



DIRECT CONNECTION

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

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MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Health Care Home

Missouri's Medicaid state plan amendment for health home services was just approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Missouri is the first state in the nation to have their plan amendment approved and plans to begin services January 1, 2012 through Community Mental Health Centers. A second plan amendment to provide the service through Federally Qualified Health Centers, rural health centers, and primary care clinics is pending with CMS.

Medicaid eligible individuals who may receive this service must have two chronic health conditions, or one chronic condition and risk of developing another, or have serious mental illness. Chronic conditions in addition to serious and persistent mental condition include substance abuse disorder, asthma, diabetes, cardio vascular disease, body-mass index over 25, or a developmental disability. Tobacco use is considered an at-risk behavior for chronic conditions such as asthma and CVD.

Some people receiving services through the Division of Developmental Disabilities, including people participating in any waiver, people on waiver waiting lists, and those receiving only service coordination (targeted case management) will have the opportunity to participate in this program if they have recently received community psychiatric rehabilitation from a community mental health center and have health conditions eligible for this service.

Health Home service will assist participants in these ways:

- Assistance with finding a family doctor if the person does not already have one; and
- Assistance in obtaining mental health, substance abuse treatment, or any type of special medical care the person requires; and
- Assistance to participants to manage their medications or other medical treatments; and
- Access to health education opportunities to address smoking, nutrition, and physical activities.

A list of people receiving DD services who will be enrolled in this program will be provided to each DD TCM provider before November 15. The list will be sorted by TCM provider and will identify the Community Mental Health Center who will be the provider. Community Mental Health Centers will begin making contact with those individuals November 15. People identified for participation in this program will have an opportunity to change health home providers or to opt out of the service.

This service was authorized in the Affordable Care Act.

**Missouri Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at
UMKC Awarded Projects of National Significance Grant**

In October 2011, Missouri became one of six states to be awarded a **Projects of National Significance: Partnerships in Employment Systems Change** grant. The grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD).

This project seeks to address the needs of youth and young adults ages 16-30 with developmental and intellectual disabilities (DD/ID) who are in the process of transitioning from secondary or post-secondary education settings to community employment. To address this need the overall goal of this project is “to scale up and sustain evidence-based practices in Missouri that support seamless transitions to integrated employment.”

A Leadership Consortium of state agencies (Missouri Division of DD, Missouri Office of Special Education, Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation), the Missouri Planning Council for DD, the Missouri Center for Excellence in DD, and Missouri People First will support a statewide structure through which to demonstrate evidence-based practices, develop needed policies and practices, and enhance statewide collaborations. Objectives designed to achieve this goal include:

1. To build cross system and agency collaborations designed to exchange and transfer knowledge and effective practices between partners.
2. To scale-up evidence-based practices within communities through the participation of key partners and groups on a community level (e.g. Community Transition Teams, Missouri VR, Division of DD, Schools, Employers, Self-Advocates, Families, Providers) that demonstrate the effectiveness of model practices.
3. To conduct a review of and make needed changes to collaborative funding options, policies, and procedures that support broader implementation of the effective practices demonstrated within communities.
4. To develop statewide capacity to scale up demonstrations through training, dissemination and broader implementation.
5. To evaluate results and to sustain the scaled up practices.

Outcomes: Project objectives are designed to produce outcomes at the system, community and individual levels. Outcomes include:

- System Level: Collaborations, funding, policies, and procedures are scaled up and sustained
- Community Level: Evidence-based practices within communities are scaled up and sustained
- Individual Level: Increase in individuals with DD/ID that transition to integrated employment

IN FULL SWING

Governor Nixon comments on first year success of the Partnership for Hope Waiver

“As we continue to move Missouri forward, our citizens with developmental disabilities must not be left behind. Providing supports and services to enable all Missourians to realize their full potential is a priority of my administration. Partnership for Hope provides the opportunity that many persons with developmental disabilities need to become full participants in their communities. This unique and innovative partnership between local, state and federal resources moves our system of supports and services away from a crisis-driven response to a preventive and enabling system of care. Prior to implementation of the Partnership for Hope, demand for home and community-based services had resulted in a large backlog of Missouri families waiting for help. Many families had been waiting for years to receive the services they needed. Priority had been given to individuals in crisis, such as individuals who were homeless or whose primary caregiver had passed away. In many of those cases, residential or out-of-home placement became the only option.

Under my direction, the Partnership began enrolling Missourians in October 2010. Today, over 1,000 Missourians from 74 counties are enrolled in the program. We will not stop until all Missourians with developmental disabilities have the supports and services they need to live productive lives.”

Sincerely, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor

For the complete first year report, go to <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/progs/waiver/partnership.htm>.

Missouri College of Direct Support

Currently, MoCDS has over 3,215 learners enrolled. Other areas of the state are considering enrollment into the MoCDS program. The Division of DD recognizes the Basic Certificate and Advanced Certificate issued to Direct Support Staff as evidence of “best practices” training and a commitment to better serve individuals at the local level. Both Certificates are portable across the state if a direct support professional changes locations and will allow the new agency hiring a certificated individual to waive Division required training. For additional information, contact Bob Tyree at 573-751-8540 or bob.tyree@dmh.mo.gov.

IN DEVELOPMENT

Director’s Creativity Showcase 2012

It's time to get creative again!

The Missouri Mental Health Foundation and the Department of Mental Health (DMH) are sponsoring the 2012 Director’s Creativity Showcase. The event showcases the talents and abilities of people with mental health issues.

The Director’s Creativity Showcase gives monetary prizes to the top five artwork pieces judged in each of the three divisions and to the “best of show” in the professional category. The professional winner will receive \$300, while the division winners will receive \$250 for first place, \$200 for second, \$150 for third, \$75 for fourth and \$25 for fifth place.

The showcase helps to acquaint the public with the talents of the people it serves. These are individuals with mental illnesses; developmental disabilities; or addictions to alcohol, other drugs, and gambling. The artwork is created not only for the Showcase, but is sometimes used as a means of therapy. This therapy provides an outlet for the artist to express his or her feelings—feelings they may not be able to verbally communicate. The art show also has encouraged people to try something they may previously have never considered possible, only to find they have a true creative talent.

The deadline for submission of materials is Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

Please read and fill out the information and forms at: <http://missourimhf.org/directors-creativity-showcase-artwork-forms.php>

For more information or questions about the showcase, please contact Patty Henry at the Missouri Mental Health Foundation at (573) 635-9201 or e-mail mmhf@MissouriMHF.org OR call the DMH Office of Public Affairs - Debra Walker (573) 751-1647 or e-mail debra.walker@dmh.mo.gov.

BRIGHT IDEAS

In the news...."Annual Transition Fair Aims to Help Students with Disabilities in Kirksville." Read more <http://www.kirksvilledailyexpress.com/features/x984143526/Annual-Transition-Fair-aims-to-help-students-with-disabilities>

Housing Opportunity:

Habitat for Humanity helping local couple own their first home

By Taylor Muller **Daily Express** Posted Oct 28, 2011 @ 10:46 AM



Lennie Henson (right) laughs as she struggles to drive a shovel into what will become her new two-bedroom house during a Habitat for Humanity groundbreaking in Kirksville Thursday. Wilson and her fiancé Trent Wilson (front) will move in within the next 12 months. The couple are joined by Trent's father Terry Wilson (back row, left) and sister Teri Gibbs (back row, center).

In 12 months, Lennie Henson and Trent Wilson will become homeowners. Neither have owned a home before, Henson currently rents and Wilson lives at home. In 12 months, the two are to be married, moved in and making monthly payments on their new two-bedroom home, but only after putting in some "sweat-equity" as part of the next local Habitat for Humanity project.

Members of the couple's family and the Truman State and Kirksville area chapters of the Habitat for Humanity gathered in an empty lot on the corner of Baird and Patterson streets, the soon-to-be construction site that will become Henson and Wilson's new home.

"I never thought we'd own a house," Henson said with a grin, during Thursday's groundbreaking. Both Henson and Wilson are disabled - they have cerebral palsy, a group of disorders that disrupt brain and nervous system functions such as movement, learning, seeing and thinking.

The disorder is generally caused by a lack of oxygen as a fetus in the womb, Henson said. "It messes with us being able to move," she said. "He can't walk, at least without a walker. And you just live with it. But, it hasn't stopped me and it hasn't stopped him," pointing to her fiancé.

Henson and Wilson (and their families) will join hundreds of local Habitat for Humanity volunteers to build the home - and future - for the couple. "It's exciting to be building a home right here where we're standing," said Steve Pennington, president of the Kirksville area chapter for Habitat for Humanity.

For additional information on any of these topics, please contact Roger Garlich, Division Liaison for Community Services, at roger.garlich@dmh.mo.gov.

He said the construction of a house for people like Henson and Wilson “isn’t a handout, but an interest-free loan.” The couple will make payments, similar to a mortgage, but without the additional interest a bank would normally charge for such a loan. And their house will be the seventh constructed by Habitat volunteers in Kirksville, with monthly payments from each house helping cover the costs of future construction.

“We pray as we work together that we grow closer and learn more about the process of serving and building our community,” said Habitat board member John Dungan, during a moment of prayer at the groundbreaking. The construction process takes up to a year, with work to begin soon, ideally before the ground starts freezing, Dungan said.

RESOURCES

Please visit the DMH-DD website and review the new "**Guide to MOHealthNet (Medicaid) Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities.**" <http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/dd/GuideMohealthnet.pdf> If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact Kyla Eversman at kyla.eversman@dmh.mo.gov.