

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

AL CONDELUCI



Al is CEO of CLASS, a community based support system for folks with all types of disabilities in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He holds an MSW and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh, where he is on faculty in the School of Health and

Rehabilitation Sciences and the School of Social Work. He has authored 7 books, including the acclaimed, *Interdependence: The Route to Community* (1991) and the newly released, *The Macro Change Handbook* (2015).

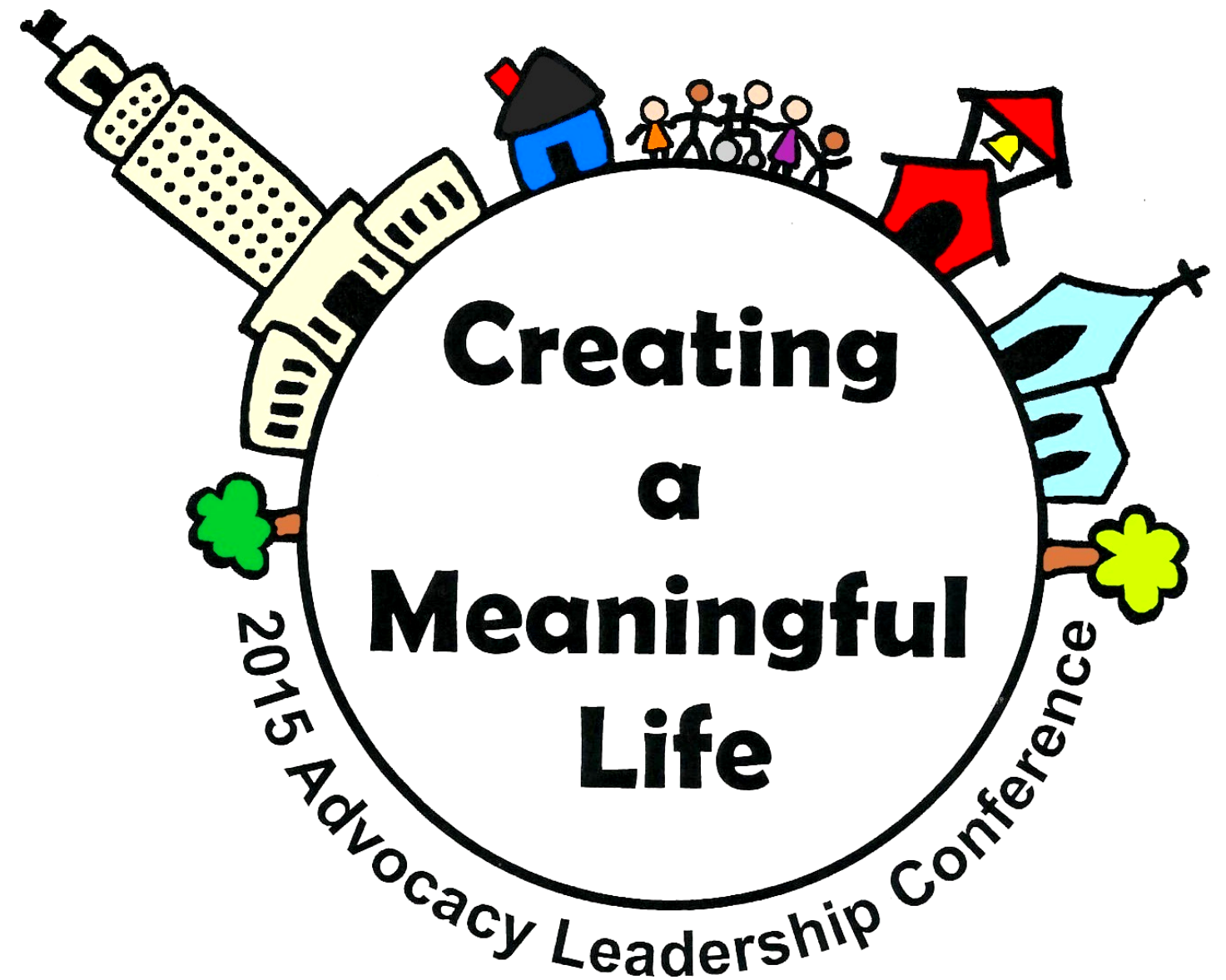
Al lives in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, just outside Pittsburgh, on the family hill with his wife, children and some 30 other members of the extended Condeluci family. For more information check out www.alcondeluci.com.

DEBORAH WHITFIELD



Deborah is a child advocate attorney at the Council for Children's Rights, the largest and most comprehensive legal advocacy program for children in the southeast where she has practiced law since 2007. She provides holistic representation for

children in Charlotte, North Carolina ensuring improved outcomes through litigation, advocacy, system reform, public policy and research for the most at-risk population in the community. In her work at the Council, Ms. Whitfield represents children and youth who are abused, neglected, dependent and delinquent with mental health conditions and developmental delays. She works, specifically, in the areas of mental health, education, health care and child welfare with the end in mind of finding appropriate supports and services tailored to the unique needs of each child.



Senator Jack Donahue

Represents District 11 in St. Tammany parish. He is Chairman of the Finance and Joint Budget Committees.



Representative John Schroder

Represents District 77 in St. Tammany parish. He is a member of the Appropriations and Joint Budget Committees.



Representative Ledricka Thierry

Represents District 40 in St. Landry parish. She is a member of the Appropriations and Joint Budget Committees.



Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:45 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast				
8:45 - 9:45 am	<p>Opening Plenary Session Salon II & III</p> <p>Welcome and Opening Remarks Delery Rice, Chairperson, LA Developmental Disabilities Council</p> <p>Building and Using Social Capital Al Condeluci</p> <p>All of us are interested in a better community where all people have an opportunity for accessible and affordable homes, jobs or meaningful daytime opportunities and lifestyles of their choice. In spite of our many years of work on this goal, the outcomes in this area are still not satisfactory for people who are vulnerable due to disability or other compromises. Many of these vulnerable people find themselves in isolated situations with limited options for friendships and important social relationships. This presentation takes a close look at the reasons why our systems have not been more successful in these goals, defines and delineates the concept of social capital, and offers a community building perspective designed to shift the culture to be more inclusive and supportive to all people.</p>				
9:45 - 10:00 am	Break/Transition				
10:00 - 11:15 am	<p>Morning Concurrent Sessions (Choose One)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Salon I</td> <td>Salon IV</td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Facilitating Inclusion Al Condeluci</p> <p>This session will be an interactive and deeper look at strategies and actions for building inclusive communities. Community will be defined and explored. The notion of rituals, patterns and jargon will be introduced. The 4 key steps of building social capital will be explored and examined and participants will have opportunity to develop a blueprint for action.</p> </td> <td> <p>Building Natural Supports Deborah Whitfield</p> <p>This session will briefly highlight the limitations of existing human service systems in their support and enhancement of individual and family connectedness in community, and make the case for the need for capacity-building in the development of natural supports. Moving from case illustrations, the speaker will detail concrete tactics and strategies for building natural supports that lead to the creation of a meaningful life!</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Salon I	Salon IV	<p>Facilitating Inclusion Al Condeluci</p> <p>This session will be an interactive and deeper look at strategies and actions for building inclusive communities. Community will be defined and explored. The notion of rituals, patterns and jargon will be introduced. The 4 key steps of building social capital will be explored and examined and participants will have opportunity to develop a blueprint for action.</p>	<p>Building Natural Supports Deborah Whitfield</p> <p>This session will briefly highlight the limitations of existing human service systems in their support and enhancement of individual and family connectedness in community, and make the case for the need for capacity-building in the development of natural supports. Moving from case illustrations, the speaker will detail concrete tactics and strategies for building natural supports that lead to the creation of a meaningful life!</p>
Salon I	Salon IV				
<p>Facilitating Inclusion Al Condeluci</p> <p>This session will be an interactive and deeper look at strategies and actions for building inclusive communities. Community will be defined and explored. The notion of rituals, patterns and jargon will be introduced. The 4 key steps of building social capital will be explored and examined and participants will have opportunity to develop a blueprint for action.</p>	<p>Building Natural Supports Deborah Whitfield</p> <p>This session will briefly highlight the limitations of existing human service systems in their support and enhancement of individual and family connectedness in community, and make the case for the need for capacity-building in the development of natural supports. Moving from case illustrations, the speaker will detail concrete tactics and strategies for building natural supports that lead to the creation of a meaningful life!</p>				
11:15 - 11:30 am	Break/Transition				
11:30 - 1:30 pm	<p>Lunch & Learn Salon II & III</p> <p>State Policy to Local Practice Santee Winchell, Executive Director, LA Developmental Disabilities Council</p> <p>Advocacy doesn't end when laws are passed and policies are changed; they still must be implemented correctly. This session will explore the breakdown that sometimes occurs between state policy and local practice and discuss the role of advocates in ensuring the successful implementation of laws/policies.</p> <p>Making Connections That Count Senator Donahue, Representative Thierry, and Representative Schroder Facilitated by Delery Rice</p> <p>Three legislators with seats on powerful committees will share their personal perspective on how to connect with policymakers to achieve our advocacy goals. Learn the best approaches for developing personal relationships, sharing meaningful information, and bringing issues and/or concerns. Participants will have the opportunity to submit questions to the panel.</p>				

1:30 - 1:45 pm	Break/Transition				
1:45 - 3:00 pm	<p>Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (Choose One)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Salon I</td> <td>Salon IV</td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>How Employment Leads to a Meaningful Life Al Condeluci</p> <p>One of the most important goals for all people is viable opportunity for employment. In spite of our many years of work on this goal, however, the outcomes in this area are still not satisfactory. Some estimates suggest close to 75% of people with disabilities are either unemployed or underemployed. This is unacceptable. Participants will understand how employment offers more than a pay check, how employment affects social capital, and how social capital leads to employment opportunities.</p> </td> <td> <p>Systems Advocacy 101 Deborah Whitfield</p> <p>This session will define systems advocacy and make the case for why systems advocacy is so important. Moving from an understanding of what systems advocacy is, the speaker will discuss the critical need for, and the reward that can be realized from actively engaging in systems advocacy.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Salon I	Salon IV	<p>How Employment Leads to a Meaningful Life Al Condeluci</p> <p>One of the most important goals for all people is viable opportunity for employment. In spite of our many years of work on this goal, however, the outcomes in this area are still not satisfactory. Some estimates suggest close to 75% of people with disabilities are either unemployed or underemployed. This is unacceptable. Participants will understand how employment offers more than a pay check, how employment affects social capital, and how social capital leads to employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Systems Advocacy 101 Deborah Whitfield</p> <p>This session will define systems advocacy and make the case for why systems advocacy is so important. Moving from an understanding of what systems advocacy is, the speaker will discuss the critical need for, and the reward that can be realized from actively engaging in systems advocacy.</p>
Salon I	Salon IV				
<p>How Employment Leads to a Meaningful Life Al Condeluci</p> <p>One of the most important goals for all people is viable opportunity for employment. In spite of our many years of work on this goal, however, the outcomes in this area are still not satisfactory. Some estimates suggest close to 75% of people with disabilities are either unemployed or underemployed. This is unacceptable. Participants will understand how employment offers more than a pay check, how employment affects social capital, and how social capital leads to employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Systems Advocacy 101 Deborah Whitfield</p> <p>This session will define systems advocacy and make the case for why systems advocacy is so important. Moving from an understanding of what systems advocacy is, the speaker will discuss the critical need for, and the reward that can be realized from actively engaging in systems advocacy.</p>				
3:00 - 3:15 pm	Break/Transition				
3:15 - 4:15 pm	<p>Closing Plenary Session Salon II & III</p> <p>Energized & Motivated to Advocate Deborah Whitfield</p> <p>This session pulls it all together calling upon conference participants to reflect upon the empowering themes of the day, the successes realized by the advocacy efforts of the past 26 years, while re-energizing and re-invigorating conference participants on their path as effective disability policy change agents!</p> <p>Closing Remarks Delery Rice</p>				



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

Find out more about the Council's grassroots advocacy networks at www.laddc.org