



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

Webinars, Trainings & Workshops

10/28/25

[MO DDD & You: Partners in Policymaking](#)

10/29/25

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

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

11/4/25

[DD Health Home Quick Connect: What is DD Health Home?](#)

11/6/25

[SOS Peer Mentor Orientation Registration](#)

1/29/2026

[Empowering Lifelong Employment: Tailored Strategies for Older Workers with IDD 2.0](#)

Ongoing Webinars

Every Monday

[HRST – Office Hours](#)

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

2nd Wednesday of the Month

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

4th Wednesday of the Month

[FREE MO Open Door Workshop Technology Series Gift Giving for Loved Ones with Disabilities](#)

Division Monthly Nursing

[Meeting | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Podcasts

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

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

DDD Staff Only

12/9/25

[Quarterly Benefits Presentation](#)

DDD Weekly



Director Sheila Wunning

Director's Corner

Hello! I hope that everyone has their candy, costumes, decorations, and favorite scary movie all ready to go!

Halloween is my favorite holiday, and Halloweens that fall on Fridays are the very best!

Happy Halloween!

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.

Jefferson City News Tribune Article Posted on October 26, 2025, About Director Sheila Wunning "Promotion can't keep Division Director from working with patients"



In May, Sheila was promoted to the Director of the Department of Mental Health with the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

Sheila was quoted as saying, "I was a little bit worried that I would not have as much opportunity to connect with individuals and families and employees. ... I think I have been able to find ways to make sure I'm continuing to connect." And

"I've been finding even more joy in it than I thought," Wunning said. "I do feel that I have a lot of opportunities to impact the direction of this division. I'm very excited about it."

[Click here to read the full article](#)

**Easterseals Midwest
Virtual Autism Summit 2025
November 6-7, 2025
8:30 am-12:00 pm**



Cost: FREE for families and individuals. \$55 for professionals. \$275 for groups of 6 or more.

During this two-day virtual learning event, participants will hear information shared on topics related to Autism Spectrum Disorders, including Neurodiversity & Integration, Caregiver Wellbeing, AAC & Autism, Autism Spectrum Disorder in Females, Managing Home and School Programs, Planning on Puberty, Autism Support Can Empower New Directions (ASCEND), Ease Into Employment, and Best Practices for Neurologically mixed Relationships. Find more details and the registration link on the [Virtual Autism Summit](#) page.

Missouri Mental Health Champions

Nominate a Champion Today!

Each year three individuals are honored at Missouri's Mental Health Champions' Awards Banquet. The 2026 Champions' Banquet is scheduled for May 7, 2026, and will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City, MO.



Nominations are now being accepted. Individuals are selected from three categories: Mental Illness, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD), and Substance Use Disorders. All people being nominated must agree to share their stories. Persons being nominated should be someone who has shown courage and resilience, made positive contributions to their community, inspired others who have similar lived experiences to increase their potential for independence. All nominees will be reviewed and judged based on the information submitted. It is very important for anyone making a nomination to fill out the form completely and to provide details.

The deadline to nominate someone is November 14, 2025. Nominations can be made online, or the form can be printed out, completed, and returned in the mail. Find the nomination form on the [Missouri Mental Health Foundation's webpage](#).

Visit the [Mental Health Champions' Banquet](#) webpage for more information and details. Direct all questions to the Missouri Mental Health Foundation at: 573-635-9201; mmhf@missourimhf.org.

**Virtual Supporting Families Best Practice Series
Topic: Federal Policy Updates Impacting the
Disability Field
November 20, 2025
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**



**NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE
FOR SUPPORTING FAMILIES**

No cost to participate. The National Collaborative for Supporting Families offers a Best Practice Series that highlights innovative services, supports, and policies that are directly related to Supporting Families. Each session features a panel of National, State, and/or local organizations that provide services and supports for families across the lifespan.

This opportunity is open to families and people with intellectual/developmental disabilities, DD agencies, state employees, and interested stakeholders.

[Register](#) to receive a link to participate. Direct all questions to angelinaalpert@umkc.edu.

November is National Caregivers Month **2025 Theme: *Plug-in to Care***

The month of November is a time to stop and focus on recognizing and honoring family caregivers across the nation. Connecting to networks of other caregivers for peer support, tapping into educational resources and information, or taking part in webinars to learn and share with others can help caregivers become empowered, informed, and feel less overwhelmed in their roles.

The [National Caregiver Action Network \(CAN\) website](#) has many resources available to explore, including a Help Desk that is staffed by caregivers who can help people find specific resources. The Help Desk is available online and by phone at 1-855-227-3640.

Brain Injury Association of Missouri Support Group

Please join us at the new Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) Support Group in Rolla, Missouri. This group is for survivors, family members, and friends to share stories and gain insight. The BIA-MO meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at **Crossroads Ministries, 708 North Main St., Rolla, MO 65402**.



Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, October 28, 2025
Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Tuesday, November 25, 2025
Tuesday, December 9, 2025
Tuesday, December 23, 2025
Tuesday, January 13, 2025
Tuesday, January 27, 2025

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Please let us know if you have questions. I can be reached at katie@biamo.org or by phone at 314-426-4024.

Target Works To Improve Accessibility at Stores Nationwide

Target is introducing self-checkout machines designed to better serve customers who are blind, have low vision, or have motor disabilities.



The self-checkout machines have Braille and high-contrast buttons, a headphone jack with adjustable volume, physical navigation buttons, a special tactile controller, and audio to guide customers through every step of the process.

Target worked with the National Federation of the Blind to incorporate feedback from people with disabilities throughout the development of the improved self-checkout machines. Mark Riccobono, President of the National Federation of the Blind shared that Target's new accessible self-checkout experience is unique not only because it is a first in the industry, but because it was designed through a collaboration with people who are blind. This provided a way to incorporate Target's technical expertise and people's lived experiences.

Accessible self-checkout is already available in 200 stores. By early next year, more locations across the country will have the new self-checkouts as part of a wider effort to enhance the checkout experience.

Target is also working with suppliers to encourage other retailers to adopt the technology.

Missouri Family-to-Family (MOF2F) is hosting a FREE virtual Good Life Group session October 28, 2025; 12:30pm-2:00pm. ***Using the Trajectory Across the Lifespan*** will focus on using the Charting the LifeCourse Trajectory Tool to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families



think about the life they want and the steps they need to take to get them there. This session is geared toward people with I/DD, family members, and supporters who want a simple way to look at what's working, what's not, and what's next. This opportunity is a friendly space to connect with others, share ideas, and learn how the Trajectory Tool can provide guidance in helping people build the life they imagine. **Participants must register in advance.** For more information, reach out to MOF2F at 1-800-444-0821.

PERSONAL CARE SERVICES AND HOME HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDERS

MHD is preparing to implement claims validation for Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) with a soft launch in January 2026. During this phase, all EVV-required claims must have a matching visit in the EAS, and providers will receive remark codes on their remittance advice about future payment policy changes. Claims without matching visits will still be paid, allowing providers to familiarize themselves with these codes. After the soft launch, a hard edit will deny claims that do not match EVV visit information, starting with personal care service providers. Home Health Care Service providers and those under the Department of Mental Health will follow. Providers must continue submitting claims, but must ensure that visit data is accurate in the EAS.

More updates will be shared in Provider Bulletins and Hot Tips, and detailed information is available on the [EVV Provider webpage](#).

2025-2026 Surveys: Your Feedback is Important!

The MO Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has begun a new survey cycle. The Division participates in three National Core Indicators (NCI) surveys and the Missouri Quality Outcomes Survey. These surveys ask people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and their families about their lives and the services they receive.

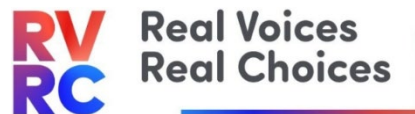
People receiving DDD services are randomly selected to participate in these surveys. People who are selected will be contacted by mail or telephone to participate. Mailed surveys will come from the

University of Missouri, Kansas City, Institute for Human Development, later in the year. Telephone contact will be made by staff from the local Regional Office starting in November 2025.

All survey responses are anonymous and help improve services for everyone. DDD evaluates all survey responses to help guide decisions about program development and enhance services. The 2025-2026 survey cycle ends on June 30, 2026.

Please explore DDD's Easy Reader [Surveys and You: Your Voice Matters](#). Any questions about the surveys can be sent to Caitlin Bartley, NCI Project Coordinator. caitlin.bartley@dmh.mo.gov.

Missouri Real Voices / Real Choices Looking for Volunteer Conference Planning Committee Members



The 2026 Real Voices Real Choices (RVRC) conference is scheduled for August 23-25, 2026. This conference focuses on uniting, informing, and empowering individuals and families living with mental illness, developmental and intellectual disabilities, and those in recovery from substance use disorders.

The RVRC is looking for passionate volunteers to help plan the next conference. People with lived experience and family members of someone with lived experience are encouraged to consider joining the RVRC planning committee and sharing their ideas for the conference.

Applications for volunteer membership to the RVRC planning committee are being accepted until **October 24, 2025**. Please note that transportation to and from the planning committee meetings in Jefferson City throughout the upcoming year and to the conference in August is a requirement for membership.

Interested applicants are encouraged to submit a [volunteer application](#). All questions should be directed to Kailey at consumerconference@dmh.mo.gov.

MO Children's Developmental Disabilities (MOCDD)

There is now a team specializing in assistance with MO Children's Developmental Disabilities (MOCDD) Waiver applications. The new specialized team began receiving new MOCDD application requests on October 1. While this team will not assume case management responsibilities for those currently receiving case management by local TCMs, if a local TCM would like assistance with completing MOCDD packets, they may reach out to MOCDDS@dmh.mo.gov. TCMs are not required to request assistance from the MOCDD specialized team for MOCDD waiver applications; assistance is available and optional as needed.

For new MOCDD requests, support coordinators may email MOCDDS@dmh.mo.gov for the statewide team to initiate and complete the application process.

For MOCDD applications currently in process, support coordinators may email MOCDDS@dmh.mo.gov for technical assistance.

Private TCMs serving individuals who do not receive Medicaid may continue to complete the application internally or request assistance from the statewide team at MOCDDS@dmh.mo.gov. This includes applications currently in process or future applications.

For additional information or questions, please reach out to: MOCDDS@dmh.mo.gov.

Missouri Open Door Workshop Series



The Missouri Open Door (MOD)

Workshops are FREE virtual workshops

available to anyone interested in the discussed topic and who wants to learn more. 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 takes place on the **second Wednesday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. each month.**

The **MOD Technology Series** is designed to provide 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 held on 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.

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.

Date for upcoming training:

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.

What is ConneXion?

ConneXion is a secure online system that helps providers, support coordinators, and teams share and access important information about individuals receiving Developmental Disabilities (DD) services.



Goal for ConneXion:

To create a simple, secure system that helps people who support individuals with developmental disabilities share important information—so everyone can work together to provide the best care and services.

What's Happening:

We're planning for the future of ConneXion! Right now, our team is writing a detailed plan—kind of like a shopping list—that explains what we need in a new system to better support individuals and meet state rules.

We hope to share this plan with technology companies in January 2026, so they can show us how they would build it.

What is FHIR?

FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) is a national standard that helps different computer systems safely share health and support information.



Goal for FHIR:

To make it easier for health care providers, support teams, and service systems to securely share important information, so individuals with developmental disabilities receive better, more connected care.

What's Happening:

Our team is building tools that help different computer systems "talk" to each other using FHIR. This makes it easier for doctors, providers, and support coordinators to share important information—like medical history or support plans.

We are working to share person-centered service plan data in real time through the Health Information Network (HIN) viewer. This will help teams quickly see the most up-to-date information for individuals receiving DD services.

We're aiming to have this ready to go live between January and February 2026.

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.

State Offices Closed

Veteran's Day - November 11th

Thanksgiving - November 27th

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



