
About Judith McGill – A Brief Biography

Judith has worked as the Executive Director of Families for a Secure Future, an independent facilitation organization, for over 20 years. As an Independent Facilitator she spends time with individuals and their families supporting them to take up their adult roles and actively “re-imagine” their futures, one step at a time. For some this entails supporting them over time to build and maintain a Support Circle so that they may deepen their sense of community and be supported to make decisions alongside others.

As a sibling of a brother with cerebral palsy she is deeply committed to bringing about a transformative change in how people come to see themselves.

Judith is an adult educator with LifePath Training and has been writing and speaking about leisure, relationships, independent facilitation and community building in the field of disability for almost four decades. Her provocative style and inspirational ideas have helped to transform the lives of many of the people she has come into contact with. She has a marvelous capacity for helping people discover what really matters in their life and muster the courage to go after it.

She is author of *Developing Leisure Identities: A Pilot Project*, co-author of *Leisure, Integration and Community* with Peggy Hutchison and co-editor of *The Pursuit of Leisure: Enriching the Lives of People who Have a Disability*. She is currently writing several books entitled: *Riding the Tiger: Taking Charge of Hiring and Keeping Outstanding People*; *The Power of Support Circles*; *Conscious Listening and Speaking*; *Meditations on Everyday Mercies*.

She has written numerous articles related to leisure integration, she was a Board member and Editor of the *Journal of Leisurability* for ten years and a Member of the Southern Ontario Training Group for several years.

Judith has done extensive training in Social Role Valorization (SRV) and the use of the SRV evaluative tool, *Program Analysis of Service Systems’ Implementation of Normalization Goals (PASSING)* which is the work of Wolf Wolfensberger.

She worked as Leisure Consultant for the G. Allan Roeher Institute (Inclusion Canada) for five years and was Senior Advisor to People First of Ontario, a self-advocacy group for people labelled with a developmental disability for over eight years.

She has a Masters of Environmental Studies from York University, that focused on social policy and an undergraduate degree in Leisure Studies and Business at Waterloo and Laurier jointly.

