



Clicking the blue text below takes you to the meeting registration page.

### Webinars, Trainings and Workshops

**7/7/26**

**Professionals' Input Session on Work and Retirement for Individuals with IDD**  
2:30 p.m.

**7/8/26**

**Employment First Missouri- Self-advocates Input Session on Work and Retirement**  
6:00 p.m.

**7/8/26**

**Professionals' Input Session on Work and Retirement for People with IDD**  
9:30 a.m.

**7/8/26**

**Employment First Missouri – Professionals' Input Session on Work and Retirement for People with IDD**  
9:30 a.m.

**7/14/26**

**BHIDD – DDD Services: Intake, Eligibility, and Targeted Case Management Services**  
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**7/23/26**

**BHIDD – From Crisis to Progress: Integrating Therapeutic and Behavioral Supports**  
9:30 a.m.– 11:30 a.m.

**8/20/26 - 8/21/26**

**MTS Summit – Register here!**

# DDD Weekly

## Director's Corner



Director Sheila Wunning

Hello everyone, this week I'm excited to announce that Disability Pride Month is beginning. The theme this year is "The World Works Better with Us." Disability Pride Month is in July every year. July was chosen because the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed on July 26, 1990. ADA made it illegal to discriminate based on disability in public spaces, education, employment, or transportation. The ADA was a huge legal win for those who fought for accessibility and inclusion.

The first official Disability Pride Month was celebrated in July 2015. This was also the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the ADA. Disability Pride Month challenges old ways of thinking, elevates voices of people with disabilities and reclaims disability as an important part of our world. Here are a few ideas for celebrating Disability Pride Month: read books by authors with disabilities, watch films about disability issues, attend parades or events, advocate for inclusion and learn about the disability rights movement. I encourage everyone to celebrate.

---

## How to Use DDD Weekly

*DDD Weekly* includes links to webinars, training sessions, meetings and other websites with additional information on the topics covered in *DDD Weekly*. If you click on the **blue text**, it will direct you to another website where you can sign up for the meeting, learn more about the topic, and more. New information is added to the beginning of the newsletter. If you have questions about using *DDD Weekly*, please email [ddmail@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:ddmail@dmh.mo.gov).

---

## Ongoing Meetings

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

Employment Community of Practice for Support Coordinators  
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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 Technology Workshops

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month

Brain Injury Association of Missouri Support Group

### Podcasts

Growing Healthy Communities: Early Childhood Edition Podcast

Parents' Point of View (PPOV) Series

NASDDDS Podcast The Right Questions, Better Support

## East and Northwest Missouri Autism Projects Family Flexible Assistance Program FY27 Funding Announcement

The Family Flexible Assistance Program (FFAP) application period for FY27 will open on **July 22, 2026, at 10:00 am (CST)** for eligible individuals with autism enrolled with the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DMH-DDD) who live in the:

- East Missouri Autism Project (EMAP) region
- Northwest Missouri Autism Project (NWMAP) region

Applications close on August 20, 2026, at 11:59 pm (CST).

Please review your regional funding announcement and the [EMAP](#) or [NWMAP](#) webpage for:

- Counties served
- Funding details
- Priority consideration information
- Application instructions and link

### Important Reminders:

- Because funding is limited, submitting an application does not guarantee funding.
- Apply only if you expect to use the full award amount during the fiscal year.
- Funds must be used by June 30, 2027.
- Keep receipts for eligible purchases made on or after July 1, 2026.
- Award notifications will be sent in December 2026.

If you are unsure whether FFAP funding is needed or if a support/service is allowable, please contact the [Office of Autism Services](#) before applying.

### Helpful Resources

Before applying, review:

- [FFAP Program Guide](#)
  - [FFAP webpage](#)
  - [Allowable Expense Quick Reference](#)
-

## July is Disability Pride Month

At the Missouri Department of Mental Health's Division of Developmental Disabilities, we believe every person deserves the opportunity to pursue the life they choose. Throughout the month, we'll celebrate the voices, leadership, talents, and contributions of people with developmental disabilities while sharing resources, stories, and ways we can all help create more inclusive communities. Follow along all our social media channels and *DDD Weekly* to learn more.

---

### Previously Featured in *DDD Weekly*

#### Bright Spot

\*Names and other identifying information have been changed to protect Personally Identifying Information (PII).

Joe lived in an Individualized Supported Living (ISL) residence for over a decade. About a year ago, Joe had a deep conversation about goals with his Support Coordinator. The Support Coordinator asked whether living on his own was truly a goal he wanted or just something in his plan. Joe said he really wanted to live on his own.

Joe's Support Coordinator attended the Missouri Assistive Technology Conference, including a breakout session about remote supports. He told Joe about assistive technology and remote support, as well as providers who could help with those services. Joe spent months preparing to live on his own. After he moved into his apartment, in-person support gradually stepped down. Joe now lives in his apartment with a few hours of personal assistance service weekly and remote support.

This wouldn't have been possible without Joe's very supportive Public Administrator. The Public Administrator's confidence in Joe's abilities and respect for the dignity of risk. This was also possible for Joe due to the ISL providers' support. Their patience and willingness to go forward with this process were so important. Joe says the best part is having family over to his own home, having dinner and watching TV with them. This was a goal of Joe's for many years. Achieving it required a combination of support, resources, and dedicated team members working with him.

---

## Cyber Security Awareness

The FBI recently warned that the Silent Ransom Group has been acting like IT employees to gain access to organizations' devices and networks. They are targeting industries, including health care. Historically, scammers have sent phishing emails. Since this spring, they have begun calling or emailing employees, asking them to call IT support and grant remote desktop access. If that doesn't work, they have been sending people to work locations, telling them they need to insert a storage device into computers to fix and protect them from phishing emails. Scammers are dressing up like delivery drivers to gain access to locked areas in facilities. Remember to be on the lookout for anything suspicious and alert your IT provider.

---

## BHIDD Virtual Training

**Registration Now Open!**

**Training Name** | **DDD Services: Intake, Eligibility, and Targeted Case Management Services**

**Date** | July 14, 2026

**Time** | 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**Description** | *Demystify eligibility for DDD services and case management services.* Learn about the Intake and Eligibility process through the Department of Mental Health (DMH) Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), including services offered, who should apply, how to apply, and what to expect throughout the process from start to finish. The session will also cover what happens after eligibility is determined, who may qualify for waiver funding through the Division, and *what services are offered through Targeted Case Management (TCM).*

**Register Here:** <https://cvent.me/kNEOPR>.

**Training Name** | **From Crisis to Progress: Integrating Therapeutic and Behavioral Supports**

**Date** | July 23, 2026

**Time** | 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**Description** | Collaboration across disciplines is essential to providing comprehensive, individualized care for individuals in the Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (BHIDD) population. This presentation will explore how *Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and counseling services can work together to enhance treatment outcomes* through a multidisciplinary approach. The speakers will discuss best-practice strategies, treatment modifications, and collaborative interventions designed to address behavioral and mental health concerns. Attendees will gain insight into how behavioral and therapeutic approaches can complement one another to create person-centered support plans tailored to an individual's unique needs. Case examples will be reviewed to demonstrate the practical application and effectiveness of collaborative **care models.**

**Register Here:** <https://cvent.me/GL1dDa>.

## **Proposed CSR Amendment: Medication Aide Certification Public Comment Through July 10**

DDD is seeking public comments on proposed changes to [9 CSR 45-3.070](#), Certification of Medication Aides Serving Persons with Developmental Disabilities. The purpose of the amendment is to update the approved manual for the Medication Aide Training Program, update the approved instruction format by adding an online component, update minor details of the certification process, update requirements for becoming an instructor, add additional certifications that medication aides can complete, and update the title of the Department of Mental Health Division of Developmental Disabilities.

DDD is accepting public comments on these proposed changes between June 10, 2026, and July 10, 2026. Comment must be related to the proposed changes and submitted to Leslie DeGroat at [Leslie.DeGroat@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:Leslie.DeGroat@dmh.mo.gov).

For more information and to view the proposed changes, visit <https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/governance/drafts>.

---

## **Removal of Community Specialist (CS) and Individual Directed Goods and Services (IDGS) in Response to General Revenue Shortfall**

The budget passed by the Missouri General Assembly and submitted to the Governor for signature did not include funding for two services **beginning July 1, 2026**: Community Specialist (CS) and Individual Directed Goods and Services (IDGS). Therefore, CS and IDGS will be removed as services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). CS and IDGS will be removed from the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers administered by DDD upon approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Please refer to the corresponding [Removal of CS and IDGS Memo](#) and [Removal of CS and IDGS Provider Bulletin](#). Questions and comments should be directed to [ddmail@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:ddmail@dmh.mo.gov).

---

## The Link Center Learning Group Sessions

The Link Center hosts virtual shared learning groups for direct support professionals, clinical professionals, family members, and people with lived experience. These groups provide opportunities to dive into important topics and tap into your expertise and experiences related to people with cognitive disabilities, including intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and brain injuries, and mental health conditions. This month's topic is Suicide and Suicide Prevention. Please visit [The Link Center Shared Learning Groups](#) to register and look for other learning opportunities.

---

## Tiered Supports Summit Registration is Open!

The Missouri Tiered Supports Summit will be held at the Wyndham Executive Center in Columbia, MO, on Thursday and Friday, August 20-21, 2026. The Summit will include presentations from change agents from across the country sharing experiences, resources, and implementation strategies, with keynote speakers Dr. Ruth Anne Rehfeldt and Dr. Timothy Weil. Sessions will highlight the community-level impact of Tiered Systems of Support and strategies to maximize the implementation of evidence-based practices across environments.

The early bird registration rate is \$25. Register by **July 1st** to secure this rate. After this date, the registration fee will increase to \$35. This fee includes continuing education. MBHC will provide behavioral health contact hours to event attendees. The Department of Mental Health will be offering BACB® CEUs.

[Click this link to register.](#)

Early bird special is 25.00!



### **DATES AND COST BREAKDOWN**

Main Conference | August 20 - 21, 2026

Price: | Early Bird Rate: \$25. Register by July 1<sup>st</sup> to secure this rate. After this date, the registration fee will increase to \$35.



### **LOCATION**

Wyndham Executive Center  
2200 I-70 Drive SW  
Columbia, MO 65203



### **HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Phone | 573-416-0447

Online | [Book Here](#)

For more information, please contact [Tier2@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:Tier2@dmh.mo.gov).

---

## Missouri Open Door FREE Workshop Series

Missouri Open Door (MOD) hosts both a FREE **Government Benefit** and a **Technology Workshop Series**. Each series offers a virtual monthly workshop focused on a specific topic area. Each workshop shares ideas and solutions that can be used immediately. These virtual workshops are open to anyone who wants to learn more about the topic, is looking for a resource, or needs help for themselves or someone they support.

The MOD Benefit Series focuses on Government Benefits and is held on the **second Wednesday of each month from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm**.

Upcoming workshop topics for 2026 include (**click on each topic to register**):

- July 8th: [Vocational Rehabilitation](#)
- August 12: [How Medicare fits into Long-Term Care](#)
- September 9: [Show Me Home Program](#)
- October 14: [Medicare Open Enrollment for 2027](#)
- November 4: [Special Health Care Needs Programs](#)

The MOD **Technology Series** focuses on assistive technology and other items that can enhance daily life. The Technology Series is held on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm.

- July 22: [Comfort and Confidence for Personal Care](#)
- August 26: [Adaptive Crafting for All](#)
- September 23: [AT for Transitions: Are You Ready?](#)
- October 28: [Giving People a Voice with Low Tech AAC](#)
- November 18: [And the Award Goes To... Best AT of 2026](#)

---

### State Offices Closed

Independence Day (observed), Friday, July 3

Labor Day, Monday, September 7

---

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 on social media.



Get DDD Updates