

Direct Connection



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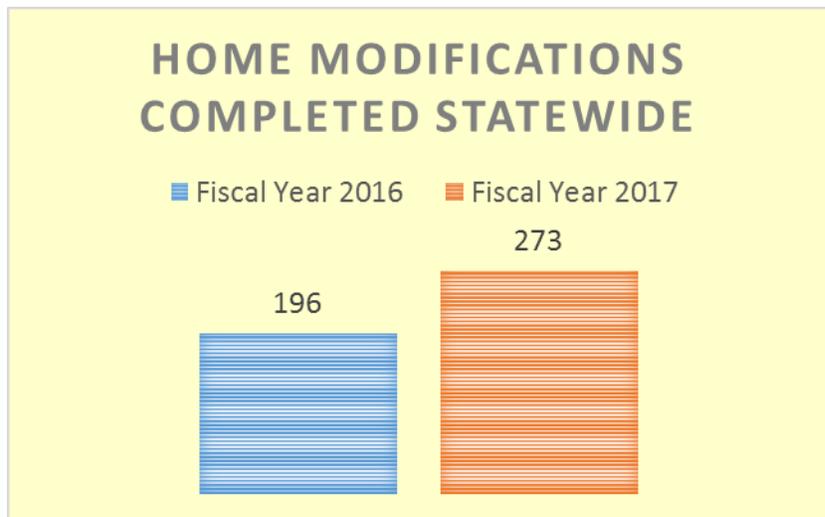
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Home Modification Training Opportunities

A well-designed and constructed home modification can make a home functional and accessible for individuals who are aging and/or have mobility issues. Many individuals are receiving supports in the home of their choice through home modification services available in Missouri's Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver programs. The chart below shows that home modification services provided through an HCBS waiver rose nearly 40% from fiscal year 2016 to fiscal year 2017.



The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD) has contracted with Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation (MOHousing) to provide training and consultation regarding the home modification process. The home modification training is beneficial to Support Coordinators and Supervisors, home modification providers, residential providers, and others interested in information, tools, and resources to help navigate the home modification process. MOHousing can also provide consultation to support teams in the process of planning and developing home modifications for individuals.

To request a home modification training for your organization or to request consultation regarding a specific home modification project, please contact MOHousing at 855-444-5100.

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CONNECTING WITH THE
DIVISION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES

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Mental Health

Division of Developmental
Disabilities

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Collaboration Helps Family Get Needed Home Modification

Submitted by: Linda Standerford, Service Coordinator, Nodaway County Services, and Stacey Law, Community Living Coordinator, Albany Satellite Office



Jason and his mother, Winona

It was June 2016 when Linda Standerford, Service Coordinator with Nodaway County Services, first spoke with Jason’s mother, Winona, about the possibility of a home modification funded through the comprehensive waiver that could help Jason better access his bathroom.

For many years, Jason’s family had used a folding lawn chair placed inside a shower/tub unit to give him a shower. The family had looked at many different accessible shower chairs for Jason, but none would fit in the space. Accessing the shower was extremely awkward for Jason. The situation was not safe for Jason or his caregivers, but his family had made it work as best they could.

With Linda’s help, the family began the home modification process in August 2016. But things came to a screeching halt when despite all efforts, Linda was unable to find a home modification provider in the area willing to travel to the family’s home in rural Northwest Missouri to bid the project.

In January 2017, Linda attended a workshop on the home modification process presented by Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation (MOHousing). Following the workshop, Linda reached out to John Fischer and Wayne Crawford of MOHousing for assistance to get Jason’s home modification back on track. John and Wayne were able to put Linda and Jason’s family in touch with Scott Dicus of Elsinore Construction & Remodeling, LLC. Scott made the 300-mile trip from St. Louis to the family’s home several times to bid and complete the job.

Now Jason is able to fully use his new, zero-entry shower safely and comfortably. Jason’s mom, Winona, says “It’s hard to put into words how much this means to us.” She is thrilled with a great outcome brought about with communication, teamwork, and the willingness of Elsinore Construction to truly go the extra mile.



Jason’s shower before the modification.



Jason’s shower after the modification.





Springfield's HOME Team Hosts Conference



Springfield HOME Team members, Jason Elmore, Wayne Crawford, Karen Burnell-Ruff, and Shelby Butler with keynote speaker Richard Duncan

The Springfield HOME (Housing Options Must Expand) Team hosted the Springfield Universal Design (UD) Housing Conference on November 2, 2017, in Springfield, Missouri. The conference was sponsored by the Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation (MOHousing) and the Southwest Center for Independent Living, with additional support from numerous community partners.

The conference brought together housing advocates from agencies throughout the Springfield area, city officials, developers, architects, and others to learn about incorporating universal design principles in the building of homes. Richard Duncan, Executive Director of the Universal Design Institute in North Carolina, delivered the keynote address. Mr. Duncan discussed the brand “Better Living Design,” a concept that integrates universal design into the overall design of a home, resulting in a home that works better for a wide range of people.

March is National Developmental Disability Awareness Month

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation designating the month of March to recognize people with developmental disabilities and the need to help individuals realize their full potential.

Declared President Reagan, “I invite all individuals, agencies, and organizations concerned with the problem of developmental disabilities to observe this month with appropriate observances and activities directed toward increasing public awareness of the needs and the potential of Americans with developmental disabilities. I urge all Americans to join me in according to our fellow citizens with such disabilities both encouragement and the opportunities they need to lead productive lives and to achieve their full potential.”

The full proclamation can be viewed at:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/sites/default/files/archives/speeches/1987/022687c.htm>

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.
Mark Twain

Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology services available through all Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waivers include remote support technology. Remote support technology can assist individuals with being more independent and less reliant on the constant presence of staff.

Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation (MOHousing) produced a [video](#) which tells Ronnie's story of achieving his dream of greater independence through affordable housing and the use of remote support technology.

Other assistive technology stories can be found on the DD website:

<https://dmh.mo.gov/dd/commUnityLivingandAccessibleHousingSuccessStories.html>



Community Calendar

April 10 - 11, 2018 – Tiered Supports Training, Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia, Missouri
The Save-the-Date Flyer is available on: [Save-the-Date Flyer](#)

April 19 - 20, 2018 – Charting the LifeCourse Showcase, Sheraton Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri
The Save-the-Date Flyer is available on: [Save-the-Date Flyer](#)

May 21 - 22, 2018 – 28th Annual Aging with Developmental Disabilities Conference, St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Missouri
More information is available by calling 314-647-8100 or on: <http://agingwithdd.org/>

June 19, 2018 – Save the Date – 2018 Missouri Mental Health Champions Banquet, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, Missouri
More information will be available in the coming months on: http://www.missourimhf.org/?page_id=353

June 25 - 28, 2018 – National American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency at the Arch Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri
More information is available on: <http://aidd.org/education/annual-conference#.WXPXAFiows>

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.missourimhf.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/>

MISSOURI DIVISION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES



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

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DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES

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Fostering Self-determination



Supporting Families



Facilitating Individualized Services and Supports



Developing Accessible Housing



Promoting Employment First

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MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH