



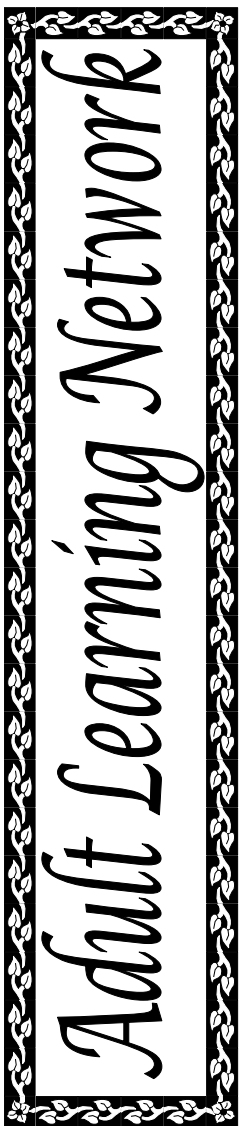
*AACAE Announcement*

Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center

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<http://www.aalrc.org>



*The Adult Learning Network is a quarterly publication of the AALRC.*

The Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center provides equal access to all programs and activities.



**Virtual AACAE  
2020 Conference  
October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>**



**nav·i·gate**

*To plan and direct the course. To plan, direct, or plot the path.*

The Arkansas Association of Continuing and Adult Education (AACAE) Board elected to hold its annual conference virtually this year due to COVID-19. The conference will be held October 8-9, 2020, and will still host events such awards, keynote speaker, presentations from the field, the annual AACAE Membership meeting, and sponsors. It is our intention to provide our Arkansas adult educators, volunteers, tutors, and staff with essential tools to navigate our ever-changing field of Adult Education and Literacy.

It is our desire to bring you information from the field that will help you better serve your students. This information should assist you in navigating this new world we live in and bring planning and direction to the new paths that we are all on together. So, please plan to join us and your colleagues in October! It is sure to be a ride!

We are looking for great presenters! If you have some great information, solutions, tricks, and fun to share, we would love to hear it!

**To Register for the Conference:**  
<https://forms.gle/kLGEgaVNMBHPTCij6>

**To Register to be a Presenter:**  
<https://forms.gle/z381GAnCRm4QSFjaA>

*Calendar*



Professional Development Events:

**July**

- July 10 – Adult Education AmeriCorps Site Supervisor Training –  
2 online courses, Webinars July 15, 22, 29 & August 5  
(Session ID will be sent to participants)
- July 21 – Data Entry Webinar – 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. - Session ID: **418479**
- July 21 – Data Entry Webinar – 1:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. - Session ID: **418480**
- July 22-23 – ESL Institute - Session ID: **417545**  
July 22 – 1:00 – 3:00p.m.  
July 23 – 9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. & 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- July 23 – LACES 101 Webinar - 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. - Session ID: **418487**
- July 23 – LACES 101 Webinar - 1:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. - Session ID: **418489**
- July 24 – What’s New? Updates for CDFs and CSPs - Session ID: **418681**  
Webinar – 10:00a.m. – 12:30p.m.
- July 28 – Teacher Summit Webinar - Session ID: **418097**  
9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. & 1:00p.m. – 3:00p.m.
- July 30-31 – Instructional Practices Webinar - Session ID: **418688**  
9:00 – 11:00a.m. each day

**August**

- August 6 – Teacher Competencies & Evaluations (for Directors) Webinar –  
10:00a.m. – 12:00 Session ID: **418705**
- August 10 – Confidentiality Compliance Opens - Session ID: **418494**  
Registration must take place BEFORE this date
- August 11 – How to Utilize the Bridge (Transition) program on Canvas (For  
Directors) 10:00a.m. – 12:00p.m – Session ID: **418719**
- August 11 – Teacher Competencies & Evaluations (for Directors) Webinar –  
1:00p.m. – 3:00p.m. Session ID: **418707 – This is a  
repeat of the August 6<sup>th</sup> webinar.**
- August 12 – Data Entry Webinar  
9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. - Session ID: **418481**
- August 12 – Data Entry Webinar  
1:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. - Session ID: **418482**
- August 13 – LACES 101 - 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. - Session ID: **418490**
- August 13 – LACES 101 - 1:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. - Session ID: **418491**
- August 18 – How to Utilize the Bridge (Transition) program on Canvas  
(for Staff) 10:00a.m. – 12:00p.m - Session ID: **418730**
- August 19 – LACES for Teachers – 9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.  
Session ID: **418550**
- August 20 – Equipping the Career Coach Webinar  
10:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. - Session ID: **418736**

*Governor  
Asa  
Hutchinson*

*AR Department  
of Commerce*

*Mike Preston,  
Director*

*AR Division of  
Workforce Services*

*Dr. Charisse  
Childers, Director*

*Adult Education  
Section*

*Dr. Trenia Miles,  
Director*

*AR Rehabilitation  
Services*

*Joe Baxter,  
Director*

*Division of  
Services for the Blind*

*Dr. Cassandra Stokes,  
Director*



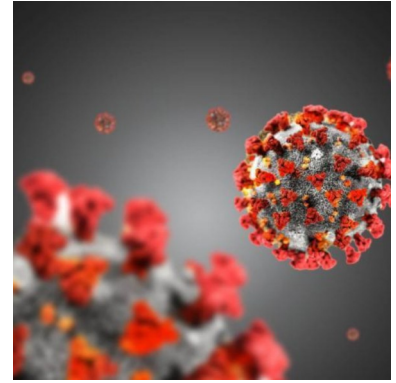
- August 20 – Making Big Gains on TABE 11/12 Reading Webinar  
1:00p.m. – 3:00p.m. Session ID: **418802**
- August 26 – LD: Virtual & Digital Tools for Learning Barriers Webinar  
9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. Session ID: **418525**
- August 26 – LACES for Directors - 9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418542**
- August 28 – LD: Applications Webinar - 9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. Session ID: **418500**

## September

- September 1 – Teacher Competencies, Evaluations & PD Plans: What Teachers Need to Know -  
9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418554**
- September 2 – Facilitating Career Development – Day 1 -  
**Participants that apply and are chosen will receive the Session ID.**
- September 9-10 – AmeriCorps Member Orientation – Session ID will be sent to participants.
- September 10 – LACES for Teachers – 9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418551**
- September 11 – Show and Tell: How Resourceful Are You?  
9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418624**
- September 14 – RLA and Social Studies in a Virtual World Webinar  
9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. - Session ID: **418830**
- September 14 – RLA and Social Studies in a Virtual World Webinar  
1:30p.m. – 3:30p.m. - Session ID: **418837 (repeat of the morning session)**
- September 15 – Teaching Math When you are NOT a “Mathy” Person  
9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418560**
- September 17 – LACES for Directors - 9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418545**
- September 22 – How to Develop an Effective Out-of-School Youth Program  
9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418603**
- September 23 – Implementing Health Literacy Standards in a Time-strapped Classroom -  
9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Session ID: **418564**
- September 24 – Transition Planning for Students with Learning Differences Webinar  
9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. Session ID: **418510**
- September 28 – Science in a Virtual World Webinar  
9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. - Session ID: **418885**
- September 28 – Science in a Virtual World Webinar  
1:30p.m. – 3:30p.m. - Session ID: **418890 (repeat of the morning session)**
- September 29 – LD: Applications Webinar - 9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. Session ID: **418501**

## Disability Resources for the New Normal

Virtual education has become the backbone of our educational system in less than half a year. We realize the importance of needing a good education, good access to technology and resources to go to when we do not have all of the answers. We also understand that each situation, I previously mentioned, is exacerbated in impact by adding a physical or learning disability, not to mention that many persons in this category have a low socio-economic status. Luckily for the world of education, we have places where we can find resources to aid in assistance.



<p><b>Learning Disabilities of America</b></p>	<p><a href="https://ldaamerica.org/">https://ldaamerica.org/</a></p>	<p>Specifically, the adult learning section.</p>
<p><b>University of Arkansas - Partners for Inclusive Communities - Accessibility Unit</b></p>	<p><a href="https://uofapartners.uark.edu/">https://uofapartners.uark.edu/</a></p>	<p>PARC provides a great database of COVID-19, health and community based resources.</p>
<p><b>Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion</b></p>	<p><a href="https://askearn.org/">https://askearn.org/</a></p>	<p>Provides important Coronavirus related updates from the US Department of Labor.</p>
<p><b>AALRC Disabilities Resource Page</b></p>	<p><a href="http://aalrc.org/adminteachers/disabilities/disabilities.html">http://aalrc.org/adminteachers/disabilities/disabilities.html</a></p>	<p>Local and state resources based on various topics.</p>
<p><b>Job Accommodation Network</b></p>	<p><a href="https://askjan.org/">https://askjan.org/</a></p>	<p>Has updated services which include employment information and assistance on COVID-19 based barriers.</p>
<p><b>New Course Development: Learning Disabilities - Virtual Websites &amp; Tools</b></p>	<p>This workshop will focus specifically on using appropriate digital technology/apps to assist in learning barriers. In addition, online resources to aid student learning, collect, assess and provide immediate feedback will be covered. Look for dates on the AALRC PD calendar.</p>	<p>Presented by Wendy Bryant, Disability and Online Learning Coordinator, Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center.</p>

## COVID-19's Detrimental Impacts on Persons with Disabilities

Coronavirus has had a major impact on our society; however, if you think about it, the level of impact tends to mirror the pre-COVID-19 socioeconomic status and intellectual ability. This is why COVID-19 effects seem to be the most evident among two categories: minorities and individuals living with disabilities.

A new study published in the Disability and Health Journal stated that individuals with a disability are more likely to die if COVID-19 is contracted. The study, published in May, used information gathered through patients' electronic medical records. Using information gathered from 30,282 persons diagnosed with COVID-19, the findings gave a glimpse into the dim fate of many persons with disabilities.

Previous studies showed the fatality rate among persons without a disability to be 2.7%. The researchers of the published disability findings used data from age ranges 18-74 and found the fatality rate to be a little over double at 4.5%.

The study looked at electronic medical records for 30,282 people with the virus, including 474 with developmental disabilities like intellectual disability, cerebral palsy and Down syndrome.

Among those ages 18 to 74 with COVID-19, researchers found that the fatality rate was 4.5 percent for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities compared to 2.7 percent for others. The rate of death was also higher among individuals with developmental disabilities ages 17 and under, while the fatality rate was similar for those ages 75 and older whether or not they had a disability.

Scott Landes, an associate professor of sociology at Syracuse University stated the following:

"Based upon the case fatality rates we report among those ages 18-74, if 100,000 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) contract COVID-19 — which is entirely possible in light of the estimates of the size of this population and the cumulative incidence rates we are seeing in our research — we would expect 4,500 to die." Scott's comparison stated, "Comparatively, among 100,000 individuals without IDD, we would expect 2,700 to die. That would be an excess of 1,800 IDD deaths and in my mind that is unacceptable."

Although the study found the fatality findings to be higher, the reasons why are not yet clear. Some researchers note that persons with disabilities are more likely to need public-based services or multiple persons for assistance, which can explain a higher level of exposure. It is difficult to limit COVID-19 when you require assistance from multiple venues or persons; however, the actual cause for fatality is still being researched.

While specific data is being gathered, it is important to note that safety measures are pertinent in order to protect all individuals.

### *AALRC Professional Development Team*

*Bridget Criner*

*Nancy  
Leonhardt*


*Dr. Trenia Miles*

*Bill Ritter*

*Marsha Taylor*

## Diversity Training

The AALRC is excited to announce that the first course is up and running in the new Adult Education Portal. Everyone will need to register in the portal. We anticipate more courses coming soon. Our special thanks goes to Carol Birth for her participation in this project.



Making the **UNCONSCIOUS** **CONSCIOUS**

### NEW online course for adult educators

Making the Unconscious Conscious IAG20079 | 1.5 credits

Adult educators interact with a wide variety of adult learners and oftentimes experience new cultures. While educators might not necessarily relate to each students' cultural norms, it is their job to be respectful and create a safe learning environment for their students. Carol K. Birth, Director of Adult Education at Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas, dives into diversity training with Making the Unconscious Conscious. Ms. Birth explains in depth how to make an adult education classroom a welcoming, safe space for adult learners by addressing topics that may be uncomfortable to some. She discusses the goals of diversity training and introduces matters such as conversation norms, waking from unconscious biases, and the impact of ethnocentrism.

This course includes activities from Ms. Birth's presentation, and it may be in your best interest to complete them individually or with your peers.

REGISTER AT: <https://learn.myarkansaspbs.org/login/signup.php?registration=AALRC>



## *AALRC Staff*

*Director*  
*Marsha Taylor*

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*Disabilities and  
Online Learning  
Coordinator*  
*Wendy Bryant*

*Receptionist*  
*vacant*

*Professional  
Development  
Coordinator*  
*vacant*

*Media  
Coordinator*  
*Klaus Neu*

*Administrative  
Assistant*  
*Toccara Pearson*

*Information  
Technology  
Specialist*  
*Rob Pollan*

Tech



Talk

**Note:** To link to any web address (URL) in this newsletter, go to the AALRC's home page at <http://aalrc.org>, look up this newsletter, and then just click on the appropriate link.

## Computer Backup

Do you have your important files backed up in case something happens to your computer? If not, then this is your reminder and you should pay heed before it's too late. There are several different ways to backup your files and it's best to have your data in at least 3 locations (including your computer and 2 backup locations). Listed below are three easy and cheap ways to make sure you don't lose your important stuff:



- Google Drive - Free – with each Google account you get 15 gigabytes of free storage and 30 gigabytes of storage with school accounts. Go to <https://drive.google.com/>, hit the NEW button and select File or Folder Upload. You can upload individual files or all your documents in your document folder, desktop folder, etc. It's as simple and free as that.
- Flash Drive - \$8 to \$80– these are handy, quick and work well, but don't make the mistake of just saving it to the flash drive and not to your computer too. Remember to save in more than one location.
- External USB Hard Drive - \$50 to \$200 – this is what you need to fully back up your computer and its operating system, not just your important files. If your hard drive crashes and you need to replace it (this happens fairly often) you can use the system image from your backup drive to get back up and running in no time. In Windows 10 type Backup in the search box next to the Start button, click Backup Settings, then click Go to Backup and Restore (Windows 7). Click Backup, select your USB backup drive, and let Windows choose what it backs up. Then set it to a weekly (or daily) backup schedule.

Don't forget to backup your phone too:

iPhone - <https://www.techwalla.com/articles/how-to-backup-an-iphone-on-a-computer>

Android - <https://www.pcmag.com/how-to/how-to-back-up-and-restore-your-android-phone-or-tablet>

Phone Photo Backup – you can have your phone automatically backup your pictures and video using the Google Photos App. It's seamless and works in the background, backing them up when you are on wifi.

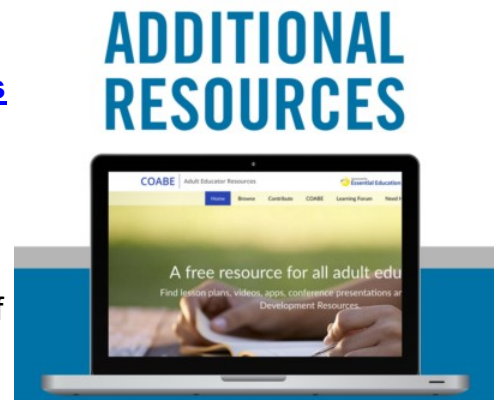
*Adult Educator Repository (AER)*

You can now access previous COABE webinar presentations and recording links on the AER! To access recent webinars and related materials you must now go to our [Adult Educators Resource website](https://adulthoodresource.coabe.org/) (<https://adulthoodresource.coabe.org/>).

The “View Webinar & Download Resources” buttons will direct you to the AER automatically. You will then be able to link to the archived video and view handouts as well as any additional materials provided. You are required to be a current member of COABE to access this website.

If you have any questions or concerns you can reach out to [aeradmin@coabe.org](mailto:aeradmin@coabe.org).

For instructions on how to register for the AER or log in and view resources, please visit the [webinar archive page](https://coabe.org/webinar-archives/) (<https://coabe.org/webinar-archives/>). Instructions are located on the right hand side.



*“So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Goodbye” from Nancy Loftis*

I’ve been the Professional Development Coordinator for AALRC for more than 16 years. When this job became available, it seemed like a good fit for my skill set. I applied for the job at a time that I felt I was beginning to burn out as an adult education teacher after 24 years. I wanted to stay in the field of adult education, but with a different role.



Some of my major accomplishments include changing from paper/pencil to online PD registration in ESCweb, which was a huge challenge fourteen years ago when many teachers didn’t have email. In the end, it was so worth the effort. I wrote and received several OCTAE grants for National Initiatives: CAELA, ANI-PD, SIA Innovations, and the Career Awareness Project which moved our state forward in these areas.

I’ve had the privilege of working with great directors, teachers, state staff, local program staff and, of course, the AALRC staff. It was a very difficult decision to retire, but it seemed like the right time. I didn’t want to be the one that holds on too long. My parting words are “It’s been a great 16+ years; I will miss everyone, but I’m looking forward to the next chapter, which I hope includes lots of travel!”

To the next PD Coordinator, I recommend that you make the job your own. You need to forge your own path.