

# Pamela Williamson

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## CURRENT POSITION

Assistant Director, Southeast ADA Center  
A project of Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, Atlanta, Georgia

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Pam Williamson serves as the Assistant Director of the [Southeast ADA Center](#), a project of the [Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University](#). The Southeast ADA Center is a member of the [ADA National Network](#) and is funded by the [National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research](#), a Center within the Administration for Community Living located in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Williamson has expertise on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Air Carrier Access Act, building effective grassroots networks, special education services, aging populations, and supported employment. She is a member of Georgia APSE (Association of People Supporting Employment First) and serves on the Board of Directors. She also facilitates collaborations among individuals and groups, builds the capacity of organizations to facilitate voluntary compliance with the ADA, and leads groups to enhance their knowledge and skills in mutually identified areas of interest.

Ms. Williamson also contributed to the development and implementation of three online courses: [ADA Basic Building Blocks](#) (adabasics.org), [At Your Service: Welcoming Customers with Disabilities](#) (wiawebcourse.org), and the [ADA Title II Tutorial](#) (adatitle2.org). She also co-authored the curricula, *Serving Customers with Disabilities in Air Travel* and the *ADA and Self-Advocacy for Youth - Train-the-Trainer Curriculum: An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Roadmap*.

Ms. Williamson identifies as a person with a disability and has been involved with people with disabilities on a personal and professional level most of her life. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Therapeutic Recreation from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017-Present**     **Assistant Director**, Southeast ADA Center, Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2010-2017**     **Project Director**, Southeast ADA Center, Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2006-2010**     **Director of Training and Technical Assistance**, DBTAC: Southeast ADA Center, Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2001-2006**     **Assistant Director/Program Manager**, Southeast Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center (DBTAC), Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA), College of Architecture, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 1999-2001**     **Assistant Director**, Southeast Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center (DBTAC), United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) National, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 1995-1999**     **Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR) Coordinator and Advocate**, Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina.
- 1993-1995**     **Pre-School Special Education Service Provider**, Richmond County Board of Education, Augusta, Georgia.
- 1992-1993**     **Service Coordinator and Home-Based Intervention Specialist**, Aiken County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs, Aiken, South Carolina.

## EDUCATION

Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia, B.S. Recreation/Therapeutic, June 1990.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

*Disability, Diversity, and Intersectionality in CILs*. Presented by the IL-NET, CIL-NET, SILC-NET, and the National Council on Independent Living, Atlanta, Georgia. August 20-22, 2019.

## CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Whaley, B. A., Cummins, R., Williamson, P., Killeen, M., Adya, M., & Morris, M. W. (2016). Pathways to careers: An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) roadmap. *ADA and Self-Advocacy for Youth - Train-the-Trainer Curriculum: An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Roadmap*.

Galifianakis, M., Kaplan, S, M., Peace, S., Schwanke, M., Weiss, S., & Williamson, P.R. (2007). [ADA Title II Tutorial](http://adatitle2.org) (adatitle2.org).

Williamson, P.R., Weiss, S.Z., Hofmann, C., Schwanke, M., Kaplan, S., Endicott, S., Edmonds, C., Stran, M., and Morales, W. (2003). [ADA Basic Building Blocks](http://adabasics.org) (adabasics.org).

Williamson, P.R., Weiss, S.Z., Schwanke, M., & Kaplan, S. (2002). [At Your Service: Welcoming Customers with Disabilities](http://wiawebcourse.org) (wiawebcourse.org).

## RESEARCH

Member, Southeast ADA Center's Research Leadership Team, 2016 – Present.

[Financial Inclusion in the Southeast Region](http://adasoutheast.org/research/frog/) (link: [adasoutheast.org/research/frog/](http://adasoutheast.org/research/frog/))

**Research Focus:** The Southeast ADA Center is conducting research to examine the physical and electronic accessibility of financial services, for people with disabilities as well as collaborating with individuals with disabilities, banks and credit unions to gain a better understanding of gaps in accessibility.

## COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

Member, ADA National Network ADA and Healthcare Committee, 2018 - Present.

General Board Member, Georgia APSE (Association of People Supporting Employment First) Board of Directors, 2017 – Present.

Chair, ADA National Network – Administration on Community Living Work Group, 2015 – 2017.

Publication Reviewer, ADA National Network, 2012-Present.

Member, ADA National Network Knowledge Translation Work Committee, 2012-2017.

Member, National DBTAC ADA and Hospitality Work Committee, 2010-2012.

Member, Georgia Emergency Preparedness Coalition for Individuals with Disabilities and Older Adults, Atlanta, Georgia, 2008-2010. Co-facilitator, Training Sub Committee, 2009.

Member, National DBTAC ADA Document Portal Work Committee, DBTAC-CORC Liaison, 2008-2012.

Member, National DBTAC Website Development Committee, 2006-2011.

*Idea Exchange: Sharing Our Training Wealth*, Discussion Facilitator for ADA and IT Technical Assistance Centers Network (DBTACs), August 23, 2004.

*Promoting Accessible Information Technology in the Education Setting*, Discussion Facilitator for the ADA and IT Technical Assistance Centers Network (DBTACs), November 14, 2003.

*Building A Network That Will Outlive You*, Discussion Facilitator for ADA and IT Technical Assistance Centers Network (DBTACs), August 19, 2003.

*Training the New Technical Assistance Specialist*, Discussion Facilitator for ADA and IT Technical Assistance Centers Network (DBTACs), June 12, 2003.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Williamson, P. R., Morder, M. J., & Whaley, B. A. (2020, June 10). *The ADA and Face Mask Policies* [Fact sheet]. Retrieved from <https://www.adasoutheast.org/ada/publications/legal/ada-and-face-mask-policies.php>.

Hofmann, C.L., & Williamson, P.R. (2018). *Essential functions of a job and reasonable accommodations*. America's Job Exchange Employer Articles. Retrieved from [www.americasjobexchange.com/employer/employer-articles/essential-functions-reasonable-accommodations](http://www.americasjobexchange.com/employer/employer-articles/essential-functions-reasonable-accommodations).

Williamson, P.R. (2017). *Reasonable accommodations for food allergies in the workplace*. America's Job Exchange Employer Articles. Retrieved from [www.americasjobexchange.com/employer/employer-articles/food-allergies-in-the-workplace](http://www.americasjobexchange.com/employer/employer-articles/food-allergies-in-the-workplace).

McDonald, K. E., Williamson, P., Weiss, S., Adya, M., Blanck, P. and DBTAC: Southeast ADA Center PAR Research Consortium (2015), *The march goes on: community access for people with disabilities*. *J. Community Psychol.*, 43: 348–363. doi: 10.1002/jcop.21683.

Williamson, P.R. (2008). *Words of Wisdom*. *North Carolina DHHS Employee UPDATE*, October 2008, Pages 3-4.

Williamson, P.R., *Training the New Technical Assistance (TA) Specialist—A Model Plan*, June 2003.

## SELECTED TRAINING ACTIVITIES

[ADA National Network Learning Session: Who Let the Dogs \(and Miniature Horses\) In? Service Animals in Health Care Facilities](https://adapresentations.org/healthcare/webinar.php?id=12) (link: [adapresentations.org/healthcare/webinar.php?id=12](https://adapresentations.org/healthcare/webinar.php?id=12)), ADA National Network Webinar Series: Health Care and the ADA-Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, May 28, 2020.

*Webinar: Moving Mountains: Promoting a Culture of Diversity Where Every Person Belongs.* National APSE Webinar Series. May 26, 2020.

[ADA National Network Learning Session: COVID-19, Health Care, and the ADA](https://adapresentations.org/healthcare/archive-health.php) (link: [adapresentations.org/healthcare/archive-health.php](https://adapresentations.org/healthcare/archive-health.php)), Co-presented with Jan Garrett, Program Manager, acific ADA Center, Emily Shuman, Deputy Director, Rocky Mountain ADA Center, and Michael Richardson, Director, Northwest ADA Center. ADA National Network Webinar Series: Health Care and the ADA-Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, April 23, 2020.

*The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Addiction, and Recovery, Building Communities of Recovery,* Marietta, Georgia. September 24, 2019.

*Promoting a Culture of Diversity - Including People with Disabilities in Fulfilling Your Organization's Goals.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Equal Employment, Atlanta, Georgia. August 15, 2019.

*The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Fostering an Inclusive Work Culture for Employees with Psychiatric Disabilities.* National APSE Annual Conference, St. Louis, Missouri. June 18, 2019.

*Promoting a Culture of Diversity - Including People with Disabilities in Fulfilling Your Organization's Goals.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Equal Employment, Atlanta, Georgia. October 30, 2018.

*Can They Do That? ADA Court Cases Employment Professionals Should Know.* GA APSE Annual Conference, Athens, Georgia. October 11, 2018.

*Pathways To Careers: An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Road Map (Video Training).* Space Coast Center for Independent Living (Florida) Summer Youth Program, Rockledge, Florida. July 11, 2018.

*The Disclosure Dialogue: Strategies for Effective Disability Disclosure to an Employer.* Alabama APSE Annual Conference. Birmingham, Alabama. June 14, 2018.

*ADA Trainer Network - Southeast - Train the Trainer.* North Carolina ADA Network. Burlington, North Carolina. May 24-25, 2017.

*ADA Trainer Network - Southeast - Train the Trainer.* Disability Rights and Resources. Birmingham, Alabama. April 25-26, 2017.

*Serving Customers with Disabilities.* Georgia Bankers Roundtable, Valdosta, Georgia. March 27, 2017.

*ADA and Disclosure vs. Self-Identification (ADA and Section 503)*. Co-presented with Barry Whaley. ADA Coordinator Conference, Jacksonville, Florida. January 31, 2017.

*The ADA & Customer Service*. ADA Coordinator Conference, Jacksonville, Florida. January 31, 2017.

*ADA Basics*. Co-presented with Barry Whaley and Jack Humburg. ADA Coordinator Conference, Jacksonville, Florida. January 30, 2017.

*ADA Title I Employment Guidelines*. Co-presented with Barry Whaley. ADA Coordinator Conference, Jacksonville, Florida. January 30, 2017.

*Webinar: Customer Service and the ADA*. Monkey Joe's. October 18, 2016.

*The Disclosure Dialogue: Strategies for Effective Disability Disclosure to an Employer*. Georgia Association of People Supporting Employment First (GAPSE), Athens, Georgia. October 13, 2016.

*ADA Basics*. Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia. November 11, 2015.

*ADA and Civil Rights Overview*. Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia. April 16, 2015.

*ADA & Psychiatric Disabilities in the Workplace*. State Farm ADA Team Training, Atlanta, Georgia. November 6, 2013.

*The Work of the Southeast ADA Center and Engaging Students with Disabilities*. Georgia PTA Annual Convention Leadership Training, Atlanta, Georgia. July 13, 2013.

*Webinar: So You Think You Know Disability Laws? An Overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*. Teach for America, March 7, 2013.

*Webinar: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Site Coordinator Training: Very Important Training Available: VITA for All - Making VITA Sites Accessible to Persons with Disabilities*. Co-presented with Karen Hamilton. February 22, 2010.

*The Americans with Disabilities Act and Court Accessibility*. Co-presented with Mike Galifianakis, Esq., Georgia State ADA Coordinator. Touch the Future/Transition and Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia. October 24, 2008.

*From the Files: Case Studies in Employment under the Americans with Disabilities Act*. Co-presented with Donna DeStefano, Tennessee Disability MegaConference. Franklin, Tennessee. June 17, 2006.

*From A to D: How to Create and Maintain an Effective Network*. Co-presented with Donna DeStefano and Floyd Stewart, Tennessee Disability MegaConference. Nashville, Tennessee, June 3, 2005.