



DIRECT CONNECTION

*Current news from the Missouri Division of
Developmental Disabilities to keep you informed*

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MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Partnership for Hope

The Partnership for Hope waiver was just expanded from 37 counties to 74 counties and 500 new slots added in February. Enrollment in the Partnership for Hope Waiver is currently 504, and enrollment is already underway in the 37 expansion counties. The division is planning to request another formal amendment and anticipates the amendment will be ready to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services before the end of this fiscal year. The directors of county boards not yet participating should contact their Regional Office Director as soon as possible if their board formally votes to participate in the waiver.

IN FULL SWING

Autism Navigators

Autism Navigator positions are found at each regional DD office. Autism Navigators provide support to individuals and families, regional parent advisory committees, local community organizations, DMH (Department of Mental Health) and TCM (targeted case management) providers. Supports and services provided by Autism Navigators may include:

- Training and technical support to service coordinators and other stakeholders regarding autism and autism services
- Connecting individuals and families to autism related supports and/or activities
- Attending monthly regional Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings and sharing updates and information locally
- Acting as an advocate for individuals and families affected by Autism
- Presenting information about Autism to community groups within the region

The Office of Autism Services (OAS) conducts quarterly teleconference meetings for Autism Navigators. On Wednesday, February 23, 2011, OAS hosted the first face-to-face Autism Navigator meeting and training in Jefferson City. Highlights and Resources are:

- Dr. Julie Donnelly presented the pilot training of the 3rd Rapid Response training module, Evidence-Based Interventions. The PowerPoint will be available soon at <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/autism/>. After pilot trainings and taping, the Rapid Response training modules are made available to all, free of charge, through Missouri Extension at <https://extweb.missouri.edu/courses/>.
- Kit Glover gave an overview of sections and instructions on how to use The National Autism Center's National Standards Report: The National Standards Project-Addressing the Need for Evidence-Based Practice Guidelines for Autism Spectrum Disorders available at http://www.nationalautismcenter.org/pdf/NAC%20NSP%20Report_FIN.pdf.

- Katherine Pigg, Kit Glover, and Julie LePage gave an overview of OAS’s Autism Navigators Guidebook including the following guidebook sections: *Autism Navigator Responsibilities*; *Autism Projects and Parent Advisory Committees*; *Resources for Frequently Navigated Points*; and *Training & Education*.
- Dr. Connie Anderson from Kennedy Krieger Institute, conducted an “IAN (Interactive Autism Network)-Go to Meeting” providing an overview for Autism Navigators on how to support service coordinators to assist families registering for *IAN Research* and using *IAN Community*. IAN link: <http://www.ianproject.org/>.
- Leanna Holdren provided a regional highlight giving an overview of the Kirksville Safety Initiative.
- Bernie Simons, Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities, spoke about system changes in difficult times and requested input from the Autism Navigators concerning training needs of the Division. Director Simons asked participants to view the *Moving the System Forward in Difficult Times* PowerPoint on the Division’s homepage. Link: <http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/dd/ddvision.pdf>

Additional information from OAS can be found at <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/autism/> , including a listing of Autism Navigators under “Autism Contact Roster.”

IN DEVELOPMENT

Waiver Reapplications

The Comprehensive and Community Support waiver reapplications were submitted by MO HealthNet to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on February 24. Under federal law, CMS has 90 days within which to review. CMS may ask questions during the review process. If the questions are substantive, CMS may issue a formal request for additional information. CMS then has an additional 90 days to review the state’s response.

BRIGHT IDEAS

DESE and Division of DD Team Up on Research to Support Families with Medically Fragile Children

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has awarded a grant to the Division to conduct research on a program to support families with medically fragile children. The research, which is being conducted by the Division, the Missouri Institute of Mental Health (MIMH), and Children’s Home Society (CHS) with referrals being provided by service coordinators from the First Steps Program, is examining the impact of *Nurturing Parenting*, an evidenced-based curriculum, that supports families in understanding their child’s development, become aware of available resources, and allows for parent to parent support. The research outcomes will be used by a joint ad-hoc committee from both the Comprehensive System Management Team (CSMT) for System of Care and the Early Childhood Coordinating System (ECCS) to formulate policy recommendations for Missouri’s children with medical fragility and developmental disabilities.

DIVISION FACTS AT A GLANCE

	2005	2010	March 2011
Number of Persons Served			
Habilitation Centers - On Campus	1,106	695	616
Habilitation Centers - Off Campus	156	147	178
Residential Services	5,277	5,988	6,066
In-home services	7,398	9,497	9,455
Case Management Only	14,698	13,428	13,584
Number of Persons Enrolled in DD Waivers			
Comprehensive Waiver	7,686	7,732	7,631
Community Support Waiver	625	1,180	1,196
Lopez Waiver	200	192	192
Partnership for Hope Waiver	<i>Not Available</i>	<i>Not Available</i>	504
Autism Waiver	<i>Not Available</i>	126	146
Number of Persons Self-Directing	106	361	472
Waiting for Services:			
Residential	515	508	417
In-Home	2,982	4,822	4,355
Number of Counties with local TCM Services	15	50	72
<u>Division Fiscal Year Budget</u>			
General Revenue	\$217,190,991	\$262,849,442	\$258,648,773
Federal Funds	\$205,080,127	\$337,791,117	\$346,271,210
Mental Health Local Tax Match Funds	\$5,852,732	\$12,853,770	\$12,853,770
Other Funds	\$6,594,186	\$8,931,482	\$7,519,033
Total DD Budget	\$434,718,036	\$622,425,811	\$625,292,786
Budgeted FTEs	4,511.20	3,790.55	3,596.00