

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

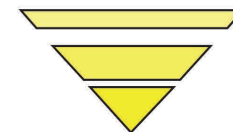
St. Louis Tri-County RO

314-244-8800

800-358-7665

Missouri

DIVISION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES



Youth Transition and
Employment Resources
Coordinators



Promoting

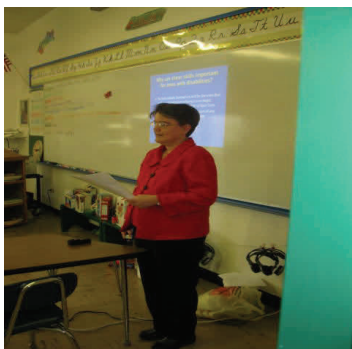
Employment First

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.

