

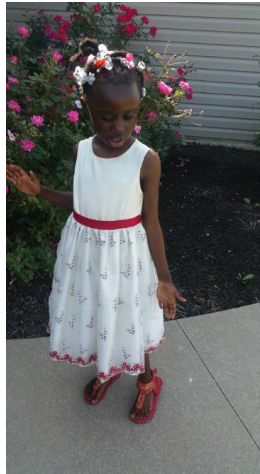
Direct Connection



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Kiki's Story	p. 1
The Growth of Self-Directed Supports	p. 2
Empowering through Employment	p. 2
NCI Data	p. 3
Community Calendar	p. 4

Kiki's Story



Story shared by Kiki's mom

Kiki is on the autism spectrum. She loves to be part of her community. Kiki's mother, born and raised in rural Kenya, is a single mother of two daughters and has a full time job. Through self-directed supports, Kiki's mom is able to recruit caregivers who can take Kiki to activities she enjoys. For example, Kiki enjoys swimming. Through self-directed supports, Kiki's mom recruited caregivers who know how to swim and can supervise Kiki in the swimming pool. Kiki is very athletic and enjoys sports-related activities. These wonderful women enjoy doing other activities with Kiki such as hiking, jumping on the trampoline, and walking the trails at the park. In addition, Kiki's mom has been able to recruit caregivers who are willing to adjust their schedules to meet the needs of Kiki.

Kiki used to struggle with playing appropriately with other children. Her social skills have tremendously improved over the last year, and she has friends with whom she enjoys playing. Kiki is also able to sit in a restaurant, eat her meals using appropriate table manners, and clean up after herself.

Kiki's mom knows how challenging caring for children on the autism spectrum can be. It can be even more challenging for single parents who have to pull double duty. Through self-directed supports, Kiki's mom is able to take one weekend off per month to recuperate. Kiki's mom indicated that by taking "me time," she is able to replenish her energy, be healthy, and provide quality supports for her daughter.

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**CONNECTING WITH THE
DIVISION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES**

Missouri Department of
Mental Health

Division of Developmental
Disabilities

1706 E. Elm Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Phone number:
573-751-4054

Fax number:
573-751-9207

www.dmh.mo.gov/dd

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH



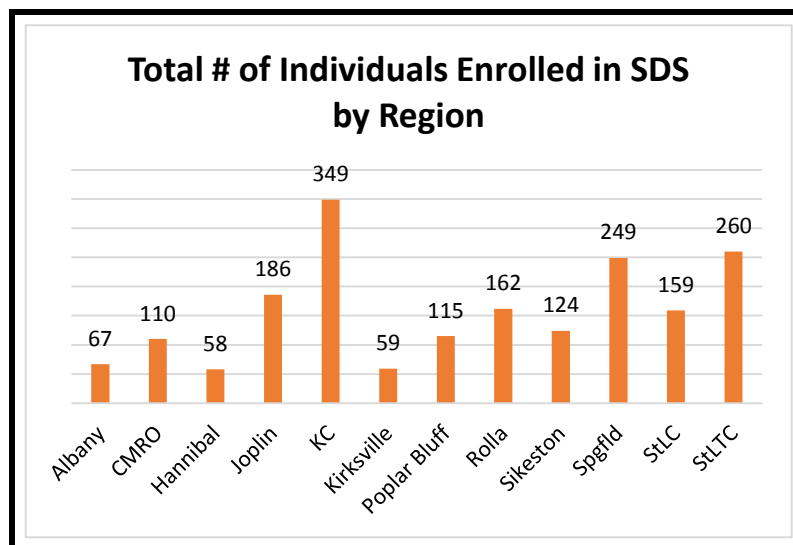
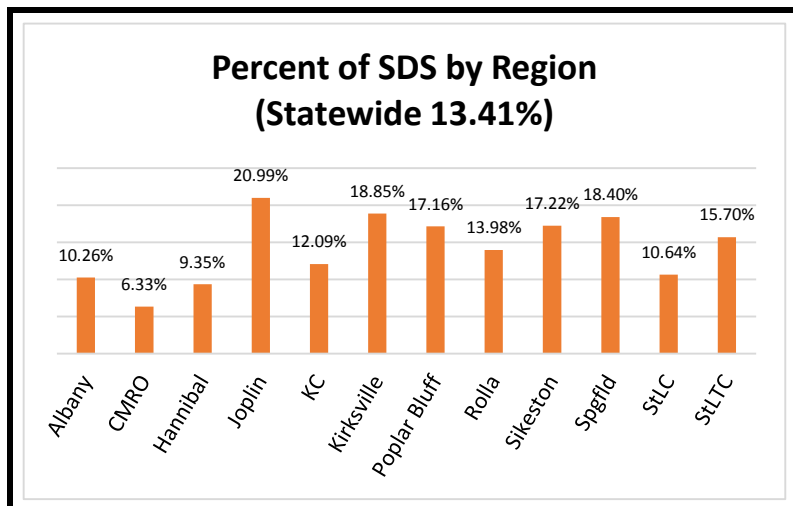
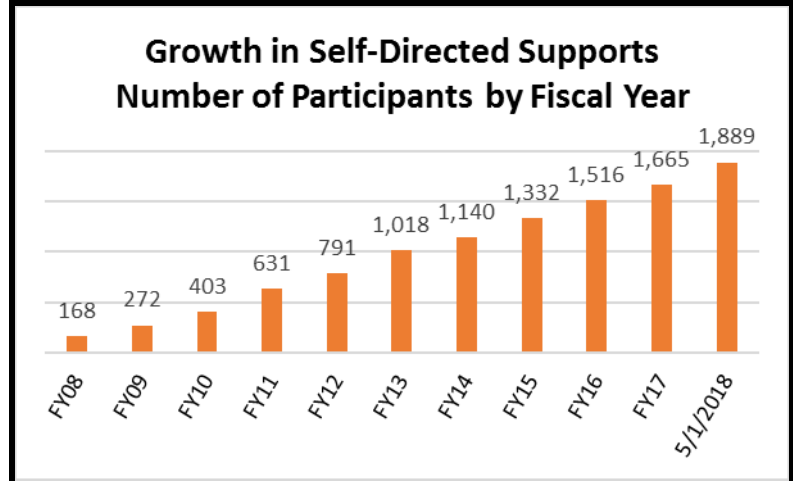
The Growth of Self-Directed Supports (SDS)

Empowering Through Employment – June 2018 Update

The Division of Developmental Disabilities launched the Empowering through Employment Initiative in October 2016 to assist the growing number of individuals who express an interest in community-based employment. The initiative continues to focus on resolving system barriers that serve as obstacles to employment and recognizing those who are empowering individuals through the coordination of employment services.

The newest edition of the monthly dashboard is available on the Division of Developmental Disabilities website.

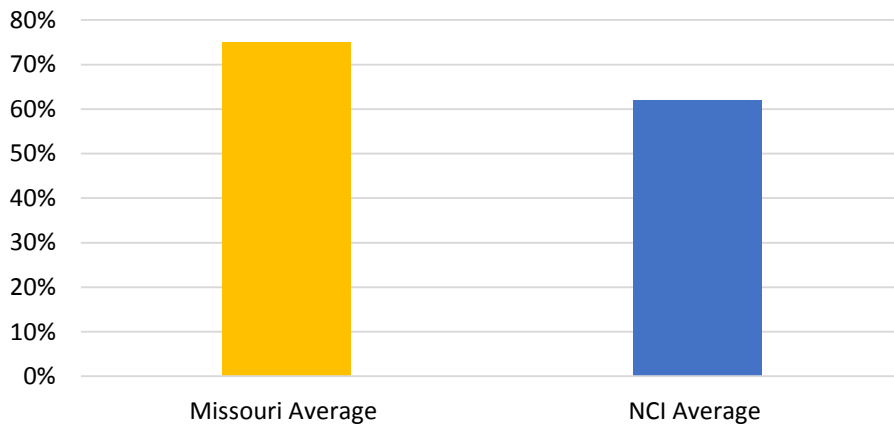
To access the latest information, visit [Empowering through Employment](#). To access the Division of Developmental Disabilities employment webpage, additional tools, resources and tip sheets, please visit [Promoting Employment First](#).





Data from National Core Indicators (NCI)

Chose or Had Some Input in Choosing Where They Go During the Day



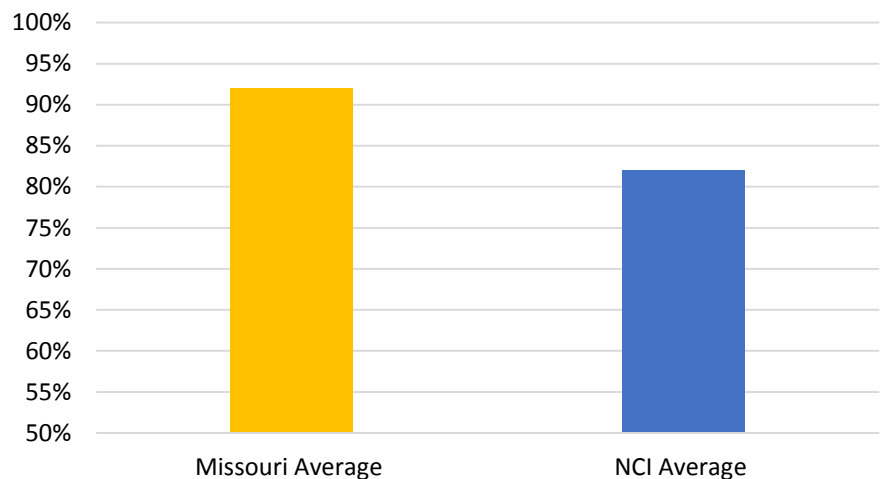
Data are from the 2016-2017 National Core Indicators (NCI) Adult In-Person Survey, which is a face-to-face interview with adults (age 18+) who receive services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

The graph to the left shows the percentage of individuals in Missouri who chose or had some input in choosing where they go during the day as compared to the NCI (nationwide) average for this measure. The full report is available [here](#).

Data are from the 2016-2017 National Core Indicators (NCI) Adult In-Person Survey, which is a face-to-face interview with adults (age 18+) who receive services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

The graph to the right shows the percentage of individuals in Missouri who decide or have help deciding their daily schedule as compared to the NCI (nationwide) average for this measure. The full report is available [here](#).

Decides or Has Help Deciding Their Daily Schedule



Happiness is a warm puppy.
Charles M. Schulz



Community Calendar

July 24 - 26, 2018 – Missouri Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Conference, Marriott Courtyard, Columbia, Missouri

More information will be available on: www.apsemo.org/events.html

August 19- 21, 2018 – Real Voices – Real Choices Conference, Tan-Tar-A Resort & Conference Center, Osage Beach, Missouri
More information is available on: http://www.missourimbhf.org/?page_id=1828

September 7 - 8, 2018 – The National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals Annual Meeting and Conference, St. Louis, Missouri

More information is available on: <https://nadsp.org/annual-conference/>

September 11, 2018 – 5th Annual Education Summit – Guardianship and Supported Decision Making by Arc of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri

More information is available on:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/5th-annual-education-summit-guardianship-supported-decision-making-tickets-43940586477?ref=invite001&invite=MTQ0NDY5NTYvz3lsYWV2ZXJzbWFuQGdlYWIsLmNybS8s&utm_source=cb_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=invite-moderav2&utm_term=eventpage

MISSOURI DIVISION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES



Improving lives THROUGH
supports and services
THAT FOSTER self-determination.

DIVISION OF
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1706 E. Elm Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
573-751-4054 (Phone)
573-751-9207 (Fax)

<http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/>



Fostering Self-determination



Supporting Families



Facilitating Individualized Services and Supports



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