

Wilbert Cooley

Mobile, Alabama • (251) 343-0603 • wcooley1@bellsouth.net

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts
Organizational Management and Communications
Springhill College, Mobile, AL

Associate of Science
Paralegal
Springhill College, Mobile, AL

Associate of Arts
Bishop State Community College, Mobile, AL

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I have 14 years experience working as director of a senior citizens outreach center and a combination of 19 years experience working first as manager of my family's construction business and later as an owner and operator of a construction company. My experience as senior center director afforded me the ability to draw from my education as well as my on-the-job training, skills and experience I attained working in construction.

As outreach center director I was charged with interfacing with low-income seniors, coordinating and implementing programs and services, providing advocacy and contract negotiations regarding compliance related issues involving government housing programs as well as with other social service agencies focused on alleviating sub-standard housing conditions affecting low-income seniors. As a construction owner/operator I actively pursued contract opportunities for the company to perform repairs, rehabilitation, remodeling, new construction, heating and cooling system installations, insulation installation, installing wheelchair ramps as well as other handicap amenities in the homes of low-income seniors and disabled individuals.

The services I provided allowed seniors to age in place as opposed to being placed in facilities for the aging. I partnered with The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (Community Development Department's Home Funding Program), The United States Department of Agriculture (Rural Home Development Division), The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, and Mobile Community Action (Weatherization Program and Li-Heap) to provide programs and services.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Citizens Community Outreach Services Inc., Mobile, AL
November 1997 – June 2009
Executive Director

As director of Senior Citizens Community Outreach Center I was responsible for coordinating and implementing programs and services for low-income and under served seniors. The services rendered consisted of but was not limited to providing counseling services involving matters related to advocacy, transportation, housing, legal and insurance issues, Health and Fitness, Educational, Recreational and Social Services. I also provided Case Management Services that included the provision and coordination of home health aides to go into the senior's provide Homemaker and Personal Care Services for seniors and Respite Care Services to relieve the senior's primary care givers of some of their routine duties.

A-Team Contractors, Mobile, AL
July 1997 - January 2003
Owner / Manager

As owner/operator of A-Team Contractors, I was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the construction company. My duties included advertising and marketing, estimating, pricing and bidding on contracts involving new construction, remodeling and rehabilitation for both major and minor repairs. I was also responsible for coordinating and managing the construction work crews, which included job-site scheduling, project procurement, supplies and material procurement as well as bookkeeping and employee payroll.

Cooley's Construction Company, Mobile AL
January 1984 - July 1995
General Manager

As the General Manager, I grew the business and establish the Cooley Construction Brand in the local government and private markets. My duties included advertising and marketing, estimating, pricing and bidding on contracts, purchasing materials and supplies, job-site scheduling, bookkeeping and payroll.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

President of the Lyons Park National Junior Tennis League • Member of the Prichard Auxiliary Board • Member of the American Society on Aging (ASA) • American Society on Aging (ASA) New Ventures in Leadership Program • American Society on Aging Minority Concerns Committee • Member of Grant Makers in Aging (GIA) • Board of Directors – Family Oriented Primary Health Care Governing Council • Member of the City of Mobile's Geriatric Healthcare Committee.

HONORS AND AWARDS

American Society on Aging
2003 National Conference
Chicago, IL

New Ventures in Leadership Award

The Senior Citizens Community Outreach Program's outreach service initiatives for low-income seniors was selected as one of three programs nationally to be filmed and featured in a documentary, celebrating the American Society on Aging, New Ventures in Leadership (NVL) Program's tenth anniversary.

I was one of 36 graduates of the 2003 NVL class. The NVL program was sponsored by the United States Department of Aging and it was designed to foster the training of leaders working in the field of aging to address the needs of existing seniors as well as the burgeoning Baby Boomer population.

Grant Makers in Aging
2002 Conference
Denver, CO

Scholarships

I received a scholarship to attend a Grant Makers in Aging Conference in Denver Colorado in October of 2002 and while attending that conference I was selected to receive a scholarship to attend a Public Housing Conference for Seniors Residing in Public Housing that was held in Miami Florida in December of 2002.