

RESUME

Susan J. Willis

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Education

BFA ('67) and MA ('70) from The Ohio State University, majoring in design and communication.

Employment

In 1992, as an outgrowth of the work Willis was doing for disability clients, she formed the AXIS Center for Public Awareness of People with Disabilities. For nineteen years, the major project of this organization has been a grant funded by the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council to produce public awareness materials and/or events. Key to the early grants was the quarterly newsletter that AXIS created and distributed to more than 20,000 people. Other projects of AXIS included presentations, product development, event planning and coordination, and an information and referral service to Ohioans. Recently, Willis formed Susan J. Willis, Ltd., an individually owned company that oversees the AXIS business.

In 1976 Willis and professional photographer Vince McGuire established a photo/design business in Columbus. Operating as a small advertising agency, McGuire-Willis & Associates offered production and marketing services (writing, editing, layout and design, photography, video and duplication) to mid-size companies. MW was experienced in producing a variety of products to meet client needs: brochures, direct sales items, annual reports, logos, corporate identity programs, product catalogs, and audiovisual presentations. The company became successful developing training programs and advertising materials for central Ohio corporations including BancOhio, IRD Mechanalysis, Ross Laboratories, Merrill Publishing, Borden Chemical, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, and Governor's Council on People with Disabilities.

Willis worked from 1972-76 in Denver, CO developing Career Exploration programs for elementary/middle school students under a federal grant, and from 1969-1972 in Columbus as art director for a textbook publisher and an advertising agency.

Affiliations

OSU/Nisonger Center's Consumer Advisory Committee; Columbus Advisory Committee on Disability Issues (CACDI) appointed by Mayor Coleman; Cerebral Palsy Association of Ohio

(CPO), past-president; Ohio Domestic Violence Network; TWIGs of Children's Hospital; Maize Manor United Methodist Church; Disability Policy Coalition (DPC), steering committee; Ohio Olmstead Task Force (OOTF); Ohio Disability Vote Coalition (ODVC), steering committee; Visitability Strategy Group (VSG); and Ohio Disability Employment Coalition (ODEA), coordinator.

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