9, 2011
The Crowne Plaza Riverfront
St. Paul, Minnesota

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
2011 AWARD PROGRAM

SIS Author Recognition
30-Year Member Recognition

2011 AAIDD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Mark H. Yeager, PhD, FAAIDD
Chairperson, Awards and Fellowship Committee

Presented at Plenary I
Tuesday, June 7, 2011—9:00 am • Great River Ballroom

Steven J. Taylor, PhD ................................................................. Presidential Award
Yvette Taylor, MA ................................................................. Presidential Award
David L. Braddock, PhD, FAAIDD ........................................ Leadership Award
Ron Peters ................................................................. Special Award
Roger J. Stancliffe, PhD, FAAIDD ........................................ Research Award

Presented at Plenary II
Tuesday, June 7, 2011—4:30 pm • Great River Ballroom

Michelle S. Ballan, PhD ......................................................... Early Career Award
Joanne Wilkinson, MD, MSc .................................................. Early Career Award
Scott M. Robertson, MS ......................................................... Student Award

Presented at Plenary III
Wednesday, June 8, 2011—9:00 am • Great River Ballroom

Dennis W. Felty ............................................................... Dybwad Humanitarian Award
David H. J. Pavasko, DMD ................................................... Service Award
Luigi Croce, MD .............................................................. International Award
James M. Boles, EdD ...................................................... Hervey B. Wilbur Historic Preservation Award

Presented at Plenary IV
Wednesday, June 8, 2011—1:30 pm • Great River Ballroom

Heritage Christian Services ................................................ Full Community Inclusion Award
“Breaking Shells” .......................................................... Media Award
Exceptional Service to the Field and the Association

*The Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)* has been a “game changing” contribution to the Association, the field, and the lives of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. The SIS has been instrumental in shifting the assessment paradigm from a deficits model to one that helps identify what practical supports people need to have the greatest personal independence, productivity, social inclusion, and quality of life. The Association recognized the authors of SIS for their truly invaluable contributions with an award for Exceptional Service to the Field and the Association. Only in extraordinary circumstances does the Association convey this type of honor; a presentation of the awards to honorees was made during a special reception on Monday, June 6, 2011.

James R. Thompson, PhD, FAAIDD
Brian R. Bryant, PhD
Edward M. Campbell, PhD
Ellis M. “Pat” Craig, PhD, FAAIDD
Carolyn M. Hughes, PhD
David A. Rotholz, PhD, FAAIDD
Robert L. Schalock, PhD, FAAIDD
Wayne P. Silverman, PhD, FAAIDD
Marc J. Tassé, PhD, FAAIDD
Michael L. Wehmeyer, PhD, FAAIDD

New 30-Year AAIDD Members

AAIDD recognizes members who have supported it with continuous membership throughout the years. Here are the members that have reached their 30-year mark as an AAIDD Member.

Betsey Benson, PhD, FAAIDD
Felicia Brown Daniels
Marklyn Champagne
Philip Davidson, PhD
Larry Durbin, EdD
Carl Edwards
Jeffrey Findlay
Ruth Freedman, PhD, FAAIDD
Donald Freedman
Howard Garber, PhD
Geneva Graham
Gregory Johnson
Terrance Kirkpatrick
Leslie Leech, Jr.
Edwin LeGrand, III

Barbara LeRoy, PhD
Ruth Luckasson, JD, FAAIDD
Patricia Minnes, PhD
James Nettleton
Linda Olson
Sakineh Redjali, PhD, FAAIDD
Judith Schmid
Mark Searle
Rose Sevcik, PhD, FAAIDD
Thomas Simmons, PhD
Paul Smoller
Walter Stockton
Mary Vesel
Leslie Walker-Hirsch, FAAIDD
Warren Zigman, PhD, FAAIDD
Presidential Award

Steven J. Taylor, PhD

Steven J. Taylor, PhD is Coordinator and Centennial Professor of Disability Studies and Professor of Cultural Foundations of Education at Syracuse University. He has been Director of the Center on Human Policy since 1983 and has been Principal Investigator of over $15 million in external grants and contracts.

Steve's research interests include the sociology of disability, the social construction of intellectual disabilities, disability studies, disability policy, and qualitative research methods. He is the author or editor of 10 books, including *An Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods: A Guidebook and Resource*, *In Search of the Promised Land: The Collected Papers of Burton Blatt*, *The Social Meaning of Mental Retardation: Two Life Stories*, and *Acts of Conscience: World War II, Mental Institutions, and Religious Objectors*. He has published over 100 journal articles, reviews, and book chapters. On many of his publications, Steve has collaborated with Bob Bogdan and Pam Walker as well as other faculty, staff, and students at Syracuse University.

Steve has been a member of AAIDD since 1976, when it was called the American Association on Mental Deficiency. He has been the recipient of AAMR's Research Award in 1997, the Syracuse University Chancellor's Citation for Exceptional Academic Achievement in 2003, and the first annual Senior Scholar Award of the Society for Disability Studies in 2008.
Yvette Taylor, MA is a Senior Editor at the AAIDD. She began working for the Association in 1973 with Carl Haywood at Peabody College, when the journal was called AJMD. While at Peabody, she also served as liaison between the Kennedy Center and the lay public, writing a newsletter describing current research at a less technical level. She has worked for the Association ever since, with a brief respite as a reporter for Billboard Magazine.

In 1986, she began working on MR in addition to AJMR. For the next 20 years, she edited both journals and watched as the association adopted a new name and became the AAIDD. Yvette now edits IDD. She has also copyedited several books for the Association, including the last three editions of the AAIDD definition manual. She received a Special Service Award for her work on the 2010 manual.

Through 38 years, Yvette has watched as the Association evolved into what it is today. When she began working, institutions were the norm, and community living and involvement were but a dream. The vision of the leadership throughout these years has resulted in many gains for citizens with intellectual disability.

Yvette was given the Presidential Award in 2002 by Steve Warren and is very grateful that Mike Wehmeyer has chosen her again for this honor.

Yvette earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Texas, Austin. While attending the University of Missouri, where she got her master’s in English, she was assistant editor of campus publications, a job that included editing The Sociological Quarterly.
Leadership Award
David L. Braddock, PhD, FAAIDD

David L. Braddock, PhD has been Associate Vice President of the University of Colorado's (CU) four campus system for the past ten years, reporting directly to the University’s President. He leads the CU System’s Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities and holds the Coleman-Turner Chair in the CU School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry. The Coleman Institute's mission is to catalyze and integrate advances in science, engineering and technology to promote the quality of life and independent living of people with cognitive disabilities. The Institute was founded in 2001 with a major gift from Silicon Valley entrepreneurs and philanthropists Bill and Claudia Coleman. The Institute's 11th National Conference, State of the States, State of the Nation: 2011 will be held October 12–14, 2011 in Westminster, Colorado.

David received his BA and MA degrees in Government and PhD jointly in Special Education and Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin. He was at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) for over 20 years as a professor in the School of Public Health and founding head of UIC’s academic Department and Institute on Disability and Human Development. He was instrumental at UIC in establishing several other initiatives there including the Illinois University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), the nation’s first PhD program in Disability Studies, the State of the States in Developmental Disabilities Project, the CDC-funded National Center on Physical Activity and Disability, the assistive technology program, and the Midwest Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center on the ADA. Prior to UIC, he held staff positions in Washington, DC with the HEW’s Secretary’s Committee on Mental Retardation and the Council for Exceptional Children, taught at the Austin and St. Louis State Schools, and was Program Policy Advisor for Developmental Disabilities in the Illinois Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

David has testified in 15 state legislatures, before several US congressional committees and in key class action lawsuits on the rights of people with disabilities. He has given more presentations than he cares to count—in 48 states and seven foreign countries. He received career Research Awards from The Arc United States and AAIDD, and the University Scholar Award from the president of the University of Illinois. He was president of AAIDD in 1993–94, and a recipient of The Arc-United States Franklin Smith Award for Distinguished National Service to the Field of Mental Retardation, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Public Health Association’s Disability Section, and the Thomas Jefferson Award from the University of Colorado System’s Board of Regents. He recently completed nine years of service on the Board of Directors of Special Olympics International, chaired its Research and Policy Committee, and served on its Executive Committee.
In 2000, Ron Peters was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives and is currently the Chairman of the Human Services Appropriations and Budget Committee. Representative Peters has a long history of service to others through his community volunteering, and service on community boards.

His passion and effectiveness are evident in the numerous awards that he has won as a result of his efforts on behalf of children, including his induction into the Child Advocates Hall of Fame. Last year, Representative Peters authored House Bill 2828 in the Oklahoma Legislature. This bill established a mechanism that will allow the State of Oklahoma to increase provider rates and thus Direct Support Professional’s compensation by as much as 15%. In a year where services for people with developmental disabilities were being cut across the board nationally, Representative Peters found a way to not only protect services, but to enhance them, increasing the human services budget by 4.5%, making it the only department that didn't receive a funding cut in the state. Representative Peters was so compelling in his arguments for this bill and budget enhancements, that they passed with a veto proof super majority.

For the 5,000 people receiving services in Oklahoma, HB2828 was a victory, yet Representative Peters believes there is still much work to be done. There are currently more than 6,050 Oklahomans with developmental disabilities waiting for help. These families don’t have 24 hour care for their loved ones. They don’t have support to help their children come to the Capitol to lobby for their needs. They are in survival mode, and their needs must be addressed.

To address this concern he has been working for the last nine months to build consensus among his peers. Representative Peters will continue his crusade to address this issue. He has already arranged a meeting with all stakeholders to look at the state’s options, even during a dramatic budget shortfall. People with developmental disabilities deserve the support they need to live in the community, giving them a shot at life; a shot to live their own American dream.
Roger J. Stancliffe, PhD is Associate Professor of Disability Studies at The University of Sydney. As a young psychologist he was directly involved in early Australian deinstitutionalization initiatives. Seeing firsthand the vast benefits of this policy fuelled a career-long commitment to improving the wellbeing of people with intellectual disability and the quality of the services they use. After a career as a practitioner that included management of community living services and appointment to the Guardianship Tribunal, he completed a PhD in 1996, and has since worked as an applied researcher.

Since 1994 he has divided his time between Sydney and the University of Minnesota’s Research and Training Center of Community Living in Minneapolis, where the winters have made a lifelong impression on him and his family. From 1997–2007 he was a Senior Research Fellow at the Sydney-based Centre for Developmental Disability Studies.

He is past Editor of the *Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability*, and a member of the editorial boards of five other journals, including AAIDD’s journals *AJIDD* and *IDD*. Recognitions include AAIDD Fellow in 2002, Fellow of IASSID in 2008, and winner, with US colleagues, of the NARRTC (formerly National Association of Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers) Best Paper Award for the most outstanding research paper published in 2009 by researchers from the 38 RRTCs.

He is a prolific author on deinstitutionalization, community living, self-determination and choice, and has presented research papers at conferences in five continents. He has been a senior member of numerous Australian boards and advisory committees on intellectual disability to help translate research into everyday practice.

A current example of his focus on real-life application of research concerns Active Support, an evidence-based approach to supporting participation in everyday activities. In 2004 he led Australia’s first data-based evaluation of Active Support. In 2006 he led a major train-the-trainer project for Victorian state-operated community living services. Following his evaluation, Active Support was rolled out across the Australian state of Victoria. With leading researchers from the UK, he co-edited a special issue of the *Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability* on Active Support in 2008. Active Support has now been adopted by numerous services in almost all Australian states, as well as services in New Zealand, USA and Taiwan. With colleagues from the University of Minnesota, he is currently collaborating on the first cluster randomized controlled trial of Active Support which is being conducted in Minnesota.
Michelle Sondra Ballan is an Assistant Professor at the Columbia University School of Social Work. She received a master’s degree in social work from Rutgers University in 1995 and a PhD in social work from the University of Texas at Austin in 2002. Dr. Ballan’s research and clinical interests involve preventative and treatment interventions for individuals with disabilities. Specifically, her research examines experiences of sexuality and loss and grief among individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Dr. Ballan has authored or co-authored more than 20 academic papers and a book. She has lectured extensively at local, national, and international conferences. Dr. Ballan is Principal Investigator on three research studies, including projects funded by private foundations. She is currently investigating the efficacy of a parent-based intervention to enhance communication about sexuality for children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders. Her other studies explore the impact of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome on women’s sexuality and key familial, social and contextual correlates of interpersonal violence among consumers of a non-residential domestic violence program for individuals with disabilities.

Dr. Ballan serves on the editorial board of Social Work and is an ad-hoc reviewer for journals in the fields of disability studies and sexuality. She is a board member of Services for the Underserved and has held positions on the Council on Disability and Persons with Disabilities through the Council of Social Work Education and at Arts Unbound. Her commitment to the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities extends to her pedagogy and mentorship. She is the recipient of the prestigious Columbia University Presidential Teaching Award, bestowed upon five professors yearly. She has received the Texas Excellence Teaching Award, the Services for Students with Disabilities Faculty Award and twice, Columbia students bestowed her with the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dr. Ballan is a mentor for international human rights advocates pursuing work on disabilities at the Institute for the Study of Human Rights. She convenes a university seminar on disability studies and is the faculty advisor for a student led disability caucus and a dual degree program with social work and special education. She is the recipient of the 2010 Association on Higher Education and Disability Recognition Award for her outstanding contributions to campus programs for students with disabilities.

Dr. Ballan has worked as a practitioner and educator in various community settings with individuals with disabilities including the New Jersey Brain Injury Association, Women Helping Women, Safeplace, and Schools.
Joanne Wilkinson, MD, MSc graduated from Brown University, Brown Medical School and the Brown University/Memorial Hospital Family Medicine Residency. During the first six years of her medical career as a community primary care physician, she began to attract patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities who had previously found it difficult to find a doctor. As her practice of patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities grew, she began to search the medical literature for guidelines pertaining to their primary care and found none.

In 2004 she became the first Fellow in the Family Medicine Academic/Faculty Development Fellowship in Developmental Disabilities at Boston University with the goal of obtaining research skills and exploring research related to primary care for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She received an MSc in Epidemiology from the Boston University School of Public Health in 2006, and in 2007–2008 published two papers, “Screening tests for adults with intellectual disabilities,” and “Primary care for women with intellectual disabilities” (both in Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine) focusing on the evidence base for screening and prevention in primary care for people with intellectual disabilities. In 2009 she received a five-year Career Development Award from the National Cancer Institute to study factors contributing to low mammography rates in women with intellectual disabilities. She has given approximately 21 presentations at national conferences based on her research and has four manuscripts currently in review from these projects. Her article “It’s easier said than done: Perspectives on mammography from women with intellectual disabilities,” was published in Annals of Family Medicine in March 2011.

Dr. Wilkinson also received a small conference grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in 2010 that allowed her to organize and implement a conference called Primary care research for people with intellectual disabilities in October 2010. She had been the course director or co-course director of this conference, called Medical homes for people with intellectual disabilities, for 3 of the preceding 4 years. Several AAIDD members attended the conference, including several self-advocates.

Dr. Wilkinson has a keen interest in promoting the development of physicians in the field and currently mentors two fellows who are doing research in osteoporosis and cancer screening for people with intellectual disabilities. She serves as a board member of the Arc of Massachusetts and a volunteer for Special Olympics MedFest in Massachusetts.
Scott Michael Robertson is a man who has autism who lives in Central Pennsylvania. Scott is completing doctoral studies in information sciences and technology at Penn State University. His dissertation research is on studying cyber-bullying and face-to-face bullying of adolescents with autism and the development of software applications to teach anti-bullying strategies to empower these youth against victimization. Scott’s broader research efforts study how to improve the self-determination, inclusion, and quality of life of people with disabilities through technological innovation, development of stronger disability policies and supports, and societal change.

Scott recently received a Google Lime Scholarship for graduate and undergraduate students with disabilities in computer science and related fields. He has previously earned the Teaching Assistant of the Year Award and a Teaching Fellowship from Penn State University’s College of Information Sciences and Technology. Scott has presented keynote and noted sessions at the National Autism Conference: Progress through Partnership, Pacific Rim International Conference on Disabilities, University of Pennsylvania’s Penn Autism Network Conference, and other venues. He has co-authored journal articles published in Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action and Disability Studies Quarterly and presented at numerous academic and professional conferences.

Scott graduated Summa Cum Laude from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor’s degree in computer science and a minor in human factors psychology. He later earned a master’s degree in human-computer interaction from the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University.

While completing his doctoral studies, Scott has participated extensively in service and advocacy for people with disabilities. He has taught and mentored youth and adults with disabilities, advocated for marginalized people with disabilities and their families, assisted and advised the development of policies and supports for people with disabilities, and presented disability trainings and informational sessions at conferences and schools nationwide. Scott serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (an organization he co-founded in 2006), a Member of the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council, a Member of the National Advisory Committee of the federally funded Autism NOW: National Autism Resource and Information Center, and a Member of the Advisory Board of the Bureau of Autism Services in the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (the state autism agency). In 2007, Scott served on the work group that developed services criteria for Pennsylvania’s Adult Autism Medicaid Waiver, the only adult-specific autism Medicaid Waiver.

Student Award
Scott M. Robertson, MS
Dennis W. Felty has been in a leadership role of the community behavioral health and disability movement since 1968. He was a co-founder of Keystone Human Services in 1972 and has served as its President since then. Dennis’ vision and leadership has been instrumental in developing Keystone into a family of non-profit organizations that is committed to helping people with disabilities become valued and contributing members of the community.

Dennis has also served as President of the Commonwealth Institute, the Pennsylvania Association of Community Residential Programs, and the Pennsylvania CASSP Institute. He is the Past President of the Pennsylvania Association of Rehabilitation Facilities as well as Past President and co-founder of the Open Stage of Harrisburg.

Dennis has served on many boards and task forces within government including the Planning Advisory Council of the Pennsylvania Office of Mental Retardation. Dennis also serves as Chairman of the Board of PAR, which is the major professional association addressing services in the area of intellectual disability and autism. Dennis is the immediate Past President of the Susquehanna Art Museum and as a Board Member of Wachovia Bank’s Regional Advisory Board. Dennis is a graduate of Elizabethtown College.

Dennis has co-authored with Dr. Marshal B. Jones Human services at risk, published in the Social Service Review (June 1998), an article that explores the important role community nonprofits play in our society.

Dennis has been an active participant in Dr. Wolfensberger’s work in Normalization and Social Role Valorization including serving as a PASSING Team Leader since 1970.

Dennis has also been instrumental in helping to found a seminary in Kursk, Russia. In 1999 he produced a photographic essay on children living in orphanages and psychiatric hospitals of Russia, Romania, and Moldova. This work includes images and interviews of children living in the underground of Bucharest, Romania. Dennis has also had the opportunity to visit psychiatric hospitals in the People’s Republic of China.

Dennis serves on the Federal Council (Board) of FICE International, a federation of over thirty countries concerned about the status of children worldwide. Dennis also serves as President of FICE-USA and was appointed as a 2007 Member of the Clinton Global Initiative.
David H. J. Pavasko is a dentist in private practice in Murrysville, Pennsylvania. He is also the Dental Director for Accessible Dental Services.

What started as one day a month dedicated to the treatment of people with special needs soon grew to two days, and very quickly to three days each month. Upon learning that he was committed to providing quality dental care for individuals with disabilities, provider agencies and families called asking him to accept additional patients.

Simultaneously, Passavant Memorial Homes, a western Pennsylvania provider agency, was seeking dental services for individuals they supported, many of whom were experiencing long waits for appointments. Additionally, issues regarding the level of dental care and general accommodation these individuals were receiving were of utmost concern.

Together, Passavant and Dr. Pavasko pursued the idea of forming a dental company to provide the specialized treatment and procedures needed by the disability community. In December 2006, with Dr. Pavasko as Dental Director, Accessible Dental Services (ADS) began as a pilot program treating individuals supported by Passavant. In November 2008, the first individual served by an agency other than Passavant was treated. By the end of 2011, ADS will have treated well over 1,000 individuals. The alleviation of pain, improved dental care, and comfort that Dr. Pavasko and ADS have brought to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities is both noteworthy and remarkable.

Realizing that some individuals were driving great distances to receive services, it was determined that a mobile unit could figure strongly in the ADS plan. In July 2010, ADS introduced its mobile dental unit, and plans are being finalized to begin providing much needed services to additional areas in western Pennsylvania.

Dr. Pavasko recently accepted an appointment as adjunct faculty to the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Dental Medicine. His appointment enables third and fourth year students to participate in the ADS program. Through this arrangement, dental professionals will become familiar with the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and be more willing to provide treatment to this underserved population.

Since 1999, Dr. Pavasko has been Dental Director for Unison Insurance. Through his efforts with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare’s Chief Dental Officer, he has improved access and care throughout the entire Commonwealth.

Dr. Pavasko earned his DMD from the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Dental Medicine. Interestingly, he also holds a BS in Chemical Engineering. His wife, Lauren, who is a dentist and his partner in private practice, also works for ADS. Along with their children, the Pavaskos reside in Export, Pennsylvania.
Dr. Luigi Croce is born in Brescia, Italy in 1957. Dr. Croce received his degree in Medicine in 1982 at the University of Milan and subsequently his specialization degree in Psychiatry at the University of Turin. He continued his postgraduate training in psychiatry, building consistent clinical and research competencies, attending many courses in Italy and abroad, particularly psychiatric rehabilitation courses with Marianne Farkas at Boston University, valuable experience with Ugo Formigoni, former head of Illinois Department of Psychiatry and Developmental Disabilities, and opportunities with Ian Fallon and his psychoeducational approach to psychiatric rehabilitation.

After a brief and intense experience in a community emergency service, he began to work as a junior psychiatric assistant in a public psychiatric facility in Brescia, where his professional career developed and he became, after 12 years, department head, Psychorganic Unit and Medical Director of the Institute of Biological Psychiatry, composed of 4 clinical residential and day units in the northern part of Italy.

In 2000, he concluded his experience as a general psychiatrist and began a new professional course in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. He accepted an appointment as Medical Director at FOBAP ANFFAS, a system of services serving about 300 people in Brescia, and affiliated with a nationwide organization serving more than 15,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in Italy. He is past President of Italian Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and next President of the ANFFAS National Scientific Committee.

Dr. Croce has an academic appointment at the Catholic University of Brescia and Milan as a Professor of Special Education, Psychopathology and oversees clinics of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

In 1999, Dr. Croce acquired his first links with AAIDD and, with a group of younger and brilliant friends and colleagues—Mauro Leoni, Roberto Cavagnola, Serafino Corti, and Umberto Mezzana—a systematic and intensive collaboration was implemented. In the most recent years Dr. Croce and Dr. Leoni have implemented the Model of Support, SIS, and Quality of Life oriented planning in Italy, contributing to further elaboration and application of AAIDD systems in Europe.

Dr. Croce’s human, scientific, and professional interests, activities and contributions are specially devoted to clinical and educational support to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, focusing on everyday support practice, training, supervising, and diffusing AAIDD model of support and ICF conceptual framework and operationalization.
James M. Boles, EdD has been the President and CEO of People Inc. since 1981, western New York State’s largest human service agency supporting people with developmental and other disabilities. He received masters’ degrees in clinical psychology and education and a Doctorate of Education in family and community relations from Columbia University. Although he began his career providing direct counseling services, he quickly moved into behavioral health administration where he always advocated for greater community inclusion and acceptance of individuals with disabilities. Besides having membership in many professional organizations, Dr. Boles provided the impetus for the creation of the Human Service Alliance of Western New York. He has served on the New York State Commissioner’s Advisory Council on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities and additionally has served on the President’s Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities for two terms since 2006.

In 1998, while teaching as an adjunct professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo, Dr. Boles found that he could not direct his students to a single source for conducting research on disability history. The information available was scattered, scarce, and mostly from second-hand sources. Dr. Boles was astonished at the lack of educational resources available to increase society’s understanding, acceptance and awareness of disability issues. To redress this need, he set about the work of collecting and preserving materials and artifacts documenting the history of persons with disabilities.

In 1999, Dr. Boles established the Museum of disABILITY History, the nation’s first and only “bricks-and-mortar” museum dedicated to ensuring that the struggles, triumphs and contributions that people with disabilities have made to our nation’s identity and culture would not be overlooked. Currently, the museum’s collection consists of 4,760 rare and unique items which have become a premier resource for national and international: scholars and students; government agencies; organizations and associations; health care workers, researchers and film-makers. Dr. Boles’ vision, leadership, and inexhaustible energy has also guided the development of: permanent and travelling exhibits to raise awareness on disability issues; a virtual museum (www.museumofdisability.org) that enables international access to exhibits, timelines, collections, bibliographies and teacher resources; a disability history curriculum adaptable for grades K–12; an annual disABILITIES film festival and speaker series; and the formation of People Ink Press, to publish books disseminating the museum’s research and broadening its impact.
At Heritage Christian Services, people always come first. It’s what the founding parents insisted on, and it’s still the backbone of the culture more than 20 years later. Parents first started meeting in living rooms and church halls and they started to believe that they could do something to ensure their children with developmental disabilities—and the children of others—would always be cared for in a loving Christian home. Some of the parents took out second mortgages on their homes. Some left corporate jobs to serve at Heritage Christian.

Now, 27 years later, the agency serves more than 1,500 children and adults, including three of the founding participants: Laurie Otto, and Bob and Karen Pieters. The fourth, Mark Bruinsma, was served by the agency until he passed away in 2004.

At Heritage Christian Services, we still believe in putting people first and we still believe in possibilities. When others said something was too hard or just not worth the effort, we had faith that we could find a way to make it work. So, now we offer neighborhood homes with compassionate staff members, educational day programs, and innovative therapies at places like our riding stables and our state-of-the-art wellness center. We even help families in the community coordinate the special services they need for their loved ones—all because we believe.

As we’ve grown to serve more people and to serve them in more ways, we’ve been honored nationally and locally. Our health and wellness center, the Pieters Family Life Center, won the 2009 Community Builder Award for providing a place where people with and without disabilities interact naturally—a place where everyone is on equal ground. The agency has also been inducted into the Compass program by the New York state Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, which means it tops the list of high-quality service providers in the state. In fact, the agency is in the upper 1 percent. Plus, our president and CEO, Robert Pieters, recently won Executive of the Year in the Rochester area. He leads as a founding parent, an accomplished businessman, and as a person of great faith and great belief.
Breaking Shells is a 46 minute film that follows two men, Art Butcher and Steve Dallman, as they go on a road trip making presentations across South Dakota. They want people who receive supports from community support provider agencies to know that they have the right to make the decisions that impact their lives.

Art and Steve offer a message of hope and empowerment, and they send a very clear message to the staff who work for people with developmental disabilities as well. Art describes feeling like an egg breaking its shell as he became empowered to take charge of his meetings and consequently how he lives his life. They refer to themselves as “messengers” and feel a deep commitment to teach others what they have learned, what a difference it has made in their lives and why it’s important for all people to do the same.

With help from Bob Markve of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, Art and Steve formed a consulting partnership several years ago and began giving presentations statewide about the importance of self-advocacy.

Art Butcher
Art is originally from Wyoming and attended a small elementary school until he left school at about age 10. Art was in a variety of programs over the years in Wyoming, Colorado, and South Dakota. He came to Black Hills Special Services Cooperative (BHSSC) fifteen years ago and is currently employed as a data entry tech at Dakota Data and also works part time for Dove Creek Designs making pottery. Art lives in a small group home in Hot Springs. In 2006, Art was co-founder of The Messengers, a self-advocacy consulting business dedicated to providing a message of hope and freedom to other people with developmental disabilities.

Steve Dallman
Steve was born and raised in South Dakota. At age five he entered Redfield State Hospital and remained there until age 18. Steve moved through a series of foster homes and group homes until he went to Hot Springs about 17 years ago. Steve is a self-employed artist, specializing on oil on canvas, and lives with a roommate. In 2006 Steve, along with his friend Art, founded The Messengers consulting business. Steve is a strong believer in standing up for what you believe in and for the rights and dignity of all people.

Bob Markve
Bob is employed by Black Hills Special Services Cooperative and, as Art and Steve see it, Bob’s job is to “drive and make coffee.” Bob has worked for people with Developmental Disabilities in South Dakota for 33 years.
Past Presidents

The history of the AAIDDD is long and distinguished. Our tradition, professional standing, and leadership in the area of intellectual and Developmental disabilities are exemplified in the persons of our Presidents. Our former Presidents are:

1920–1921		 H. A. Haynes, MD
1919–1920		 George S. Bliss, MD
1918–1919		 Charles W. Brown, MD
1917–1918		 George L. Wallace, MD
1916–1917		 E. J. Emerick, MD
1915–1916		 Charles Bernstein, MD
1914–1915		 H. H. Goddard, PhD
1913–1914		 J. K. Kutnerwsky, MD
1912–1913		 Allan E. Carrol, MD
1911–1912		 H. E. Hardt, MD
1910–1911		 Arthur R. T. Wylie, MD
1909–1910		 Miss Mattie Gundry
1908–1909		 W. N. Bullard, MD
1907–1908		 Charles Bernstein, MD
1906–1907		 W. H. C. Smith, MD
1905–1906		 George McGridge, MD
1904–1905		 A. H. Beaton, MD
1903–1904		 Edward R. Johnstone
1902–1903		 J. M. Murdoch, MD
1901–1902		 F. W. Keating, MD
1900–1901		 W. A. Polglase, MD
1899–1900		 Alexander Johnson
1898–1899		 Mary J. Dunlap, MD
1897–1898		 George A. Brown, MD
1896–1897		 Martin W. Barr, MD
1895–1896		 Samuel J. Fort, MD
1894–1895		 A. W. Wilmarth, MD
1893–1894		 A. E. Osborne, MD
1892–1893		 Walter E. Fernaud, MD
1891–1892		 Isaac N. Kerlin, MD
1890–1891		 J. T. Armstrong, MD
1889–1890	 A. C. Rogers, MD
1888–1889		 J. C. Carson, MD
1887–1888	 George A. Brown, MD
1886–1887	 William B. Fish, MD
1885–1886	 F. M. Powell, MD
1884–1885	 A. H. Beaton, MD
1883–1884	 A. H. Beaton, MD
1882–1883	 J. Q. A. Stewart, MD
1881–1882	 George W. Brown, MD
1880–1881	 Charles T. Wilbur, MD
1879–1880	 H. M. Knight, MD
1878–1879	 G. A. Doren, MD
1877–1878	 Hervey B. Wilbur, MD
1876–1877	 G. A. Doren, MD
1875–1876	 Edouard Sequin, MD
1874–1875	 J. T. Armstrong, MD
1873–1874	 J. T. Armstrong, MD
1872–1873	 Isaac N. Kerlin, MD
1871–1872	 W. A. Polglase, MD
1870–1871	 J. T. Armstrong, MD
1869–1870	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1868–1869	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1867–1868	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1866–1867	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1865–1866	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1864–1865	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1863–1864	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1862–1863	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1861–1862	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1860–1861	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1859–1860	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1858–1859	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1857–1858	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1856–1857	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1855–1856	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1854–1855	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1853–1854	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1852–1853	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1851–1852	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1850–1851	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1849–1850	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1848–1849	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1847–1848	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1846–1847	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1845–1846	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1844–1845	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1843–1844	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1842–1843	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1841–1842	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1840–1841	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1839–1840	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1838–1839	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1837–1838	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1836–1837	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1835–1836	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1834–1835	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1833–1834	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1832–1833	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1831–1832	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1830–1831	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1829–1830	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1828–1829	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1827–1828	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1826–1827	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1825–1826	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1824–1825	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1823–1824	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1822–1823	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1821–1822	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1820–1821	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1819–1820	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1818–1819	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1817–1818	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1816–1817	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1815–1816	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1814–1815	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1813–1814	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1812–1813	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1811–1812	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1810–1811	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1809–1810	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1808–1809	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1807–1808	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1806–1807	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1805–1806	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1804–1805	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1803–1804	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1802–1803	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1801–1802	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1800–1799	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1798–1799	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1797–1798	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1796–1797	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1795–1796	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1794–1795	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1793–1794	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1792–1793	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1791–1792	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1790–1791	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1789–1790	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1788–1789	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1787–1788	 W. N. Bullard, MD
1786–1787	 W. N. Bullard, MD
AAIDD 135th Annual Meeting

June 6-9, 2011
The Crowne Plaza Riverfront
St. Paul, Minnesota

www.aaidd.org