MISSOURI DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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

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Missouri's Vaccine Incentive Program promotes MO ABLE as an option for Missourians with disabilities

MO ABLE program helps people with disabilities save for the future without losing federal benefits

The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) recently rolled out the new MO VIP Program, the state's vaccine incentive program that rewards those Missourians who have chosen or will choose to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. Starting this month, DHSS will partner with the Missouri Lottery to draw 180 winners in each of five randomized drawings who will win either \$10,000 cash or \$10,000 towards an education savings account. In total, the state will award 900 individuals throughout the incentive program.

Missourians with disabilities who access federal-needs based benefits are subject to limitations on how much they can earn and save. The successful <u>MO ABLE Program</u> allows individuals with disabilities and their families to save up to \$15,000 per year, tax-free, without losing federal benefits like Medicaid and SSI. Eligible expenses include housing, transportation, education, and medical expenses.

MO ABLE is a useful tool for Missourians with disabilities to save for the future—especially if they are a MO VIP winner," Missouri State Treasurer and MO ABLE Administrator Scott Fitzpatrick said.

MO ABLE, an extension of the 529 Program, was established in 2017 in Missouri to offer investment accounts to eligible individuals with disabilities by the Missouri State Treasurer's Office. ABLE Accounts are made possible by the federal Stephen Beck Jr., Achieving a Better Life Experience ("ABLE") Act, and allow individuals with disabilities to save and invest money without losing eligibility for certain public benefits programs, like Medicaid or SSI.

To learn more about the MO VIP Program, please visit: www.MOStopsCovid.com/win

To learn more about the MO ABLE Program, please visit: www.moable.com

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