Joann Starks

Joann Starks, M.Ed., is a senior technical assistance consultant at American Institutes for Research (AIR), which is based in Arlington, Virginia. Starks works with the Center on Knowledge Translation for Disability and Rehabilitation Research (KTDRR, beginning in 2012) and worked with the Center on Knowledge Translation for Employment Research (KTER, 2010-2020). Funding for both Centers is from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). Starks also serves as Co-chair of the Disability Coordinating Group of the international Campbell Collaboration (2017-present). In October 2020, Campbell awarded her with the *John Westbrook Award for Contributions to Knowledge Translation*.

Her expertise covers a broad range of issues and supports for individuals with disabilities, particularly equity and multicultural issues, as well as employment, independent living, special education services, and support for communities of practice. Additional highlights of her qualifications include knowledge translation, dissemination, and utilization; systematic reviews of disability and rehabilitation research; web accessibility; and copyright concerns. She has made multiple presentations at national and international colloquia and conferences. Starks was a research and program associate at SEDL from 1995-2015, when SEDL merged with AIR. She was involved with research and dissemination activities of the National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research (NCDDR, 1995-2011) and subcontract work focusing on knowledge translation.

Starks holds an M.Ed. degree in Social/Multicultural Foundations and a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her academic preparation includes coursework in special education administration and bilingual special education above the master's degree level at The University of Texas at Austin. In 2014 she earned the Knowledge Translation Professional Certificate through the University of Toronto and the Hospital for Sick Children.