

Lou Orslene

Co-Director of the Job Accommodation Network (JAN)

Lou serves as the Co-Director of the Job Accommodation Network (JAN) as well as the fiscal officer for both JAN and the Disability Research Policy Center at West Virginia University. Previously, Lou served as the JAN's Manager of Strategic Partnerships, Lead in a partnership with the Center for Personal Assistance Services, JAN Consultant with the Cognitive/Mental Health Team, and the Assistant Manager of Project RSVP, a Social Security Administration funded return-to-work demonstration project preceding the Ticket-to-Work Program.

In addition to providing program leadership, Lou also facilitates JAN's strategic planning process and works closely with outreach and education staff. Lou has also taken on the role of assisting other interested countries in replicating the JAN model. In this regard, Lou has traveled to and worked with the governments of Colombia, Republic of Korea, and India. Elements of the JAN Model have been replicated in other countries including the England, Japan, and Australia among others.

Before joining JAN, Lou worked as a quality assurance and strategic planning consultant. Lou also served as Executive Director of Life Management Consultants, an agency in Pennsylvania that provides residential, community, and employment related services for people with disabilities.

Lou graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with dual Master's degrees in Public and International Affairs and Social Work. Lou also earned a certificate in managing public and non-profit organizations, as well as a specialization in economic development administration. He holds an undergraduate degree in Human Resource Management.

Lou is committed to increasing the employability of persons with disabilities. This commitment is continuously deepened through the exploration of the nexus between the needs of employers and abilities of persons with disabilities.