

~Various Links to Information and Resources for Supporting Families~

"The goal of supporting families is to support families, with all their complexity and diversity, in ways that maximizes their capacity, strengths and unique abilities so they can best support, nurture, love, and facilitate the achievement of self-determination, interdependence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life for their family members."

*(working definition from: ADD National Agenda on Family Support Conference – 2011)*

<https://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/pdfs/products/family/Wingspread.pdf>

In addition, one of the most important things families have stated they need in order to better and more fully support their family member with a disability is having access to information, resources, and best practices.

**Accessing DMH/DD Services:**

[Flow Chart to Accessing Division of DD Services](#)

[Common Acronyms & Abbreviations](#)

**People-First Language:**

[Disability is Natural](#)

**Parent-to-Parent Matching:**

[Life Course Tools – Peer-to-Peer Matching in Missouri](#)

[Parent-to-Parent USA](#)

**Sibling Support:**

[Sibling Support Project](#)

[Sibling Leadership Network](#)

**Planning Tools:**

[MO Division of Developmental Disabilities “Individual Support Plan Guidelines”](#)

[MO Division of Developmental Disabilities “Individual Support Plan Family Guide”](#)

[Life Course Tools](#)

[National Parent Center on Transition and Employment/Person-Centered Planning](#)

**Autism Services in MO:**

[Division of Developmental Disabilities – Office of Autism Services](#)

**Early Intervention Services:**

[Nurses for Newborns-Missouri](#)

[Missouri First Steps Early Intervention](#)

[MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – First Steps](#)

**MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education:**

[Resources/Information for Parents and Students](#)

[Special Education in Missouri](#)

[Early Childhood Special Education](#)

[MO Headstart](#)

**Special Education Advocacy, Support, & Education:**

[Parent's Guide to Special Education in MO](#)

[Missouri Parent's Act \(MPACT\)](#)

[MO Special Education Advisory Panel](#)

[Wrightslaw](#)

[Parent's Guide to Individual's with Disability Education Act \(IDEA\)](#)

[Autism Speaks](#)

[US Department of Education-Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\) Part B and Part C](#)

[IDEA Partnership](#)

[Center for Parent Information and Resources](#)

[Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\)](#)

[LDOnline](#)

[Disability.gov](#)

**Self-Determination:**

[MO Division of Developmental Disabilities – Self-Determination](#)

[Self-Determination: Supporting Successful Transitions](#)

[Fostering Self-Determination Among Children & Youth with Disabilities \(developed by parents\)](#)

[Families, Self-Determination, and Disability](#)

[National Gateway to Self-Determination](#)

[MO Division of Developmental Disabilities Self-Determination](#)

**Legal/Long-term Planning Resources:**

[The Missouri Bar](#)

[“Assistance to Parents of Children with Disabilities” Guide](#)

[Missouri – Midwest Special Needs Trust](#)

[Missouri Protection & Advocacy](#)

[Alternatives to Guardianship](#)

[Thinking About Guardianship? Consider “Alternatives” first](#)

[National Elder Law Foundation](#)

[Special Needs Alliance](#)

[National Guardianship Association, Inc.](#)

**Self-Advocates / Advocacy Organizations/Training Publications:**

[People First of MO](#)

[Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered - SABE](#)

[Project STIR – Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility](#)

[The Riot](#)

**Healthy Living:**

[Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities Health related links](#)

[MO Bureau of Special Health Care Needs \(SHCN\)](#)

[Family Partnership \(SHCN\)](#)

[Missouri Independent Living Centers](#)

**Abuse / Neglect Prevention & Training:**

[Missouri Institute of Mental Health - Abuse & Neglect Training](#)

[MO DMH - Division of DD Abuse & Neglect Prevention](#)

**Emergency Preparedness:**

[30 Tips for Emergency Preparedness – MO-DMH](#)

[Emergency Preparedness presentation from Missouri DD Council](#)

[MO Department of Mental Health Disaster Readiness](#)

[Missouri State Emergency Management Agency](#)

[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#)

[Preparing for Disaster for People with Disabilities](#)

[MO Ready in 3](#)

[Administration for Community Living](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[US Department of Health and Human Services](#)

[Disability.gov](#)

[Ready: Prepare, Plan, Stay Informed](#)

[National Organization on Disabilities](#)

[American Red Cross](#)

[MO Disability Portal Emergency Preparedness links](#)

**Aging:**

[MO Disability Portal information/resources on aging with a disability in MO](#)

[MO Dept. of Health and Senior Services – Senior and Disability Services](#)

**Assistive Technology:**

[Missouri Assistive Technology Project](#)

[MO Disability Portal Assistive Technology links](#)

**Leadership & Advocacy Opportunities:**

[Missouri Governor’s Council](#)

[Partners in Policymaking – Missouri](#)

[Autism Parent Advisory Committee/Autism Projects](#)

[Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council \(MODDC\)](#)

**Employment:**

[Missouri Division of DD – Youth Transition and Employment Services](#)

[MO Disability Portal Employment links](#)

**Housing:**

[Missouri Division of DD – Community Living and Accessible Housing](#)

[MO Disability Portal Housing links](#)

**Quality Assurance:**

[MO Division of Developmental Disabilities – Quality Assurance](#)

**Publications for Parents/Caregivers:**

[Exceptional Parent Magazine](#)

[Parenting Special Needs](#)

[Autism Speaks](#)

[Caregivers: Tips for Taking Care of Yourself](#)

[Taking Care of You](#)

**Links to additional information worth exploring:**

[Center for Parent Information and Resources](#)

[MO DMH/Division of Developmental Disabilities – Consumers & Families](#)

[MO DMH/Division of Developmental Disabilities](#)

[Supporting Families - National Community of Practice](#)

[Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights \(PACER\)](#)

[Beach Center on Disability](#)

[MO Disability Portal / Governor's Council on Disability](#)

**Stay Connected to MO Division of Developmental Disabilities:**

[Receive updates from MO Division of DD about programs, services, and opportunities](#)

<http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/dd/directconnectionmay2014.pdf>