

# Community and Belonging: Cultural Shifting and the Power of Social Capital

AL CONDELUCI, Ph.D.

Virtual Family Conference  
April 8, 2022  
10 am - 2:30 pm

Inclusion Alberta invites families, staff, professionals, administrators and others working in the field of developmental disabilities and related fields to hear from this distinguished international speaker.

Inclusion  
Alberta



## WORKSHOP

### Community and Belonging: Cultural Shifting and the Power of Social Capital

Presenter: Al Condeluci, Ph.D., Consultant, Author, Advocate and Change Agent

Dr. Al Condeluci will bring his almost 50 years as a leader and author in strategies for building bridges to community participation and belonging for persons with disabilities in this informative and interactive workshop. Too many individuals with developmental disabilities find themselves in separate spaces rather than in community spaces where their passions can be exercised and their contribution to community life and relationships appreciated.

Recognizing and making the most of social capital can be an effective means for individuals with disabilities to move from the margins of community to become integral community members, to the benefit of all. Al will focus on the role of families and support staff as well as the role of community members and organizations in the needed cultural shift. Workshop participants will learn the 4 key steps to cultural shifting, including the differences and necessity for both bond and bridge building. Participants will also learn how to enlist the support of positive gatekeepers to enable communities of belonging and participation to emerge.

This workshop will be significant value and interest to individuals with disabilities, their families, friends and those who work in and provide leadership within human services.

## PRESENTER

**Al Condeluci** has been an advocate, a catalyst for building community capacities, and leader in understanding social culture since 1970. He was the CEO of Community Living and Support Services (CLASS) until his retirement in late 2018. CLASS is dedicated to its mission - working toward a community where each belongs. CLASS, under the 47 years of Al's leadership, grew to become the third largest disability specific agency in Southwestern PA with a budget of \$16 million and a staff and payroll complement of 400. Al remains associated with the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work and School of Health and Rehabilitation Science where he teaches, supervises students, and serves as adviser and consultant.

Today he is recognized as a national leader and consultant on human services and community issues. He speaks annually to national and international audiences reaching some 15,000 people each year. His books have won praise and awards for their thoughtful approach to culture and community and are now used at many colleges, universities and in-service settings. Al was instrumental in founding the Interdependence Network (IN), a collaborative effort between disability-based human service organizations from around the United States and Canada. The network explores the concept of social capital, community engagement and inclusion in the lives of people with disabilities as a primary strategy for enabling people with disabilities to become full members of society.

Along with his professional activities, Al is involved in a variety of civic volunteer roles. He is on the Board of the Southwest PA Partnership for Aging, and other various community based groups. In 2018, Al received the Key to the City of Pittsburgh from Mayor William Peduto, the highest civilian honor that can be given to a citizen.

For more information visit [www.alcondeluci.com](http://www.alcondeluci.com).

Register online at [inclusionalbarta.org](http://inclusionalbarta.org)