



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Alabama arthritis program leader recognized**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The arthritis staff of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognized Linda Headley Austin as the nation's outstanding arthritis program manager. Ms. Austin has been the arthritis coordinator for the Alabama Department of Public Health since the inception of state arthritis programs at CDC in 1999.

According to Lee Ann B. Ramsey, Public Health Advisor/Project Officer, CDC arthritis staff, "She has been an exemplary leader from the start and is considered THE go-to person by many of CDC's state arthritis programs who want to model Alabama's success. She has fostered exceptional collaborative partnerships within state government and the private sector. Her enthusiasm, determination, and desire to build quality arthritis programs for the people of Alabama is inspiring."

Ms. Austin has won awards from CDC for outstanding evaluation of Alabama's arthritis program and for partnership building. Alabama's work in arthritis has been featured numerous times in CDC-wide program briefings.

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