



American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities



2025 ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

The
Power of
YOU!



**This preliminary agenda represents session information as of August 7, 2025. CEU information, session times, session locations, and session details are subject to change based on CEU approval organizations, the session presenters, or AAIDD-LA.*

Any revisions to the conference agenda will be included in the official 2025 AAIDD-LA Annual Meeting and Conference attendee program.



2025 ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 16 - 18, 2025

HOTEL BENTLEY OF ALEXANDRIA
200 DESOTO STREET
ALEXANDRIA, LA, 71301
318-442-2226

Targeted Audience:

Provider Agencies, persons with developmental disabilities, family members of people with developmental disabilities, administrators, physicians, nurses, psychologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech pathologists, direct support professionals, case managers, social workers, QIDPs and other professionals supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Purpose:

This conference is designed to provide information through lectures and interactive discussion on service issues and practices for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Register at <https://aaiddla.wildapricot.org/>

Sponsored by:



Conference-At-A-Glance

2025 AAIDD-LA Annual Meeting and Conference

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Community Provider Association Board Meeting: 11:00am – 12:30pm - Alexander Room 2nd Floor

Louisiana Conference of Executives of The Arc: Time TBA – Bayou Roberts Room 2nd Floor

Registration Open: 11:00am – 5:00pm – Lobby 1st Floor

Silent Auction: 11:00am - 5:00pm – Lobby 1st Floor

Fall Market and Exhibits Area Open: 12:30pm – 5:00pm – Lobby 2nd Floor

Pre-Conference Session A

<i>Session # Session Time Room</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Psych</i>	<i>Social Work General</i>
A1 1:00pm–5:00pm Claiborne Room	Empowering Individuals with IDD: Building Wellness to Avoid Mental Health Challenges & Trauma Impacts	Brandi Kelly, PhD & Panel	3.0	3.0	3.0

2025 AAIDD-LA Annual Meeting and Conference

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Registration Open: 8:00am – 5:00pm – Lobby 1st Floor

Silent Auction: 11:00am - 6:00pm – Lobby 1st Floor

Fall Market and Exhibits Area Open: 12:30pm – 5:30pm – Lobby 2nd Floor

Breakout Sessions B

<i>Session # Session Time Room</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Psych</i>	<i>Social Work General</i>
B1 1:00pm–3:00pm Bayou Chicot Room	Understanding and Supporting Important Health Considerations of those with Developmental Disabilities	Bethany Winfield, RN, BSN	2.0	2.0	2.0
B2 1:00pm–3:00pm Claiborne Room	Learning How to Conduct Your Own Mock Survey & Other Health Standards Information	Stacey Forbes, RN, SMQT Stacy Hardy, RN, SMQT Stacy Brown, RN, SMQT Cullen Brewer, LTC Manager	-	-	-
B3 1:00pm–3:00pm Livingston Room	Group Therapies for Persons with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities	Jay Sevin, PhD	2.0	2.0	2.0

Breakout Sessions C

<i>Session # Session Time Room</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Psych</i>	<i>Social Work General</i>
C1 3:30pm–5:30pm Bayou Chicot Room	RN Delegation in HCBS – Complex vs Non-Complex Tasks and Solutions for Insulin Administration in Community Settings	Kathleen Ceips, RN, BS	2.0	-	2.0
C2 3:30pm–4:30pm Livingston Room	The Power of NCI: Understanding and Implementing the NCI Surveys in Louisiana	Marian Olivier, MSW Pam Sund	-	-	1.0
C3 3:30pm–5:00pm Claiborne Room	Transforming Lives through Compassionate Communication and Feeding Practices	Natalie Hodges, MA, L-SLP, CCC-SLP Jenny Tassin, MS, L-SLP, CCC-SLP Ashley Dailey, MS, L-SLP, CCC-SLP	1.5	-	1.5

AAIDD-LA Welcome Reception / Awards Dinner / Karaoke: 5:30pm – 9:00pm – Ballroom First Floor

Conference-At-A-Glance

2025 AAIDD-LA Annual Meeting and Conference

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Breakfast: 7:30am – 8:45am – Ballroom 1st Floor

AAIDD-LA Annual Membership Meeting and Door Prizes: 8:00am – 8:30am – Ballroom 1st Floor

Silent Auction: 7:30am - 12:00pm – Lobby 1st Floor

Fall Market and Exhibits Area Open: 8:30am – 2:00pm – Lobby 2nd Floor

Breakout Sessions D

<i>Session # Session Time Room</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Psych</i>	<i>Social Work General</i>
D1 8:45am—9:45am Bayou Chicot Room	Inclusive Postsecondary Education – Pathways to Success	Derrick D. Wesley, EdD	TBA	TBA	TBA
D2 8:45am—9:45am Claiborne Room	Taking Action Against Abuse: Outcomes & Practical Tools for Safeguarding Louisianans with I/DD	Sharon Delvisco, DSW, LMSW, CGMP	-	1.0	1.0
D3 8:45am - 9:45am Livingston Room	Requirements for Reoccupying & Reopening following Emergency Events <i>(Part 2 of this presentation is Session F2)</i>	Brenda Kovach Venetra Holiday, RN	-	-	0.5

Breakout Sessions E

<i>Session # Session Time Room</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Psych</i>	<i>Social Work General</i>
E1 10:00am—12:00pm Bayou Chicot Room	From Risk to Resilience: Empowering Advocates in Safety Awareness	Collin Hernandez, LOTR, CEAC, RCP, ECHM	2.0	2.0	2.0
E2 10:00am—12:00pm Claiborne Room	HCBS Challenges and Changes	Adrienne Marchand, BSN, RN Shantell Jones, MHA, MPH Cullen Brewer, LTC Manager	-	-	-
E3 10:00am—12:00pm Livingston Room	The Power of Direct Support Professionals: Individual and Collective Strategies for Workforce Stabilization	Barbara Kleist, JD, FAAIDD	-	-	2.0

Lunch with Bernard Brown
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
12:15pm -- 1:15pm - Ballroom 1st Floor




Keynote Address:
The Power of You + Active Treatment = Potential Unlocked
Julie Beadle-Brown, PhD
1:30pm – 2:45pm - Ballroom 1st Floor
Approved for 1.25 CEU for Psych and SW General

Breakout Sessions F On Next Page

2025 AAIDD-LA Annual Meeting and Conference

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Breakout Sessions F

<i>Session # Session Time Room</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Psych</i>	<i>Social Work General</i>
F1 3:00pm – 4:00pm Livingston Room	Find Your Something	Katherine Klimitas, BA Artist/Designer/Speaker 	-	-	-
F2 3:00pm – 4:00pm Claiborne Room	Staying in the Know: The Power of Notifications and Reporting <i>(Part 2 of Session D3)</i>	Erika Fontenot	-	-	0.5
F3 3:00pm – 4:00pm Bayou Chicot Room	Building the Bridge: Supporting the Transition to Adulthood for Youth with I/DD	Sharon Delvisco, DSW, LMSW, CGMP	-	-	1.0
Total Attainable CEUs			<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Psych</i>	<i>Social Work General</i>
			9.0	9.25	11.25



Register at <https://aaiddla.wildapricot.org/>



Our Keynote Speaker



Julie Beadle-Brown, PhD

*Project Manager, California Community Living Network
Emeritus Professor in IDD, Tizard Center, University of Kent, UK*

Julie Beadle-Brown is currently Project Manager for the California Community Living Network, overseeing the design and implementation of the State funded PAVE Service Outcomes Project and the Direct Support University curriculum. She is also Emeritus Professor at the Tizard Center, University of Kent, UK. Julie has over 30 years' experience researching, evaluating and improving the quality of life outcomes and service quality experienced by people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the world, with a particular focus on workforce development and organizational change needed to implement person-centered approaches to support. She is author of a large number of publications and training materials aimed at a variety of stakeholders and has trained more than 2000 families, staff, managers, senior managers and clinical professionals on person-centered active support in more than 10 different countries including the USA.

Our Featured Speaker



Katherine Klimitas, BA

*Artist/Designer/Speaker
Owner, KAK ART & Designs*

Katherine Klimitas is a New Orleans-based artist and designer who sold her first watercolor at age 10. As the daughter of veterinarians, Katherine expresses her family's life-long love of animals through her meticulous life-like paintings. She earned a B.A. from Loyola University in 2011, and today at age 36, runs her multifaceted business KAK ART & Designs from home. When clients learn that Katherine has Osteogenesis Imperfecta, also known as brittle bone disease, they are captivated by her unique perspective. She and her parents stopped counting her broken bones at 500 at age 10. She's 2 feet 7 inches tall, gets around in an electric wheelchair, and creates all of her art, jewelry and commercial graphic design while lying on her side.

Katherine is an artist, entrepreneur, and motivational speaker who shares her powerful story of resilience, creativity, and determination. Born with a rare bone disorder, Katherine has faced physical and emotional challenges her entire life. But instead of letting her circumstances define her, she used them as fuel to create something extraordinary.