



Clicking on the [blue text](#) below takes you to the registration page for the meeting.

## Webinars, Trainings & Workshops

10/6/25

[MO Health Risk Screening Tool \(HRST\) Office Hours Registration](#)

10/9/25

[Justice Systems Considerations for Individuals with IDD Registration](#)

10/15/25

[SOS Peer Mentor Orientation](#)

10/29/25

[Value Based Payments \(VBP\) Focus on Current & New Participants](#)

10/29/25

[Promoting Assertive Communication and Positive Self-Identity with IDD Registration](#)

11/6/25

[SOS Peer Mentor Orientation Registration](#)

## Ongoing Webinars

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month

[Free MO Open Door Series Benefits for Individuals with IDD](#)

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month

[Free MO Open Door Series Benefits for Individuals with IDD](#)

## Podcasts

[Growing Healthy Communities: Early Childhood Edition Podcast](#)

[Parents' Point of View \(PPOV\) Series](#)

[Supporting the Spectrum](#)

## DDD Staff Only

12/9/25

[Quarterly Benefits Presentation](#)

3/10/26

[Quarterly Benefits Presentation](#)

# DDD Weekly



## Director's Corner

I'm thrilled Missouri is the 2nd state in the nation to start a health home for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. DD Health Home is a team of medical and behavioral professionals (nurses, specialists, consultants, physicians, etc.) who partner to provide health education, medication monitoring, hospital discharge planning, preventative care monitoring, and more.

DD Health Home is a **no-cost** state plan benefit for individuals served by DDD who have MO HealthNet (Medicaid) with, or at risk of, a chronic health condition. DDD currently serves 18,600 people and would like to increase participation in the DD Health Home. I recently met with leadership from one of our DD Health Home providers, Abilities First (the meeting wasn't related to health home; it just came up in a get-to-know-you meeting). I want to share this success story (a fictional name is used to protect identity). A DD Health Home Nurse Care Manager (NCM) found a gap in "Sally's" care. "Sally" has a history of blood clots and was prescribed oral birth control. Oral birth control is not usually given to people with a history of blood clots. The DD Health Home NCM and the physician consultant talked through the concern. The DD Health Home physician consultant talked to "Sally's" doctor. "Sally's" doctor could not see "Sally's" history of blood clots in "Sally's" chart. "Sally's" doctor was thankful for the information from DD Health Home. "Sally" now has a new form of birth control. Thank you, Abilities First, for sharing this story and your work's impact on this individual's health. This may have prevented a stroke or even saved a life. I appreciate all of our DD Health Home providers who have committed to implementing this new model of care in Missouri. I also want to recognize all our individuals, families, Support Coordinators, providers, and DDD staff dedicated to working together to successfully implement this new service and positively impact the lives of those we serve. Please visit the [DD Health Home Webpage](#) to learn more about the program and whether it can help you or someone you know!

## How to Use DDD Weekly

*DDD Weekly* contains links to webinars, trainings, meetings and other websites with additional information about the topics covered in *DDD Weekly*. If you click on the [blue text](#), it will take you to another website

where you can sign up for the meeting, learn more about the topic, etc. If you have questions about using *DDD Weekly*, please email [ddmail@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:ddmail@dmh.mo.gov).

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## October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

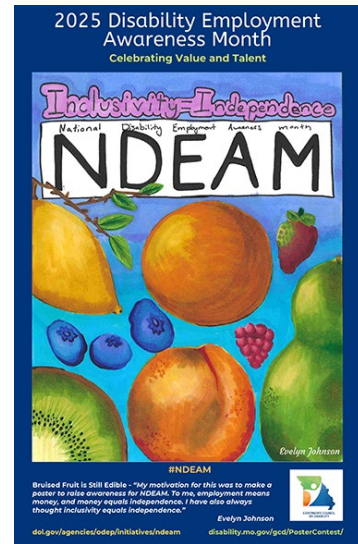
National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is in October.

The MO Governor's Council on Disability (GCD) held a poster contest to help people understand what workers with disabilities bring to their jobs and the value of including people with disabilities in the workforce.

This year's winning poster was submitted by Evelyn Johnson. Congratulations, Evelyn!

Please promote NDEAM by displaying posters.

Posters are available and can be picked up at the Governor's Council on Disability office. Contact GCD for additional information at 1-800-877-8249 or visit: [Governor's Council on Disability](#).



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## Health Risk Screening (HRS) Process Phase II



Effective 10/01/2025, the regional office Quality Program Registered Nurses (QPRNs) will resume the HRST Expanded Clinical Review (ECR) process. It is a more in-depth clinical review for those individuals who are at a higher risk of destabilization or may need some additional support. The ECR has two components: A Desk Review and an On-Site Review.

The Clinical Reviewer will conduct the HRST ECR when:

- Annual clinical reviews conducted for individuals receiving residential services and supports indicate a Health Care Level (HCL) of 4 or higher, or
- Throughout the course of the Person-Centered Support Plan year, an individual has an increase from their previous HCL of 3 or higher by one HCL, and
- The Clinical Review has reached agreement status

For more information, please review the [HRST Phase II Process Document](#) or visit the HRST general webpage [DDD HRST Information](#). You may also reach out to your agency's assigned QPRN or send questions to the MO DD HRST Project mailbox at [MODDHRSTProject@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:MODDHRSTProject@dmh.mo.gov).

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## Missouri Department of Mental Health Graduates: Missouri State Leadership Academy

State of MO celebrated the graduates of Classes 14 and 15 from the Missouri Leadership Academy, an innovative program that brings together emerging leaders from across all executive departments to build new skills and become better public servants. We are [#DMHProud](#) to recognize our graduates!

See news release and find more info: [MO Leadership Academy Press Release](#).



## Missouri Open Door Workshop Series

The Missouri Open Door (MOD)

Workshops are FREE virtual workshops

available to anyone who wants to learn more about the topic. The two monthly workshops available are the Benefit Series and the Technology Series.

The **MOD Benefit Series** covers topics related to government benefits such as Medicare, SSI/SSDI, Long-term Care, Veterans' benefits, etc. It is the second Wednesday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. each month.

The **MOD Technology Series** provides information about using technology in everyday life, such as using technology for daily living tasks, smart home features, environmental adaptations, community access, employment, and more. It is the fourth Wednesday of each month from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Visit the Ongoing Webinars section of *DDD Weekly* for the link to the training webpage. Sign up for the [Missouri Open Door Workshop](#) mailing list to receive regular notifications.



## Emergency Planning “Make a Kit, Make a Plan, Get Information”

Emergencies and disasters can happen anytime, anywhere, to anyone and disrupt routines. Being prepared in advance is important for everyone. Emergency planning for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families/caregivers is a very personal process. Each person must think about and create a plan based on their needs and situation.

The Office of Disaster Services (ODS) at the Department of Mental Health (DMH) has gathered various helpful resources for planning. Those resources include links to other websites and materials. Guidebooks and videos are also available for individuals and providers to help outline and create an emergency plan.

Visit [I/DD Disaster Planning](#) to explore resources and begin planning.

For additional information, call 573-751-8136 or visit the [ODS website](#).



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## MO Office of Special Education Proposed Changes to Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act State Plan

Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MO-DESE), Office of Special Education has proposed changes to the state plan for Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The proposed changes are available for public review. Anyone interested in reviewing the proposed changes can go in-person to the Office of Special Education, explore the webpage, or attend a virtual public hearing. Additional information and details can be found on the State Plan for Special Education webpage under the [Description of State Plan Changes](#) tab. All written feedback must be submitted no later than the close of business on October 17, 2025. All questions should be directed to (573) 751-0699.

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### Disability Rights Legislative Day – Save the Date

Disability Rights Legislative Day (DRLD) 2026 is on the calendar! Save the date for **February 25, 2026**.

Find additional information about DRLD and watch for updates on the [DRLD website](#) or follow along on [Facebook](#).

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## Home and Community-Based Services “Got Choice”

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) are available to people who are eligible and need specific supports. The services provided through HCBS are person-centered, which means they are focused on the person and help them plan for the life they want. HCBS services help people access and take part in their communities and neighborhoods, supports personal choice, ensures the person's rights are recognized, encourages independence, and ensures the person has a choice of services and providers.

Download and explore the DDD's [“Got Choice”](#) HCBS brochure for more information.

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## Caregiver Resources: Coping with Caregiver Stress

Whether you provide care to a child, an adult, or someone with mental health or disability needs, caregiver stress is real and can build up over time. People who provide care to others have unique needs due to their added responsibilities and often need their own support. The Department of Mental Health created a [“Coping with Caregiver Stress,”](#) a one-page resource list for caregivers. This list provides links to various resources that can be explored. Links to videos, caregiver guides, support groups, and multiple programs, all geared toward reducing stress, can be found. The information also provides links to live text and chat services for caregivers.

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## Invitation to Comment: Rural Health Transformation Program

The Missouri Department of Social Services, through the MO HealthNet Division, is seeking your input on the Rural Health Transformation Program. This new federal program, created under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R.1), will distribute \$50 billion nationwide between 2026 and 2030 to support innovative strategies for improving rural health care.

As the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) prepares additional guidance on the application process, MHD is seeking public input on key initiatives and priorities to consider for potential funding. Each state must apply to receive funding, and Missouri's application will be guided by the priorities identified during this public comment period. States must select at least three of nine eligible funding categories, making your perspective especially important as we consider the needs of Missouri's rural communities. The exact amount of federal funding that Missouri may receive remains undetermined pending the approval of its application.

Your comments will help shape Missouri's application and priorities.

- **Deadline: TODAY**, Tuesday, September 30, 2025
- **Learn more:** [Press Release](#)
- **Submit comments:** [MHD Public Comment Form](#)

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## Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) Claims Validation Readiness Monitor EVV visits in the EVV Aggregator Solution (EAS)

As work continues toward implementing claims validation with visits in the EAS, it is critical for providers of personal care services and home health care services to be fully compliant with existing EVV requirements. For more information, please visit [EVV Claims Validation Readiness](#).

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## September is Suicide Prevention Month



In honor of Suicide Prevention Month, we wanted to share information about 988 in Missouri. The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is available 24/7 to offer you free and confidential support. Trained crisis specialists are available and can help individuals experiencing suicidal thoughts, substance use, and/or mental health crisis or any other kind of emotional distress. When you call, text, videophone or chat 988, you will be quickly routed to a trained crisis specialist. 988 offers crisis support in English and Spanish, as well as translation services in over 240 languages. They will work with you to address your immediate needs, offer support, and connect you to local resources. For more information, please visit [Missouri 988](#).



## Easy Readers

Did you know the Division of Developmental Disabilities has Easy Readers available on different topics?

Easy Readers are designed to provide information on important topics using plain everyday language, pictures, and shorter sentences, making it easier for all readers to understand.

Easy Readers are available to view and print on the Division's [Self-Advocacy](#) webpage. Easy Reader topics include:

- Housemates and You
- What You Need to Know About Choosing a Home
- What You Need to Know About Self-Directing Your Supports
- Surveys and You: Your Voice Matters
- Waivers and You
- Ways to Keep You Healthy
- What is the Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities?
- What is Medicaid/MO HealthNet?
- What is Your Individual Support Plan?
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities
- Say No to Abuse and Neglect

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## Documentation in the Person-Centered Service Plan for Waiver Services Requiring Individualized Backup Plans

DDD has posted guidance on documentation in the Person-Centered Service Plan (PCSP) for Waiver Services Requiring Individualized Backup Plans. This document outlines waiver services that require Individualized Backup Plans, as well as those services that may require Individualized Backup Plans. Individuals are required to have an Individualized Backup Plan in place and documented in the PCSP when there is a critical waiver service that places the individual at risk, should the provider/caregiver fail to deliver the service. The guidance can be found on our [DDD Webpage](#).

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## Become a Peer Mentor and Share Your Strengths with Others

Are you a parent, family member, or person with a disability who has experience navigating challenges, or do you support someone with a disability or special health care needs?

Want to make a meaningful impact on someone else's life?

Consider joining the Sharing Our Strengths (SOS) program as a Peer Mentor!

As a Peer Mentor, you will:

- Offer support and guidance to families who are navigating similar experiences.
- Share your wisdom, advice, and insights gained from your own journey.
- Be a listening ear for someone who needs to know they are not alone.
- Celebrate the small victories and provide encouragement along the way.

Don't miss the last opportunity to become a Peer Mentor in 2025!

There are three upcoming informational meetings to get involved in before the end of the year.

Dates for upcoming trainings:

October 15 @ 9:00am

November 6 @ 2:00pm



For more information about becoming a Peer Mentor, visit the [SOS website](#) or contact Missouri Family-to-Family at 1-800-444-0841 or e-mail: [mofamilytofamily@umkc.edu](mailto:mofamilytofamily@umkc.edu).

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## I/DD Dual Eligibility Information

In Fiscal Year 2025, Missouri participated in the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disability Services (NASDDDS) Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Duals Innovation Cohort. This cohort worked to help NASDDDS develop a toolkit of resources regarding Dual Eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid. These resources will help explain how Medicare and Medicaid work together, as well as help individuals and families navigate dual eligibility. For more information, materials, and resources, please see [Missouri's materials](#) or visit [the NASDDDS I/DD Dual Eligibility Toolkit](#).

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## ConneXion Update

A DDD priority is to provide timely updates to everyone on the ConneXion Case Management System Planning & Procurement Project. ConneXion has a dedicated [webpage](#) with updates and information about the project.

DDD is seeking a new electronic case and financial management system, including information and referral; intake; assessment, reassessment; person-centered care planning, service authorization; service delivery, payment; case closure; and reporting.

DDD is currently in the project's planning and procurement phase and anticipates a Request for Proposal (RFP) being released for competitive bid by the beginning of 2026. DDD has contracted with HealthTech Solutions (HTS) to complete an RFP for a SaaS/COTS Case and Financial Management system and is currently 78% complete to date. DDD and HTS completed a full review of the Requirement Traceability Matrix (RTM) in April.

Please review the ConneXion [overview](#) to get a project background. If you have any questions about the project, please reach out to the Project Manager, Jennifer Harrison ([jennifer.m.harrison@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:jennifer.m.harrison@dmh.mo.gov)).

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DDD continues to work to improve care coordination for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) through the electronic Long-Term Services and Supports (eLTSS) Health Information Exchange Phase 2 Project.



DDD, with support from the Office of Administration Information Technology Services Division (OA-ITSD), has created a web application for State Support Coordinators to create Person-Centered Service Plans (PCSP) digitally. Part of the PCSP data will be put into the HL7® eLTSS FHIR® format so it can be shared with providers through the eLTSS application programming interfaces (APIs) that this project is developing.

Our participating Health Information Networks (HIN) are working with:

- Easterseals,

- StationMD,
- SETWorks, and the
- University of Missouri Department of Biomedical Informatics, Biostatistics and Medical Epidemiology (BBME).

The provider partners will help design the eLTSS technology so that the PCSP information is readily accessible to them when they serve individuals with IDD.

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## Self-Directed Supports Communication for New Reason Codes

In February 2025, the 999 "Other" Reason Code was removed from Acumen's DCI system. When a time entry is corrected manually, a Reason Code is required. On August 20, 2025, two (2) additional Reason Codes will be added to Acumen's DCI system to enhance EVV compliance. The new Reason Codes listed below will now be available to utilize when entering historical entries into Acumen's DCI system.

**Reason Code #260:** Budget Authorization Pending at Time of Service

This is to be used when the budget authorization is not available in DCI when service is provided, and time is entered manually when the budget does become available.

**Reason Code #270:** Did Not Comply with Service/Program Requirements

To be used when time entries are rejected due to business rules established by the program. Examples that would create a need for historical entries are:

- If one employee clocks in before the previous employee, and the individual clocks out, the visit is rejected.
- If the time an individual clocks out puts them over 40 hours worked that week, the visit is rejected.

**Not sure which code to use?**

If you're ever unsure which code to use, your Acumen agent is available to help. Using the right code ensures that time is entered correctly and avoids problems later.

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**Reminder: State Offices will be close October 13, 2025 in observance of Columbus Day.**

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**Sign up** below to receive the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities *DDD Weekly* newsletter by text or email and follow us below on social media.



**Get DDD Updates**