

Currently serving on the Board of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Idaho. Responsible for budgeting of two capital projects – a day room in Idaho Falls, Idaho (\$650,000 total project cost) and a new house in Boise, Idaho (\$15,000,000) both to be complete by first quarter of 2020. Serving as chair of the Construction Oversight Committee.



Q and A with Marcene ...

What have been the three most important factors in building your success as an estimator to this point?

- Having people willing to mentor me
- Taking advantage of every opportunity to learn and grow
- Keeping an open mind about different ways to deliver an estimate to make it most useful to the client

When you think back over your biggest learning moments, can you share one with us?

As a junior estimator, I was responsible for estimating the interior finishes and partitions on a large lab project at UCLA. I was taught to develop quantities using control quantities to account for elements that are not yet shown on the drawings because they aren't fully developed. On this project, I forgot to multiply the square footage of the partitions by two to account for both sides of the partitions' gypsum board sheathing. The mistake accounted for over a million dollars of work missed from the conceptual estimate. Luckily it was caught during reconciliation, but it was a lesson I remember on every estimate I complete to go back and review the overall numbers to see if they make sense.

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Alameda County's Highland Hospital Replacement project has made the biggest impact on my career. Because of my construction cost estimating experience, I was able to get involved in the project then was asked to help with overall project budgeting, management and purchasing of all furnishings, fixtures, and equipment, project accounting and reporting, and risk management. This one project has given me the opportunity to develop skills I use on other projects and with other clients. On top of the project work, I have met the most amazing people that still impact my life.

2019 ASPE
ESTIMATOR
OF
THE
YEAR



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For excellence in the art
of construction
estimating and in the
recognition of
outstanding
contributions to the
industry, the Society, and
our communities.