

## **Jane Lawyer, M.Ed.**

*Director, Wellington-Alexander Center, Scottsdale, Arizona*

Jane Lawyer is the director of the Wellington Alexander Center in Scottsdale, Arizona, an interdisciplinary neurodevelopmental assessment and treatment center for individuals with dyslexia, language/learning disabilities and sensorimotor difficulties. The center utilizes a medically-based, scientifically proven intervention program that aims to treat the root causes of an individual's learning difficulties. As the director of the center Jane oversees all aspects of the Center.

Jane has been involved in the education field for over 30 years. She has been a classroom teacher in Florida, Alabama, and Arizona. The last 6 years of her public school teaching was spent as a reading specialist with the Litchfield School District in Litchfield, Arizona. As the reading specialist, she used a multisensory phonemic awareness program called The Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing Program for Reading, Spelling and Speech (The LiPS Program). Jane was trained in this program in 1989 when she took her 9-year-old dyslexic daughter to San Luis Obispo for intensive treatment. She has continued to use it for the past 20 years.

In 1998, she left Litchfield School District to work at the Morris Center, the Wellington-Alexander Center's sister center, in Gainesville, Florida. She worked there with Dr. Ann Alexander for 5 years. Initially, her position at the Morris Center was that of a language clinician using the LiPS Program. Jane then went on to work as the grant coordinator for an NICHD (National Institute of Child Health and Human Development) grant that studied the efficacy of phonologically based intensive interventions. When the grant concluded, she took the position as the clinic coordinator. Jane left the Morris Center to head up the Wellington-Alexander Center in Scottsdale, Arizona in 2003.

Jane has distinct ties to the Latin culture, as her father worked for an oil company in Colombia, South America for 27 years and then took a job in the Republic of Panama when she was 12 years old. In Colombia, she lived in an oil camp in a small village in the middle of the jungle. She was taught by American teachers through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, when she moved to Panama. Although her family lived in Panama City, Panama, she attended 4 years of high school at a Department of Defense school in the Canal Zone. Jane's first words were spoken in Spanish and she fully understands and respects the Latin culture and is most grateful for having had these opportunities.

Jane received her B.Sc. degree in education from East Carolina University and her master's degree in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University. She is a member of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) and serves on the Board of Directors for the Arizona Branch of the IDA. She also serves on the advisory board for Lexis Preparatory School, a Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade private school for children with ADHD and dyslexia, in Scottsdale, Arizona.