

Meet Our Experts



ALLAN I. BERGMAN

is the President and CEO of HIGH IMPACT Consulting, a national firm he established in 2010. He is a nationally recognized thought leader in influencing the development of federal and state policy reflecting “best practice” community supports and services for persons with disabilities. He also is a national expert in Medicaid policy and practice regarding individuals with disabilities and their families. Since 2010, Allan has provided consultation, training and technical assistance in twenty-six states, and is currently leading a customized employment training and certification project for the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities. Since

2011, he has been under contract as a subject matter expert for the U. S. Department of Labor on Employment First policy and rebalancing state day and employment supports into the “most integrated setting.” Prior to beginning HIGH IMPACT Allan held several leadership positions with United Cerebral Palsy in Washington, D.C. He also served as the President and CEO of the Brain Injury Association of America. Allan is the father and step-father of two adult daughters, Dina and Mindy. Dina lives with intellectual disabilities and Mindy lives with multiple disabilities secondary to Rett Syndrome. Both live in their own apartments with supports and are employed.



DR. STEVEN HUNT

is a leading professional in the field of Supported/ Customized Employment. Steven began his work with Briggs & Associates, based in Georgia, as a career specialist in 2006, and currently serves as a Region Director for Floyd, Bartow and parts of Cobb and Paulding counties. During his tenure with Briggs & Associates, Steven has proven to be very successful in both securing employment for individuals with disabilities as well as helping them to maintain those jobs. Steven serves as a lead trainer for new staff

within Briggs & Associates as well as an expert trainer of staff from other agencies. Steven’s experience guides him through the most complex and challenging needs of individuals and assists him as a leader to express commitment to people as a priority. Steven earned a Doctor of Psychology degree from the University of The Rockies, with an emphasis on Mental Health Administration. When asked, Steven said his greatest passion is supporting individuals in reaching their full potential in life.

La Developmental Disabilities Council

Raising Expectations: EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL!

2017 CONFERENCE



Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

November 9th - Crowne Plaza Hotel - Baton Rouge, LA

APSE Certified Employment Support Professional Exam Sitting

November 8th 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Location and Registration [Here](#)

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:45 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast <i>Hall & Premier 3</i>
8:45 - 9:00 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Premier 3</i> April Dunn, Sandee Winchell Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
9:00 - 10:50 am	Keynote Address <i>Premier 3</i> Employment First: More Than a Slogan; and the Role of Customized Employment to Implement Raised Expectations Allan Bergman <p>During this session, Allan will provide an overview of the role employment plays in our lives and the foundation for the national priority for employment for individuals with all disabilities in federal policies, national data sets, and research, and the need to promote high expectations for each person with a disability regardless of their level of supports needed. Allan will also introduce the concept of and federal definition of Customized Employment, an evidence-based practice for assisting job seekers with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and significant complexities to seek, obtain, retain and advance in competitive integrated employment.</p>
10:50 - 11:00 am	Break / Transition
11:00 - 12:00 pm	Morning Concurrent Sessions (Choose One) <i>Cypress 2</i> Today's Louisiana Employment Service System Rosemary Morales , Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities; Angela Montgomery , LA Rehabilitation Services; Libby Whiteside , The Advocacy Center; Donald Leger , LSU Health Human Development Center Benefits Planning Services <p>Amid all of the various programs and frequent changes in the area of employment services for people with disabilities, it's understandable why so many people seeking services feel lost. This panel of state experts will help self-advocates and families understand what services are available in Louisiana and provide clarity on what to expect each step of the way on their path to employment. A benefits counselor will also explain how employment does and does NOT impact government benefits.</p>
	<i>Premier 2</i> The Elephant in the Room: Culture Change for Community Providers Allan Bergman <p>Many organization executives and their board of directors believe the most essential path to success is a strong strategic plan with timelines and measurable goals and objectives. Unfortunately, over 70% of such plans fail because, as Peter Drucker stated, "Culture will eat strategy for breakfast." In this session, Allan will provide an organizational framework for successfully managing the transition from segregated, center-based programs to community integrated services and supports.</p>

12:00 - 1:15 pm	Lunch & Earn <i>Premier 3</i> Real Life Experiences with Employment Myllinda Elliott , Parent; Jeannie Doiron , Parent; Lucas Doiron , Self-Advocate; Alex Tindle , Self-Advocate; Rhonda Brown , Rouses Market Facilitated by Dr. Steven Hunt <p>This session is about getting a job, making your mark on the world and earning a living! Come and learn from this panel of families, self-advocates and employers who will share their perspectives on what it takes to be successfully employed.</p>
1:15 - 1:30 pm	Break
1:30 - 3:00 pm	Afternoon Plenary Session <i>Premier 3</i> Customized Employment: A Provider's Experiences with Individuals with Intense Support Needs Dr. Steven Hunt <p>There has been a wide spread fallacy that people with "severe intellectual disabilities" are not able to work in productive jobs, but customized employment is a fail proof approach that when applied appropriately, will match people into jobs that are right for them. Join Steven for stories, strategies and insights that prove it is truly possible to establish meaningful careers for anyone with the desire to work, no matter how significant the impacts of their disability. Steven will deliver a step-by-step approach on how employment opportunities for individuals with severe intellectual disabilities are advanced through customized employment and illustrate how an understanding of a job seeker's skills and the employer's needs result in meaningful careers. Stories of real people in customized employment will be featured along with practical in the field applications on how to utilize knowledge gained of individuals through the discovery process to create job opportunities. Steven will also share strategies on how to develop natural support on the job site for individuals with severe intellectual disabilities.</p>
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Closing Plenary Session <i>Premier 3</i> Making Employment First and Customized Employment a Reality for All Louisiana Citizens with Developmental Disabilities: Action Steps Allan Bergman <p>Today's conference is the beginning of a journey of systemic change in Louisiana for comprehensive legal, operational and financial implementation of Employment First and Customized Employment. In this session, Allan and Steven will define the steps necessary for special education, vocational rehabilitation, Workforce Job Centers and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities to create a seamless system of services and supports that assures competitive integrated employment outcomes and customized employment for all.</p>



Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING