

**W I L S O N
R E S O U R C E S ,
I N C .**

Leslie Wilson, M.S.

President and Chief Executive Officer

As president/CEO of Wilson Resources, Inc. (WRI) over the past 18 years, Leslie Wilson, M.S. has consulted with major corporations, federal courts, state agencies and private nonprofits in states from coast-to-coast to expand the employment opportunities of people with disabilities.

Currently, WRI is assisting the State of Florida in implementing its federal Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG). One of the major grant components is aimed at increasing the number of people with disabilities who become competitively employed. WRI is also sustaining Florida's 10 local award-winning Business Leadership Networks (BLNs), which are employer-to-employer organizations that market the employment of people with disabilities. The BLNs and the employers who belong to them have won every major United States Business Leadership Network award and various types of state recognition.

Leslie Wilson serves on the National APSE: The Network on Employment Board of Directors, and is the recipient of the 2003 National Leadership Award and the 2004 Businesswoman of the Year, both presented by the National Congressional Committee's Business Advisory Council.



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"Social Entrepreneurs"

Business with a Mission

Wilson Resources, Inc. has expertise in employment, research analysis, funding strategies, quality assurance, training and technical assistance.

**WILSON
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Wilson Resources, Inc.

Connecting the Business Community to a Diverse Workforce

Florida: Providing staff support to 10 award-winning local Florida Business Leadership Networks and training to the BLNs and member companies on *Turning Diversity into Dollars...The Many Benefits of Hiring Workers with Disabilities*. The BLNs are employer-to-employer organizations dedicated to promoting the employment of people with disabilities. More than 600 businesses belong to the BLNs. The statewide BLN champion is Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida. Other employer members include, the Federal Reserve Bank, Merrill Lynch, Walt Disney World, Holland and Knight Law Firm, Hyatt Hotels and Comcast Cable.

Florida: Through a 2007-08 contract with Workforce Florida, Inc. and in cooperation with the local Florida BLNs, WRI administered a pilot project that offered paid internships to adults and students with disabilities with limited work experience. Employers were reimbursed for 240 hours of the interns' time up to \$12/hour plus 7.65 percent payroll taxes. The employer paid the intern. Many of the internships were limited to the summer, but for those that were not, approximately 40 percent of the interns secured paid employment as a result. Others developed resumes and references that assisted them in finding employment following their "paid" work experience.

Training, Teleconferencing and Technical Assistance

Florida: Working with the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) in implementation of its federal Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG), first awarded in November 2005 by the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). WRI provided project management services in 2006 and 2007 and assisted APD in implementing the grant's multiple components. In 2008, WRI is providing statewide Supported Employment Training, training trainers and offering an advanced training curriculum titled, *Working with Business: The Best Practices of the Most Successful Employment Specialists*. Since 2006, WRI has trained nearly 2,000 service providers on expanding the employment of people with disabilities.

National: Working with CESSI to promote the "new" Social Security Administration Ticket to Work Program among employers. Recently completed a handbook for employers on becoming SSA Employment Networks.

National: Worked as a management consultant to human service organizations across the United States. Provided training and on-site technical assistance to government employees and not-for-profit administrators.

Arkansas: Assisted the state of Arkansas in developing transition policies and recommending solutions to problems that are impediments to the successful transition of individuals who lived in the state's intermediate care facilities. Produced a transition handbook titled, "Moving to Your New Home."

Florida: Produced for the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDCC) four statewide teleconferences and associated workbooks on Florida's supported employment services in calendar years 1999 and 2000. In the fall of 2000, produced a teleconference on Social Security Work Incentives with an associated workbook. Over 1,000 people attended the highly rated teleconferences.

Oklahoma: Produced and co-wrote a satellite based training curriculum titled "Leading and Managing in a Total Quality Environment for Oklahoma's Managers Serving Persons with Disabilities." Funded by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, the course was granted three hours of graduate credit by the University of Oklahoma.

Oklahoma: Wrote for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services' Developmental Disabilities Services Division its supported employment training manual for the mandatory training of all job coaches employed in the state of Oklahoma and trained all of the trainers. The training was written in 1994 and revised in 1998. Oklahoma has more people by percentage in supported employment than any other state (71%). The national average hovers around 24 percent.

Research Projects

Florida: Completed with the Center for Outcome Analysis a research project for the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council on hurdles to employment for Floridians with developmental disabilities. Over 500 people were surveyed. The 2002 study found that the vast majority of individuals who were not working in paid community jobs wanted such jobs (75%). The Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities used the report to establish a 5-year employment goal for individuals being served.

National: Research consultant to NISH, a national organization established by the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act, to provide employment to persons with severe disabilities through federal contract set asides. The 2002 research project ascertained the satisfaction of NISH's federal customers and community rehabilitation providers across the United States. Also presented the research findings, conducted regional focus groups and

provided additional research to four of NISH's six regions.

Illinois: On contract with Corporate Alternatives, directed the projects and authored in 1991 *The Three Year Longitudinal Study of Supported Employment in Illinois* for the Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services and the *Evaluation of Supported Placements in Integrated Community Environments* for the Illinois Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Monitor Services for State Governments & Other Organizations

Tennessee: From 1998-2001, community services consultant to the Court Monitor in evaluating the quality of community supports (residential and day services) provided to former Arlington Developmental Center residents who live in community homes. Also testified in United States District Court, organized reviews, and compiled and edited special reports for the Court Monitor for submission to the Court. Reports included the "Quality of Life Review," "Monitor's Special Report on Independent Support Coordination," and the "Report on At-Risk Class Members in the Community." These activities were monitoring components of the case *United States of America v. The State of Tennessee*, United States District Court, Western District of Tennessee, Western Division.

Georgia: Completed an intensive review of a statewide provider's community services for persons with developmental disabilities and made extensive recommendations for quality improvements.

Florida: Developed in October 2001 for the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc., Florida's protection and advocacy agency, a monitoring protocol to be used by the Center's staff in assuring the quality of services and supports provided to individuals with disabilities living in the community.

Wilson Resources Leadership Awards and Memberships

- National APSE: The Network on Employment Board of Directors, June 2004 to Present
- 2004 Businesswomen of the Year and 2003 National Leadership Award, presented by the National Republican Congressional Committee, Business Advisory Council
- National Register—Who's Who in Executives and Professionals, 2004 Edition
- WRI is a Florida certified Minority Business Enterprise (Women-Owned)
- WRI is certified with the U.S. Government as a "Small, Woman-Owned Business"

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