



Robert Bentley
GOVERNOR

Alabama Department of
REHABILITATION SERVICES



Cary F. Boswell
COMMISSIONER

Thursday, May 12, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kathleen McGehee
334-293-7500 or 1-800-441-7607

ADRS honors longtime staffer Nowell with VIP Award

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) recently presented its Lamona H. Lucas VIP Award to longtime staff member Carl Nowell.

The VIP Award, which was presented at the department's training conference in early May, is named in honor of former ADRS Commissioner Lamona H. Lucas and is presented to an individual whose leadership embodies the characteristics of vision, involvement, and persistence.

Nowell, 87, has been employed by the state of Alabama since 1965, when he joined the staff of what was then the Department of Education's Division of Rehabilitation Services as a rehabilitation counselor. Throughout his 46-year tenure with Rehabilitation Services, he has worked in a number of capacities, including district supervisor and state supervisor. He currently is a rehabilitation specialist in the department's state office in Montgomery, where he works with individuals who have learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, autism, and substance abuse.

ADRS Commissioner Cary Boswell commended Nowell for his lifelong commitment to helping others and specifically people with disabilities.

"No one epitomizes the qualities of vision, involvement, and persistence better than Carl Nowell," said Boswell. "He truly represents the spirit, heart, and soul of our department and its mission 'to enable Alabama's children and adults with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential.' His deep commitment, compassion, and concern for the people he serves has changed literally hundreds – and perhaps thousands – of lives."

A native of Mississippi, Nowell served in the United States Army during World War II and was among those storming the beaches at Normandy on D-Day. He holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture education and a master's degree in school administration, both from Mississippi State University. He also has a master's degree in psychiatric/psychological rehabilitation counseling from the University of Alabama.