

IN FULL SWING

Becky's Story

Becky dreamed of a real job for a long time; so long that a person with less determination would have given up, but not Becky. She wanted a job that paid real wages and where she would be with all types of people rather than just those with disabilities.

She began working in a sheltered workshop after high school hoping that it would help her gain work skills so that she could get her dream job. But after 23 years, she knew that she wasn't on the right path. She quit the sheltered workshop and began volunteering at a local nursing home. She increased her work with People First, a self-advocacy organization and found that she was a good leader and able to help others. She never missed an opportunity to participate in conferences or training programs that would not only help her build skills but also let others know that she really wanted to work. When the early version of the ticket-to-work program known as Medical Assistance for the Working Disabled or MAWD was initiated, she began a more earnest search and was allowed to work a few hours assisting her husband with janitorial duties at a church where he worked. When the MAWD program was terminated, Becky had to quit this very limited work as it was having a negative impact on her benefits. She continued to look for work where she could use the Social Security Ticket to Work program.



Becky's determination finally paid off. The Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council desperately needed someone a few hours a month to assist them in answering the telephone and keeping the office open and running when all of their staff was out of the office. The Executive Director approached Becky tentatively knowing that the hours were limited and irregular and that Becky would have to do some major investigation into how this would affect her other benefits.

Of course, Becky jumped at the opportunity. She and her husband agreed that they would figure out the benefits piece no matter what the affect because it was Becky's first real chance to recognize her lifelong ambition. Becky worked with staff from the Council and Missouri HealthNet, her Case Manager and others to assess the financial impact on her benefits. They also investigated whether some of the Social Security work incentives would be beneficial for her.

The Council's experience in working with Becky helped inspire them to support the development of an online Disability Benefits Calculator (DB101) system that would assist people with disabilities calculate the affect of work on their Social Security benefits and learn about available programs that could help them protect benefits that they needed to live in the community. This is now a free on-line resource that is available at <http://mo.db101.org/>

Becky worked closely with the Council staff assigned to train her to master a very complex telephone system as well as the Council's computer system and copy machine. The Council made some minor adaptations to the office building and brought in some low-tech devices to assist Becky in accessing the building and office door lock. The Council staff adapted their safety plans for possible disasters such as tornadoes, fire and personnel threat and reviewed these with Becky and those who would be the best option for assisting her should the need arise.

The first day of work was a very proud day for Becky but it was also a really special day for all of those who were determined to figure it out and help Becky reach her employment goals. She has been courageous in getting over the challenges that come up in any job, but now, with the right supports in place, Becky's hopes have finally been recognized. She has been so successful that the Council increased her hours and the Division of Developmental Disabilities asked her to work for them some additional hours so she is now working a total of 32 hours a month. Dreams can come true.

Working Together to Create a Better Tomorrow for Transition Youth

Throughout the state Community Transition Teams (CTT) are meeting to create a better tomorrow for youth and their families as they prepare to enter adult life. The purpose of the Community Transition Team project is to provide team training and technical assistance to enhance a public education agency's ability to provide comprehensive transition programs for youth with disabilities aged 16-21 (or younger if appropriate), including facilitating a seamless transition to full community participation for every student, regardless of his/her disability, upon exit from high school.

Through a systemic change approach, the Missouri Community Transition training provides an understanding of transition planning, services and research-based effective practices as framework for members of the team comprised of educators, students, families, administrators, interagency personnel, community partners and employers. http://dese.mo.gov/se/ep/transition_progs.htm

The **Kirksville CTT** is very active. There is a core group of 8 people who meet monthly. The group is made up of Parents, School Personnel, Voc Rehab, Regional Office, Independent Living Center and Protection and Advocacy. There is also a community advisory group of 20-25 people from business owners, providers, agency supports and family members.

Activities include hosting a Fall Transition Fair and a Spring Future Fair. The Fall Transition Fair is primarily for students and families in the Kirksville School District as well as those schools who access agency supports in Adair County. The Spring Future Fair is open to all school districts in our region. In addition they have created a 'Family and Natural Support Group'. The group meets at a variety of locations including at the school, after Special Olympic Practice and around meal time. Everyone brings a carry in dish and it is a time for individuals to network with their peers from school and families to network with other families. This has been a well attended event. The last one was around 70 people.

They have also created a Community Resource Guide for the Kirksville Area that is posted on the school website as well as the city website. The guide is handed out to new students and families coming into the school district.

The **Fort Osage CTT in the Kansas City area** is in its first year and is excited about being able to collaborate with each other. Team members include a Parent, a Transition Coordinator, School Administrators, and employees from the Rehabilitative Institute, Vocational Rehabilitative Services, Jackson County Board of Services, and the Regional Office.

Goals this year were three-fold. One was to provide education, to the teachers who worked with special education students, on the services provided by the represented organizations. Another was to find out from parents what services they needed and what questions they needed to have answered. Lastly, was to take a look at how our students are fairing after high school and to develop a forum for discussion on what is needed by employers and students.

The first goal conducted three separate trainings to reach all of the teachers in Fort Osage. The CTT team prepared a presentation that and invited the High School, Middle School, Elementary School, and Early Child Hood Center teachers to attend. During these presentations, they outlined for teachers the purpose of our CTT group, and an explanation of the services that are provided by the employers of CTT members. Teachers were provided with resource tools and contact information for additional services that their students could access. They offered

each group of teachers an opportunity to get answers from team members about specific issues they needed to have addressed. These training were well received.

The second goal was to develop a survey to capture from parents and students specific information and resources that they need. The survey has been administered and they have begun to compile the information captured from this tool. Once all the data is compiled they will begin to address their concerns.

The third goal was to review the indicator 14 data for the Fort Osage School District. Indicator 14 is the DESE measure of how a Special Education student is doing after graduation. The indicator looks at whether the student who had an IEP, and who is no longer in secondary school, is competitively employed, enrolled in some type of postsecondary school, or both, within one year of leaving high school. To address concerns in the area of competitive employment, the team decided to contact the Fort Osage Chamber of Commerce and School Administrators to participate in a CTT facilitated discussion of what could be done to increase employment opportunities for students and to determine barriers that might be in place. There was discussion, regarding what skills the school district needed to prepare students with for future competitive employment. The meeting was a success with many ideas of how they could connect students with businesses and what skills the students would need to have. The representative from the Chamber of Commerce has graciously agreed to provide the CTT with a list of potential opportunities for students.

Along with contacting the Chamber of Commerce the Fort Osage CTT conducting a Transition Fair that was a huge success. At the transition fair, students and parents were given the opportunity to ask questions, and were provided resource materials for additional services. Students and Parents were able to not only ask potential employers about job opportunities but to talk with other service organizations that were in attendance.

Member of the CTT are headed to the Summer Institute, on the 17th of June, and will participate in a boardwalk with other CTT teams in the area. The boardwalk will allow us to showcase to others what we have accomplished and will provide us with an opportunity to see what others are doing as well.

IN DEVELOPMENT

PfH Dental Care

Since October, 2010, 23 adults have received \$31,769.90 in dental care through Partnership for Hope. The Division of Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with the Missouri Oral Health Network conducted outreach to dentists during late 2012 and early 2013 to offer contracts to provide oral health care to adults participating in Partnership for Hope. As of mid June, contracts have been awarded to the following dentists and dental clinics:

Dr. John M. Le, dba Friendly Dentistry—Kansas City
Truman Medical Center-Lakewood (Includes the Elks Mobile Dental Program)—Kansas City
ACCESS Family Care--Neosho
Advocates for a Health Community Living, Inc.--Springfield
Northwest Missouri Health Council—St. Joseph
Dr. Benny J. Bell--Doniphan
Northwest Health Services, Inc.—St. Joseph
Big Springs Medical Association Inc. dba Missouri Highlands Health Care--Ellington
Cross Trails Medical Center—Cape Girardeau
Crider Health Center, Inc.--Wentzville
Alan M. Stoll DDS--Hannibal
Katy Trail Community Health--Sedalia
Joseph, John H DDS--Joplin
Grace Hill Health Center, Inc.—St. Louis
Edwards, Michael Q DMD, PC--Union

Support Waiver

An amendment to the Support waiver to increase the spending limit to \$28,000 is pending CMS approval. The cap, which was established in 2000 when the waiver was new, has never been adjusted. The new cap was calculated by trending \$22,000 forward by the Consumer Price Index. A provision is included in the waiver to allow the cap to automatically adjust by CPI annually. As with the \$22,000 limit, this may be exceeded on a case by case basis. Upon approval of the amendment, the Exceptions Guideline will be updated to reflect the change.

RESOURCES

DIVISION FACTS AT A GLANCE (updated twice a year)

	2005	2010	June 2013
Number of Persons Served			
Habilitation Centers - On Campus	1,106	695	461
Habilitation Centers – Off Campus	156	147	218
Residential Services	5,277	5,988	6,997
In-home services	7,398	9,497	11,568
Case Management Only	14,698	13,428	15,071
Number of Persons Enrolled in DD Waivers			
Comprehensive Waiver	7,686	7,732	8,264
Support Waiver	625	1,180	1,444
Lopez Waiver	200	192	315
Partnership for Hope Waiver	N/A	N/A	1,974
Autism Waiver	N/A	126	151
Number of Persons Self-Directing	106	361	985
Waiting for Services:			
Residential (Medicaid Eligible)	175	199	157
In-Home (Medicaid Eligible)	2,982	2,822	1,512
Number of Counties with local TCM Services	15	50	90
<u>Division Fiscal Year Budget</u>	<u>FY 2005</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>	<u>FY 2013</u>
General Revenue	\$217,190,991	\$262,849,442	\$266,190,399
Federal Funds	\$205,080,127	\$337,791,117	\$435,271,566
Mental Health Local Tax Match Funds	\$5,852,732	\$12,853,770	\$22,504,000
Other Funds	\$6,594,186	\$8,931,482	\$9,060,000
Total DD Budget	\$434,718,036	\$622,425,811	\$733,021,966
Budgeted FTEs	4,511.20	3,790.55	3,484.47

SUPPORTS FOR THE FUTURE

Building the Foundation for Individualized Supports

A workshop for people with disabilities, family members and support organizations



Improving the lives of Missourians with developmental disabilities through supports and services that foster self-determination

SAVE THE DATE!

September 23 & 24, 2013

**Stoney Creek Inn,
Columbia, MO**

Who should attend?

This conference is intended for self-advocates, family members, provider agencies, TCM, County Boards, Division of Developmental Disabilities staff and other stakeholders.



The Division is excited to present Patti Scott and Dave Hasbury, who have created an agency called Neighbours, Inc. Neighbours Inc. is a creative organization that has shifted the work from being "providers" to being "partners" with people with disabilities and those who love them. Together they identify a vision of how and where people want to live, and then share in the responsibility to make this happen.

Patti and Dave have hands-on experience in how to create this transformation. They have assisted several states and the UK in creating real change.

Individually none of us have the answers but together we can create the supports needed in Missouri for the future.

For more information, contact Kyla Eversman at 573-751-8331 or kyla.eversman@dmh.mo.gov

LIMITED to first the 300 REGISTRANTS

Cost:

Early Registration before August 25th -----\$50; Registration after August 25th ----- \$60

Online registration: <http://missourimhf.org/event-reservation.php>

