

Employment First means employment in the general workforce (at or above minimum wage) is the first and preferred outcome for all working age citizens with disabilities.



*If you want to learn more about*

***Youth Transition and  
Employment Resources***

*visit the DMH website by going to:*

***[http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/progs/  
employment.htm](http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/progs/employment.htm)***

**If you have questions about employment you can contact your support coordinator or your Developmental Disability Regional Office and ask to speak with the Youth Transition and Employment Resource coordinator.**

**Albany RO**

660-726-5246

800-560-8774

**Central Missouri RO**

573-441-6278

888-671-1041

**Hannibal RO**

573-248-2400

800-811-1128

**Joplin RO**

417-629-3020

888-549-6634

**Kansas City RO**

816-889-3400

800-454-2331

**Kirksville RO**

660-785-2500

800-621-6082

**Poplar Bluff RO**

573-840-9300

800-497-4214

**Rolla RO**

573-368-2200

800-828-7604

**Sikeston RO**

573-472-5300

800-497-4647

**Springfield RO**

417-895-7400

888-549-6635

**St. Louis County RO**

314-877-2711

800-374-6458

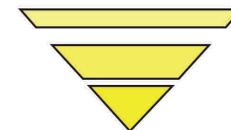
**St. Louis Tri-County RO**

314-244-8800

800-358-7665

Missouri

DIVISION OF  
DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES



Youth Transition and  
Employment Resources  
Coordinators



Promoting

Employment First

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



## Promoting Employment First

The Division of Developmental Disabilities has a statewide employment initiative. Our vision is to increase the number of people working in integrated employment. Youth Transition/ Employment Resource Coordinators are available in each regional office to provide technical assistance to individuals, families, providers, businesses and support coordinators. We strongly believe that employment should be the priority option provided prior to any other day service option. Our expectation is if someone is of working age they are expected to explore work options, build on career planning and engage in work that makes sense to them.



### Principles of Employment First

*All individuals have the right to explore the full range of employment options to empower informed choice and foster self-determination.*

*Career Planning is a requirement for all individuals currently receiving services in order to ensure that supports, services, and outcomes are consistent with what the person is seeking.*

*All individuals have the right to earn a living wage in a job of their choosing, based on their unique talents, gifts, skills, and interests.*

*As with all employees, persons with disabilities should have access to services and supports necessary to succeed in the workplace.*

*Businesses universally value employees with disabilities as an integral part of their workforce and include all people within recruitment and hiring efforts.*

### How can the Youth Transition/ Employment Resource Coordinators assist me?

- Sharing national best case practices pertaining to vocational exploration, career planning and the employment of persons with disabilities.
- Coordinating and promoting effective transition practices with school districts, state agencies and local community partners.
- Providing training and technical assistance on Social Security work incentives and benefits coordination.
- Assisting businesses with creating and maintaining a diverse workforce which is reflective of the communities where we live.

