

DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

MMRB Liaison: Samuel Vilchez Santiago, (407) 459-2324

MISSION

Addresses problems such as limited access of public accommodations and recommends priority funding needs of the disabled to the Board of County Commissioners.

STATUS OF VACANCIES

There are two vacancies on this nine-member board in the at large representative category due to the resignations of Michael Lincoln-McCreight and Kristi Keoughman.

THE MMRB RECOMMENDS:

Consideration of the appointment of Charlotte M. Leavitt to succeed Michael Lincoln-McCreight in the at large representative category with a term expiring June 30, 2026.

APPLICANT

OCCUPATION

DISTRICT

Charlotte M. Leavitt

Center for Independent Living in
Central Florida, Inc./Executive
Director

3

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:

Charlotte M. Leavitt Ms. Leavitt is the executive director of the Center for Independent Living in Central Florida, Inc., where she has been employed for nine years. She holds a bachelor's degree in religion from Florida State University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Central Florida.

CURRENT BOARD

	<u>ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>
<u>At Large (9)</u>			
Carlton R. Reid	09/16/25	06/30/27	1
Michael T. Lincoln-McCreight [RESIGNED]	05/07/24	06/30/26	6
John W. Ashton	12/12/23	06/30/27	1
Marsha J. Bukala	03/11/25	06/30/26	5
Kristi Keoughan [RESIGNED]	01/13/26	06/30/27	1
Carmen L. Torres	03/11/25	06/30/26	4
Kaley M. Kass	10/14/25	06/30/26	5
Reverend Marcelino Rivera	08/05/25	06/30/27	6
Camille Gardiner	11/15/22	06/30/26	3

Advisory Board Application for Appointment

Date: 1/12/2026

Application Number: 96822

Application Expires: 1/12/2028

Name: Ms. Charlotte Merritt Leavitt

Business Address:

720 Denning Drive N
Winter Park, FL 32789

Home Address:

5100 Belleville Avenue
Belle Isle, FL 32812

Mail Address:

5100 Belleville Avenue
Belle Isle, FL 32812

Email Address: cleavitt@cilorlando.org

Home Telephone Number:

(407) 770-8192

Work Telephone Number:

(407) 961-5531

Employer: Center for Independent Living in Central Florida, Inc.

Job Title: Executive Director

Years Employed: 9

Education:

School: Florida State University

Degree: Bachelors in Religion

School: University of Central Florida

Degree: Masters in Public Administration

Boards of Interest:

Disability Advisory Board

Licences/Certificates Information: Not Listed

Personal History: I have spent my career working alongside people with disabilities and advocating for systems that promote independence, access, and equity. I currently serve as the Executive Director of the Center for Independent Living of Central Florida (CIL), a nonprofit that supports individuals with disabilities in achieving self-directed lives through advocacy, peer support, independent living skills training, and community engagement. In my role, I work closely with consumers, families, service providers, and local partners to identify barriers and develop practical, person-centered solutions. I have hands-on experience with housing access, transportation challenges, employment supports, benefits navigation, and navigating complex public systems. I also collaborate regularly with local government agencies and community stakeholders to strengthen services and improve outcomes for residents with disabilities in Orange County. My professional experience is complemented by a strong personal commitment to disability inclusion and community service. I believe that people with disabilities must have a meaningful voice in the decisions that affect their lives, and I am passionate about advancing policies and practices that reflect lived experience, dignity, and choice. I am interested in serving on the Orange County Disability Advisory Board to contribute a nonprofit and systems-level perspective, elevate the voices of individuals with disabilities, and support collaborative, forward-thinking solutions that make our community more accessible and inclusive for all.

Prior Relationship with County: No

Explain Prior Relationship: Not Listed

Reference: Josue Obando

Phone Number: (407) 623-1070

Capacity/ Relationship: Employee under my supervision

Reference: Julie Tindall

Phone Number: (407) 246-3275

Capacity/ Relationship: Classmate, Collaborated on projects

Reference: Brittany Pilcher

Phone Number: (407) 218-4369

Capacity/ Relationship: Former coworker

Professional Organization Information: Not Listed

Orange County Resident: Yes

Resident Since: 14

Registered Voter: Yes

District: Orange County District 3

Previously Served On: Unlisted

Year Previously Served: Unlisted

Gender: Female

Disabled: No

Are you of Hispanic origin? Not Hispanic

Race: Caucasian

Current Applicants for the Disability Advisory Board as of 2/6/2026

Name	District/County	Application Date
Acquah, Wisdom Kwame	Orange County District 1	5/7/2025
Andrews, Ameeta T.	Orange County District 6	8/22/2024
Banks, Alycia C.	Orange County District 5	1/8/2025
Benhart, Mary	Orange County District 4	7/24/2024
Buford Johnson, Janet Marie	Orange County District 6	1/22/2026
Burgess, Beverly	Orange County District 2	6/21/2024
Byers, James	Orange County District 1	12/23/2025
Davis, Jeffrey S.	Orange County District 1	2/21/2025
Fernandez, Tatiana	Orange County District 4	12/26/2025
Forthuber, David	Orange County District 2	2/3/2026
Geller, Edward M.	Orange County District 5	1/4/2026
Hall, Jennifer M.	Orange County District 4	9/15/2025
Hilliman, Charlyn A.	Orange County District 2	1/24/2026
Huff, Vincent A.	Orange County District 1	10/17/2025
James, Tabitha	Orange County District 2	9/26/2024
Johnson, Latresa	Orange County District 6	1/30/2025
Leavitt, Charlotte Merritt	Orange County District 3	1/12/2026
Lezak, Steven D.	Orange County District 3	8/19/2025
Long, Jody D.	Orange County District 1	1/7/2026
Lynch, Patrick Merle	Orange County District 3	8/14/2024
Vargas, Jennifer J.	Orange County District 1	6/24/2024
White, James A.	Orange County District 4	9/11/2024