The Missouri Model for Trauma-Informed Schools Guidance Document

Process Overview

Background:
The Missouri Trauma Roundtable published the Missouri Model: A Developmental Framework for Trauma-Informed in 2014 as a tool to help organizations in the change process of becoming trauma-informed. The Missouri Model was officially adopted as a model for trauma-informed schools in 2017 and has been shared with educators across the state as part of SB638. Alive and Well Communities has been supporting schools on the implementation of the Missouri Model since 2015.

Guidance Document Process:
Upon the request of the Missouri Trauma Roundtable and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Alive and Well Communities began in early 2018 engaging educators in creating the guidance document. The Alive and Well Educational Leader’s Workgroup, co-chaired by Dr. Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, Superintendent of the School District of University City and Dr. Terry Harris, Executive Director of Student Services in Rockwood School District, provided initial input into the content and shaping of the document. Between May and August 2018, Alive and Well Steering Committees in both Saint Louis and Kansas City, along with the Missouri Trauma Roundtable, reviewed both drafts of the document and provided feedback.

On October 4, 2018, DESE sent the draft document along with instructions for providing feedback in the DESE bulletin to educators across the state. Educators had an opportunity to provide feedback directly via email, through an online platform, and on 2 scheduled conference calls. Alive and Well incorporated the feedback provided during this process into a final draft that was presented to the Missouri Trauma Roundtable at their annual meeting on October 25, 2018, where it was approved. Alive and Well Communities partnered with a graphic designer to create a final version of the document, presented to DESE for a final review on February 8, 2019.