



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

Webinars, Trainings and Workshops

12/4/2025

[Supported Decision Making and Other Alternatives to Guardianship](#)

12/11/25

[Restrictive Interventions and Due Process Review Committees: What are Limited Practices and Prohibited Practices? \(In-Person\)](#)

2/5/2025

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

Ongoing Meetings

Every Monday

[HRST Office Hours](#)
1:30 - 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 Series Technology Workshops](#)

DDD Monthly Nursing Meeting

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

2nd & 4th Tuesday of the Month

[Brain Injury Association of Missouri Support Group](#)

DDD Weekly

Director's Corner



Director Sheila Wunning

Hello everyone! This week, I wanted to say how thankful I am. As I am writing this, I am preparing to pick up my daughter from the airport. I am happy she's able to come home for Thanksgiving. I hope you can spend time with people you care about over this holiday week as well. I know many of you work directly caring for individuals and may not have the opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving on the actual holiday. I am very thankful for you and the work you do. I am thankful to work for an organization whose mission is to better the lives of Missourians. I am thankful to all of DDD's providers, partners and staff who enable DDD to complete the mission. Finally, I am thankful to the individuals, families and caregivers who allow DDD to help with support and care. You are the reason DDD exists, and I am grateful for your trust and partnership. I hope you have a happy Thanksgiving!

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. New information is added to the beginning of the newsletter. If you have questions about using *DDD Weekly*, please email ddmail@dmh.mo.gov.

November is National Caregivers Month Taking Care of Yourself: Tips for Caregivers

Caregivers often neglect to focus on themselves and their needs. They instead turn their attentions to the person they are providing care. The National Institute of Aging (NIA) offers Tips for Caregivers that include recognizing when help is needed, reaching out to others for help, how to reduce feeling overwhelmed, and how to support the caregiver. Find [Tips for Caregivers](#) on the NIA's website.

Podcasts

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

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

DDD Staff Only

12/9/25
[Quarterly Benefits Presentation](#)

2026 Partners in Policymaking Taking Applications Now

Partners in Policymaking (PiP) is a leadership training program available through the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council (MODDC) that runs from January to September 2026. The PiP program is designed for self-advocates and parents of young children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The goal of PiP is to develop leadership and advocacy skills of the people and families who need and use the I/DD service system. PiP focuses on enhancing partnerships between service users and those in a position to make policies and laws. Participants in the program will have opportunities to meet with national leaders in the DD field, become familiar with various organizations, and connect with opportunities and endless possibilities.

Participants chosen for the program are required to attend all sessions and complete all assignments.

Topics discussed during the sessions include:

- History of Disability Movements
- Quality Education
- Employment
- Housing and Person-Centered Planning
- Positive Behavior Supports
- Parliamentary Procedure: How to Take Control of Meetings
- State/Federal Policy and Legislative Issues
- Assistive Technology
- Community Organizing

Applications are available on the MODDC website. The deadline to submit applications is **December 14, 2025**. All questions should be sent to MODDC at 1-800-500-7878 or via email at moddc@moddcouncil.org.

DMH's Hearnest Acute Rehabilitation Program (HARP) has been selected as a finalist for the Institute for Inpatient Psychiatric Rehabilitation Award!

We need your vote by **December 19, 2025**, to win the award. Please vote at: [IIPR Award Voting Site](#). Why you should vote for HARP: HARP serves individuals who are dually diagnosed with serious mental illness and intellectual/developmental disabilities and who are in need of psychiatric medication stabilization. This is a 15-bed program at Fulton State Hospital. HARP's goal is to achieve psychiatric rehabilitation within a 90-day stay. HARP utilizes Tools of Choice, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Behavioral Skills Training, Case Management, and Peer Support to meet individuals on their

recovery journey and build upon their strengths. HARP involves the individual in setting goals and developing a treatment plan that addresses the individual's needs and desires. HARP works closely with guardians, family members, support coordinators, and providers to strengthen care and positive community connections when individuals leave HARP. HARP fosters hope by believing that all individuals have the capacity to succeed.

2025-2026 National Core Indicators and Missouri Quality Outcomes Surveys: Your Feedback is Important!

The MO Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has begun a new survey cycle. DDD 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. People selected will be contacted by mail or telephone. 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.

Survey responses are anonymous. DDD reviews and uses the surveys to guide decisions about programs 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.



Division of Developmental Disabilities

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.

State Offices Closed

Thanksgiving - November 27th and 28th
Christmas – December 25th

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.



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