

Mobility and Seating Assessments and Equipment Procurement
Disability-Competent Care Webinar Roundtable Series: Training in Disability-Competent Care
and Supports
Presenter Biographies



Jean Minkel is Senior Vice President for Rehabilitation Services at Independence Care System of New York, which is one of the pilot programs that lead to the development of the Disability Competent Model of Care. She is an internationally recognized expert and speaker on seating and mobility issues, received the 1995 RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America) Fellow Award, and has produced the videotape series, “Spending or Investing – Funding Assistive Technology”. She is a physical therapist and master clinician.



Christopher Duff, M. Div., has thirty years of experience in the design and development of community-based rehabilitation and waiver services for adults with disabilities. He is currently Executive Director of the Disability Practice Institute, developing and advocating disability-competent practices in the delivery of health care services and supports, and promoting the dissemination of an integrated, team-based model of disability care practice. He was lead author in the development of the Disability-Competent Care Assessment Tool with Resources for Integrated Care. Most recently, he was President/CEO of AXIS Healthcare, the care management component of the Minnesota Disability Health Options and other waiver and health plan initiatives. AXIS Healthcare was a leader in the development of disability care coordination, utilizing clinical guidelines and practice standards to ensure persons with disabilities receive timely and appropriate care and support. He has been active in public policy and advocacy efforts at both the state and Federal levels. He has a Bachelors of Arts in Social Services Administration from the University of Minnesota and a Masters of Divinity from United Theological Seminary.



June Kailes, MSW, LCSW is a disability policy consultant with 35+ years of experience working as a contractor with a variety of health facilities and managed care organizations, and as a consultant, trainer, writer, research, and policy analyst for government-related projects as a consultant, trainer, writer, researcher, and policy analyst. She is also the Associate Director of the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy, Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, CA and previously served as Executive Director of the Westside Center for Independent Living in Los Angeles, CA.

She has developed training material and curriculum in the areas of the ADA, aging with a disability, and disability literacy and competencies, and worked on dozens of national research and model development projects. Ms. Kailes also teaches “Disability Competency in the Health Professions,” an introduction course to disability issues for health professionals. It covers disability-related preferred etiquette practices, disability demographics, Medical and Social Models of disability, quality of life issues, culture, risk factors, secondary conditions, Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, and major disability-related public policy and ethical issues. She has a Bachelors of Arts in Psychology from Hofstra University and a Masters in Social Work from University of Southern California.