



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

3/12/19

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Using People-First language emphasizes the person first, rather than a disability or a diagnosis. A person's disability is only a part of who they actually are. Make sure you are aware of the words you use whether you are sharing verbally or through written communication. Words are influential, and they can have a powerful lasting impact. Remember to model people-first language and set an example for others to follow. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers the following considerations: https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/pdf/disabilityposter_photos.pdf

www.dmh.mo.gov/dd
573-751-4054

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH