

Biographies of Speakers

Jeffery Gross, Architects PA:

Jeffery Gross founded Jeffery Gross Associates / Architects / P.A. in 1973. As the Managing Partner, he has led the firm to the successful completion of many prominent projects, both renovations and new construction. Broadcast Television, Health Care Facilities and ADA implementation have become areas that Mr. Gross has developed highly as part of the firm's scope of services. Mr. Gross has become an expert in designing facilities for the physically disabled and elderly and has been an invited lecturer for the American Institute of Architects, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the National Construction Specifiers Institute Convention, and various other organizations. As the Building Owners and Managers Association's representative on the Florida Building Commission, Mr. Gross is currently working "hands on" in integrating and updating accessibility requirements into the State Building Code.

Larry Schneider, AIA:

Larry M. Schneider, AIA is the principal of his own firm Larry Schneider, AIA. Prior to reopening his own firm, he was the Accessibility, Value Analysis, and Partnering Coordinator with the firm of Dade Aviation Consultants at Miami International Airport. A graduate of the University of Florida in Gainesville, Mr. Schneider received his Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1973. He has been a principal with his own architectural firm of Currie Schneider Associates AIA, PA for ten years in which the firm won numerous design awards from such groups as AIA Florida, AIA Palm Beach, the City of Delray Beach and the State of Florida Trust for Historical Preservation.

Christine Cubelo, HLAA:

Christine Cubelo is a US Navy Veteran; after 8 years of honorable service from 2003 to 2011, she reconvened civilian life and completed her Bachelor's degree in Technical and Professional Studies at the University of Maryland University College in 2011. She has been working in healthcare for 13 years, 5 of which she has been a certified Audiology Technician and Hearing Aid Specialist. She has a passion for community service and enjoys incorporating her healthcare background into her service. She is a graduate of the 2019 Cohort of Network of Network of Consumer Hearing Assistive Technology Trainers.

Meg O'Connell, GDI:

Global Disability Inclusion was founded by leading disability inclusion expert Meg O'Connell. O'Connell has worked with some of the world's top brands across a variety of industries and has been implementing and leading disability inclusion efforts for large organizations since the mid-'90s.

She is an experienced Human Resource professional who has won numerous awards for her work, developing talent management strategies, customer solutions, employee engagement, and corporate marketing/branding campaigns, all geared towards including people with disabilities in the workforce, workplace, and marketplace.

Melissa Terbrueggen, CareerSource:

Melissa Terbrueggen is Regional Director of Economic Development and Business Services for CareerSource Northeast Florida, where she has been employed since 1997. Melissa manages a regional team and directs all business and employment services for the organization, which serves six counties surrounding Jacksonville. She completed the Georgia Institute of Technology Economic Development Course in 2005 and works closely with economic development organizations, providing labor market information and support to companies considering locating or expanding in the area. Melissa is also highly involved in Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce as well as JAXUSA our regional economic development entity. Melissa also serves multiple state and national committees and cohorts to promote economic development. A graduate of the University of North Florida, Melissa's studies included Public Administration and Political Science. Her background includes marketing, Human Resources, recruiting, training and assessment.

Andreas Glover, VR:

Andreas Glover is an Area Supervisor with the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). In this role, he is responsible for the oversight of VR Services to clients in Jacksonville, FL while also collaborating with community and business partners to identify and fill open positions with qualified job seekers with disabilities. As a seasoned professional with more than 15 years of experience in human services, Andreas is known for his drive and commitment to helping people reach their full potential and just being "THE GREATEST"!

Thomas O'Hara, VR:

Thomas O'Hara is a Business Relations Representative with the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Tom joined FL VR in March of 2020, as the. He enjoys working with companies to provide support for individuals with disabilities during the hiring, training, and employment processes. Prior to Vocational Rehabilitation, Tom spent many years in public education in teaching, coaching and leadership positions, with the last 20 years of his career as a school building administrator. During his tenure as a school administrator, his success is attributed to relating to individuals, coaching, and multi-tasking in order to produce success.

Dan O'Connor, DBS:

Dan O'Connor is the District Administrator for the Florida Division of Blind Services (DBS), and has worked with DBS for over fourteen years. He has served in numerous roles with the Division of Blind Services including Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Transition Counselor, and currently serves as District Administrator. Dan was appointed to the Mayor's Disability Council by Mayor John Peyton and has served on the council for over fifteen years. He has served the City of Jacksonville for citizens with disabilities in various boards and commissions, including the Transportation Disadvantaged Board, the Elections Advisory Panel, the Florida Rehabilitation Council for the Blind, the Florida Human Rights Commission, and is currently serving as co-chair of the Employment sub-committee for the Mayor's Disability Council.