

Missouri
Interagency
Transition
Team
Profile & Projects

Promoting choice for Missouri youth through communication, coordination and collaboration



# About the MITT

The Missouri Interagency Transition Team (MITT) was formed in 2007 by the Office of Special Education at the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to increase interagency collaboration at the state, regional, and local levels. This state transition team has met quarterly to address data-driven goals for improvement and collaboration with the shared vision of improving employment, independent living, and postsecondary education outcomes for Missouri students with disabilities. Consisting of a diverse membership from a variety of state agencies concerned with transition, the MITT provides a venue and mechanism to share information, network, and partner to coordinate professional development activities. At this time, membership represents the agencies listed below.

- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)
  - Office of Special Education
    - Effective Practices& Compliance
    - Extended Employment/Sheltered Workshops
  - Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services
    - Adult Education and Literacy
    - Independent Living
    - Vocational Rehabilitation
  - Office of College and Career Readiness
    - Career Centers
    - Guidance & Counseling
- Department of Social Services
  - Children’s Division
  - Family Support Division
    - Rehabilitation Services for the Blind
  - Division of Youth Services
- Department of Economic Development
  - Division of Workforce Development
- Department of Mental Health
  - Division of Behavioral Health
  - Division on Developmental Disabilities
- Governor’s Council on Disability
- Missouri Parent Act (MPACT)
- Missouri Developmental Disability Council (housed at DMH)

## About this document

This document profiles member agencies of the MITT. It includes descriptions of each agency and the services they provide, as well as a link to each agency’s website for additional information.

Also included in this document are descriptions of the collaborative projects and programs that have been formed between MITT agencies and members. While this document is not exhaustive, it seeks to illustrate how the MITT has enabled and enhanced partnerships between multiple agencies to support students with disabilities during their transition to adulthood.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Agency Profiles**

Effective Practices and Compliance.....	4
Extended Employment/Sheltered Workshops .....	5
Adult Education and Literacy.....	6
Independent Living .....	7
Vocational Rehabilitation .....	8
Career Centers .....	9
Guidance and Counseling .....	10
Children’s Division .....	11
Rehabilitation Services for the Blind .....	12
Division of Youth Services.....	13
Division of Workforce Development .....	14
Division of Behavioral Health .....	15
Division of Developmental Disabilities .....	16
Governor’s Council on Disability.....	17
Missouri Parent Act .....	18
Missouri Developmental Disability Council .....	19
University of Missouri – Kansas City, Institute for Human Development.....	20

### **Inter-Agency Projects**

Children’s Comprehensive System Management Team.....	21
Community Transition Teams.....	22
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Interagency Transition Agreement.....	22
Disability Awareness and Transition Fairs .....	23
Employer-Based Transition Training Programs, including Project Search .....	23
Missouri Connections .....	24
Missouri Family to Family.....	24
Missouri Interagency Transition Team Web Resource Portal .....	25
Missouri Transition Planning Resource Locator .....	25
Missouri Youth Leadership Forum.....	26
Propel: UMKC’s Program for Self-Determination and Employment.....	27
Show Me Careers.....	28
State Employment Leadership Network.....	29
Youth Council of the Workforce Investment Boards.....	29

## AGENCY DESCRIPTIONS

---

### Effective Practices and Compliance

#### *DESE, Office of Special Education*

##### *Description*

Secondary transition is a requirement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for youth beginning at age 16, or earlier if appropriate, and it is documented in every subsequent Individualized Education Plan (IEP) until graduation. Students in Missouri are entitled to a free appropriate public education (FAPE) until age 21 and they reach the age of majority at age 18. This also includes transition services, which help facilitate the movement of students with disabilities from school to adult life. The Effective Practices Section of the Office of Special Education provides services and programs for local school districts such as high quality special education services and transition services. The Compliance Section of the Office of Special Education monitors local school districts' special education programs to ensure all rules and regulations from the IDEA are being met.

The Effective Practices and Compliance Sections support secondary local school districts' special education programs by coordinating with adult service providers to offer information and referrals, when appropriate, to families and students during the transition planning process.

##### *Services Provided*

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education offers a variety of state-wide professional development and school improvement efforts in transition to assist participating teachers in helping students during the transition process. These programs and activities include:

- Statewide Transition Institute
- Workshops on transition programs
- Transition Liaisons program
- Missouri Interagency Transition Team
- Community Transition Teams
- Transition Seminar Series
- Transition Outcomes Project
- Dropout Prevention project

##### *For More Information*

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education>

## **Extended Employment/Sheltered Workshops** *DESE, Office of Special Education*

### ***Description***

Sheltered Workshops provide a controlled work environment and a program that is designed to enable individuals with disabilities to progress toward normal living and to develop to his or her capacity, performance and relationships with other persons. Sheltered Workshops provide work experiences, which are sufficiently diverse, to accommodate the needs of each enrolled individual with a disability. Sheltered workshops also coordinate and integrate its services with all community agencies for the benefit of its employees, and whenever practicable, make use of the services available from these agencies.

### ***Services Provided***

- A viable employment option for persons with disabilities who choose to work in a facility-based workplace
- Work interest assistance such as assessments and evaluation sites, work experience, and seasonal employment opportunities
- Provide referrals to other forms of employment programs such as supported employment and/or competitive employment providers
- Provides assistance and support to students and agencies relating to coordination of services, supports, and referrals for appropriate employment options

### ***For More Information***

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/sheltered-workshops>

## **Adult Education and Literacy**

### ***DESE, Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services***

#### ***Description***

The Missouri Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Program helps Missouri adults get the basic skills they need to be productive workers, family members, and citizens. The major areas of support are Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, and English Language Acquisition. These programs emphasize basic skills such as reading, writing, math, English language competency, and problem-solving. Eligible students are adults 17 years of age or older who are not presently enrolled in secondary school (or 16 year old adults who are not presently enrolled in secondary school but have completed 16 hours of credit toward high school graduation) and are speakers of English as a second language.

#### ***Services Provided***

- Adult Basic Education classes for adults who need to improve on basic reading, writing and math skills
- Adult Secondary Education classes for adults who need to prepare for taking the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET)
- English as a Second Language classes for non-English speakers
- Career Exploration using the Missouri Connections online service:  
[www.MissouriConnections.org](http://www.MissouriConnections.org)

#### ***For More Information***

<http://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/adult-education-literacy>

## Independent Living

### *DESE, Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*

#### ***Description***

Centers for Independent Living (CIL) are community based non-profit, consumer controlled, non-residential, organizations that provide services to people with disabilities (PWD). PWD can be individuals of any age, who want to increase their opportunities to live independently within their homes and communities. The CIL's goal is to assist PWD in achieving their maximum autonomy within their everyday lives. The CILs receive an Independent Living grant through the Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services along with other grants, fees for services, donations, and other funding. Each CIL is managed by a board of directors (BOD). A majority of the BOD and the CIL employees must be individuals with disabilities.

#### ***Services Provided***

All centers are required to provide five core services. These five services are available at every CIL in the nation. There are 22 CILs statewide in Missouri that offer independent living services. Anyone with a disability is eligible to receive services at any age.

Five core services:

- Information and Referral
- Self-Advocacy and Systems Advocacy
- Peer Supports
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Transition of individuals with significant disabilities
  - a. From nursing homes
  - b. At risk of entering nursing homes or institutions
  - c. Youth with disabilities

CILs may also provide other services needed within their catchment area. Most of the services are free, however some may have eligibility criteria.

#### ***For More Information***

<http://dese.mo.gov/adult-learningrehab-services/independent-living>  
[www.mosilc.org](http://www.mosilc.org)

# Vocational Rehabilitation

## *DESE, Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services*

### **Description**

Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) helps eligible individuals with disabilities obtain, retain, maintain, or advance in employment. VR, in collaboration with the local education agencies involved, will provide, or arrange for the provision of, pre-employment transition services for students with disabilities in need of such services who are eligible or *potentially eligible* for VR services.

**Pre-employment transition services** may be provided to students with disabilities who are 16-21 years of age (or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team), and currently enrolled in the Missouri secondary school system. These services are designed to be an early start at job exploration and designed to assist students with disabilities in making the transition from secondary to post-secondary education/training and competitive, integrated employment. Pre-employment transition services include the following five required activities:

1. Job exploration counseling
2. Work-based learning experiences
3. Counseling on opportunities for enrollment in post-secondary educational programs
4. Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living
5. Instruction in self-advocacy, which may include peer mentoring

Eligibility for VR services is determined by the VR counselor on an individual basis. The counselor must certify that the individual:

- has a physical or mental impairment,
- that creates a substantial impediment to employment, and
- requires VR services to prepare for, secure, retain, regain, or advance in employment.

There is no specific time frame or age when an individual may be referred to VR. Most VR services are provided at no cost. However, payment for some VR services may be based on student and family income/resources and the ability to pay for costs associated with a specific service.

### **Services Provided**

In addition to those pre-employment transition services mentioned above, some of the VR services that may be provided to eligible youth include, but are not limited to:

- Web-based career exploration
- Career planning/portfolio development
- Individual career guidance and counseling
- Work experience such as job shadowing, apprenticeships, and internships
- Earning high school credit through a cooperative work experience program (COOP)
- Assistance in finding employment/job search activities
- On-the-job training (OJT)
- Supported employment job coaching/supports
- Assistive technology devices or services
- Post-secondary education or training
- Other services based on individual needs

### **For More Information**

<http://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/vocational-rehabilitation>

## Career Centers

### *DESE, Office of College and Career Readiness*

#### **Description**

Fifty-seven (57) area career centers are strategically located throughout the state serving high school and adult students. The area career centers offer a number of career and technical education programs focusing primarily on skilled technical training which include, but are not limited to, automotive technology and collision repair, construction technology, electronics, and advanced manufacturing. Most area career centers also offer programs in the field of healthcare such as health services assistant programs, practical nursing programs, radiological technician programs, and other programs which offer training in allied health-related occupations. Many have programs in Agriculture Education, and Family Consumer Science and Human Services, as well. Programs offered at the area career centers are typically one or two-year certificate programs with many offering third-party, industry certification.

#### **Services Provided**

- Provide counseling and career planning. Many career centers offer services for special needs students such as vocational resources and basic skills instruction.
- Offer programs in English as a Second Language and High School Equivalency preparation, as well as, personal enrichment courses, and customized training for business and industry.
- Provide assistance with federal financial aid for adults enrolled in career and technical education programs.

#### **Other Assistance with Transition to a Quality Adult Life**

<http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/career-education>

## Guidance and Counseling

### *DESE, Office of College and Career Readiness*

#### *Description*

The vision of the Guidance and Counseling Staff is to work with schools to help ensure that each school has a fully implemented comprehensive guidance and counseling program that supports the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students through the delivery of a guidance curriculum, individual student planning and response services. The program is managed and evaluated through system support activities that also support the on-going mission of the school.

#### *Services Provided*

- Provides a Guidance [e-Learning Center](#) for school counselors and administrators that offers numerous resources to help implement their guidance and counseling programs.
- Implements a Guidance System of Support model to provide professional development opportunities for school counselors to collaborate, share, work together, and support one another in the development and enhancement of their guidance and counseling programs.
- Oversees the Missouri Connections program which is a comprehensive, online, career development and planning program that is provided free of charge to all Missouri citizens: <http://www.missouriconnections.org>
- Refers individuals and provides links to workforce centers, as well as information about traditional vocational/trade programs. Additional resources specific to special needs are also sometimes offered.

#### *For More Information*

<http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/guidance-counseling>

## Children's Division

### *Department of Social Services*

#### *Description*

The Children's Division provides services to protect Missouri children from abuse and neglect; assuring their safety and well begin by partnering with families, communities and government in an ethically, culturally and socially responsible manner. Services are provided in the areas of Adoption, Foster Care, Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline, Family Centered Services, and Intensive In-Home Services.

#### *Services Provided*

- Offer health insurance and housing assistance up to age 21, post-secondary financing up to age 23, credit checks and counseling beginning at age 16, and health care directives education after age 18 and up to age 21.
- Annually offer the "Casey Life Skills Assessment," to all youth between the ages of 14 and 21 who are in foster care, which includes a domain on work and study life, and career and education planning.
- Refer youth to existing resources such as Job Corps, Vocational Rehabilitation, and to use the Children's Division providers.

#### *For More Information*

<http://dss.mo.gov/cd/>

## **Rehabilitation Services for the Blind**

### ***Department of Social Services, Family Support Division***

#### ***Description***

Rehabilitation Services for the Blind's mission is to create opportunities for eligible blind and visually impaired persons in order that they may attain personal and vocational success.

#### ***Services Provided***

- Employment readiness training, job development, and job placement services including Supported Employment.
- Unpaid and paid work experience.
- Participation in Individualized Education Program meetings and open lines of communication with Special Ed case managers and districts.
- Tuition support for college and vocational schools.
- Computers and adaptive equipment as well as training in its use.
- Business Enterprise Program (BEP) provides opportunities to legally blind persons. The program includes vending facility operations, snack shops, convenience stores, and cafeterias in public buildings, in private industries, and in roadside rest areas of the interstate highway system.
- Services to eligible blind and visually impaired persons are provided so that they can function independently in their homes and communities. Services include teaching alternative techniques in the activities of daily living, communication skills in the medium that is best utilized by the individual, and homemaking activities.

#### ***For More Information***

<http://dss.mo.gov/fsd/rsb/>

## **Division of Youth Services**

### ***Department of Social Services***

#### ***Description***

The Division of Youth Services operates programs for more than 1,300 youths committed by the court for delinquency each year. The division has developed a wide array of services to meet the needs of youths from the metropolitan and rural areas of Missouri. Services include prevention, community-based interventions and residential care. Youth are helped to develop self-esteem and make positive behavioral changes in their lives.

#### ***Services Provided***

- Operates a case management system that provides treatment assessment and planning through the coordination and utilization of various services available to youth.
- Funds the Juvenile Court Diversion Program.
- Operates the Job Readiness/Work Experience Program
- Operates day treatment programs that provide year-round alternative education, counseling, life skills training and a variety of other services.
- Offers Proctor Care program for youth who are unable to live with their family.
- Provides short-term subsidies for older youth who do not have family to live with for independent living.
- Provides family therapy.

#### ***For More Information***

<http://dss.mo.gov/dys>

## **Division of Workforce Development**

### ***Department of Economic Development***

#### ***Description***

Missouri Job Centers provide staff-assisted job search services to anyone looking for employment, training or information about a particular occupation or industry. Registration on the website allows individuals to search for job openings that match their skills. Missouri Job Centers offer services for youth to access training, education, and prepare for employment.

#### ***Youth Services Provided***

- Skills assessment and skills upgrade opportunities
- Work readiness instruction, high school completion, GED attainment and post secondary learning opportunities
- Paid and unpaid work experience
- Summer employment opportunities directly linked to academic and occupational learning and
- Supportive service resources to help you achieve your goals.

#### ***Services Provided***

- Evaluate skills, knowledge and abilities with a free initial assessment that identifies strengths, abilities, and areas for development in applied mathematics, locating information, and reading for information.
- Provide individuals with personalized career assistance from workforce specialists and career counselors.
- Offer specialized workshops to help individuals brush up on job-seeking and software skills and also, develop professional resumes.
- Help determine eligibility for a variety of training programs to assist in gaining new skills necessary for obtaining employment and offer help in identifying available jobs.

Contact your local Missouri Job Center for specific information about services that are available in your area.

#### ***For More Information***

**<http://jobs.mo.gov>**

## Division of Behavioral Health *Department of Mental Health*

### *Description*

The Department of Mental Health (DMH), Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) contracts with community mental health centers and substance abuse treatment agencies to provide services to individuals with mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

### *Services Provided*

- Determine eligibility using the “Addiction Severity Index” for substance abuse disorders and the “Daily Living Activities-20” for mental health disorders. Both are functional assessments.
- Provide services to assist the young person and their family to ensure educational and/or vocational opportunities during treatment.
- Behavioral health providers coordinate services for young people with existing vocational training programs such as Job Corps, Vocational Rehabilitation, and local community action employment training programs.
- Community-based treatment services may include, but are not limited to: Psychosocial Rehabilitation pre-employment & job readiness groups, supported education for youth with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) up to age 21, supported employment, job coaching, and coordination with Vocational Rehabilitation including the evidence-based practice of Individualized Placement and Support as available.
- Offer a variety of support services for young people in obtaining competitive employment. However, wages are strictly provided by the employer.
- Supports Community Psychiatric Rehabilitation (CPR) programs to provide an array of key services to children and youth with serious emotional disturbances.
- Supports the Comprehensive Substance Treatment and Rehabilitation Program (CSTAR). Adolescent Treatment Programs are a unique approach to substance abuse and addiction treatment.

### *For More Information*

<http://dmh.mo.gov/>

## **Division on Developmental Disabilities** ***Department of Mental Health***

### ***Description***

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD) serves a population of individuals with developmental disabilities such as intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, head injuries, autism, epilepsy, and certain learning disabilities. Eligibility is determined by what's known as a functional assessment as opposed to linking eligibility to a specific diagnosis. A developmental disability is a disability which occurs before the age of 22. It must be determined that this disability is likely to continue indefinitely and that it results in a substantial functional limitation in two or more of the following six areas of major life activities: self-care, receptive and expressive language development and use, learning, self-direction, capacity for independent living or economic self-sufficiency and mobility. The Division's Mission is to improve lives of Missourians with Developmental Disabilities through supports and services that foster self-determination.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities is committed to enhancing community employment options for persons with developmental disabilities. The guiding principle of Employment First is that all individuals who want to work can work and contribute to their community when given opportunity, training, and supports that build upon their unique talents, skills and abilities.

As fully participating members of their community, individuals with developmental disabilities will be afforded the opportunity to earn a living wage and engage in work that makes sense to them. Career exploration and planning will be supported when assisting individuals in making informed choices in designing their unique pathway to increased independence, integration, inclusion, productivity, self-determination.

### ***Services Provided***

- Individualized services and supports that provide access to opportunities that increase independence, integration, inclusion, productivity, self-determination and health and safety.
- Eligible individuals and families have access to a comprehensive and coordinated system that assist in planning, connecting to services and supports within and outside the disability system.
- Assistance with high school transition planning.
- Assistance with employment coordination.

### ***For More Information***

<http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/>

## Governor's Council on Disability

### *Description*

**The Governor's Council on Disability** (GCD) collaborates with state entities and community partners throughout the state to advise and educate on policies and practices that impact Missouri citizens with disabilities of all ages. Presentations and exhibits are set up at a variety of transition fairs and conferences throughout the state of Missouri.

### *Services Provided*

- Sponsors the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum, a leadership training program for students, ages 16-21, which focuses on developing leadership and career development skills.
- Offers support to organizations and schools to implement the National Disability Day mentoring events during the month of October.
- Maintains the state disability web portal and the online community resource directory that publishes resources in the different communities of Missouri, including the Resource Directory for Missourians with Disabilities.
- Collects nominations and selects Annual Inclusion Awards and Youth Leadership Award recipients recognizing exemplary citizens and organizations.
- Legislative Update is published and distributed during the legislative session to follow disability-related legislation in the Missouri General Assembly.
- Legislative Education Project (LEP) educates and motivates those that want to learn the legislative process by providing opportunities to become more active in creating positive public policies for people with disabilities. The LEP is offered during the legislative session.
- Offers technical assistance by providing information and referrals for disability-related issues and providing presentations on disability rights and awareness topics.
- Support Business Leadership Networks and Employment First initiatives to improve employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

### *For More Information*

<http://disability.mo.gov>

## Missouri Parent Act

### *Description*

The Missouri Parent Act Program (MPACT) staff and volunteers work with public and private agencies, parent groups, professional organizations, and advocacy groups throughout Missouri. Services are provided to empower families to advocate for themselves so that children with special educational needs can reach their full potential in education and life through support, training, and education.

### *Services Provided*

- Produces a disability-related e-newsletter and maintain a website with information and documents in different languages to assist parents.
- Provide transition training workshops for families, teachers, and others close to the student.
- Outreach is also done through MPACT presence at school meetings and resource fairs.
- Other trainings provided include those specific to Autism, ADHD, and Bullying.
- One-on-one support is offered to assist in navigating the system.

### *For More Information*

<http://ptimpact.org>

## Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council

### *Description*

The Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council is a federally-funded, 23-member, consumer-driven council appointed by the Governor. Its mandate under P.L. 106-402, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, is to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration in all aspects of community life.

### *Services Provided*

- Supports and advocates for free trainings in diversity in employment & disability awareness and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).  
<http://moddcouncil.org/uploaded/BLANK%20Conference%20Sponsorship%20request%20form.pdf>
- Offers the Career Planning Guide, “A Guide for Career Discovery,” designed to support job seekers in planning for and achieving integrated community-based employment and earning competitive wages as well as benefits like other members of the community.  
<http://www.moddcouncil.org/uploaded/Career%20Discovery%20Guide%20-%20Updated.pdf>
- Maintains the DB101 Calculators to help individuals with disabilities plan for health coverage, benefits and employment. <https://mo.db101.org/>
- Employment success stories are compiled in the Real Lives, Real Jobs booklet  
<http://www.moddcouncil.org/uploaded/Real%20Live%20Real%20Jobs.pdf>
- MO RIDES referral service coordinates affordable rides for people with transportation challenges. <http://morides.org/>
- Mo Guardianship Guide: Understanding Your Options and Alternatives  
<http://www.moddcouncil.org/uploaded/MO%20Guardianship%20RESOURCE%20GUIDE%20rev%20Dec%202010.pdf>
- Partners In Policymaking is a leadership training program for adults with disabilities and parents of children with developmental disabilities. The program teaches leadership skills and techniques to develop positive partnerships with elected officials, school personnel and other individuals who make policy decisions about services that you and/or your family use.  
[http://moddcouncil.org/?page\\_id=1892](http://moddcouncil.org/?page_id=1892)

### *For More Information*

<http://moddcouncil.org>

## University of Missouri – Kansas City, Institute for Human Development

### Description

The UMKC Institute for Human Development (IHD) is the University Center for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities for Missouri. IHD's mission is "to improve the quality of life for persons with disabilities across the entire age span by promoting: (a) community inclusion, community membership, independence, productivity, and social participation; and (b) high quality and effective community based services and individualized supports for persons with developmental disabilities and their families." The initiatives of IHD address the needs of a variety of underserved populations and has a lifespan focus that ranges from early childhood through aging. IHD works with a multitude of partners to respond to needs at the local, state, and national level to build the capacity of systems, organizations, programs, families, and individuals.

### Services Provided

IHD provides services in the following four core areas. Examples of transition related work are included for each.

- **Conduct Research and Evaluation:** IHD provides assistance to organizations in designing and evaluating programs
- **Provide Training and Technical Assistance:** Soft skills training and employment curricula have been developed for transition aged youth
- **Provide Interdisciplinary Training:** In collaboration with UMKC, IHD provides a two-year certificate program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities focused on academic, vocational, social, and independent living domains.
- **Provide Information and Dissemination:** The Missouri Family-to-Family Resource Center is housed within IHD, and provides transition related resources to individuals, families, and professionals.

### For More Information

<http://www.ihd.umkc.edu/>

## ENTER-AGENCY PROJECTS

---

### Children's Comprehensive System Management Team (CSMT)

#### *Description*

The CSMT works collaboratively with DMH to help ensure every child who needs mental health services and supports from the public mental health system will receive them through a comprehensive seamless system that delivers services at the local level and recognizes that children and their families come first.

#### *Agencies Involved*

- Department Of Elementary And Secondary Education, Special Education and Vocational Rehabilitation
- Department Of Health & Senior Services
- Department Of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services, Division of Developmentally Disabled
- Department Of Social Services, Division of Children's Service, Division of MO HealthNet, Division of Youth Services
- Department Of Public Safety
- Family Representatives
- Missouri Parent ACT (MPACT)
- National Alliance on Mental Health, Missouri
- Federal Grant Site Representatives
- Juvenile Justice System
- Office Of State Court Administrators

#### *For More Information*

<http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/childoffice/FINAL2010ChildAnnualReport.pdf>

## Community Transition Teams

### *Description*

Community Transition Teams provide team training and technical assistance to enhance a public education agency's ability to provide comprehensive transition programs for youth with disabilities between the ages of 16 and 21 (or younger if appropriate), including facilitating a seamless transition to full community participation for every student, regardless of his/her disability, upon exit from high school.

### *Agencies Involved*

- University of Kansas Transition Coalition
- Office of Special Education, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Department of Mental Health-Developmental Disabilities
- County Senate Bill 40 Boards

### *For More Information*

[www.missouritransition.org](http://www.missouritransition.org)

## Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) Interagency Transition Agreement

### *Description*

The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate the coordination of transition planning and services from school to post-secondary education and/or employment for youth with disabilities who are still enrolled in high school and are, or may be, eligible to receive vocational rehabilitation services.

### *Services Provided*

- Vocational Rehabilitation, DESE
- Office of Special Education, DESE
- Office of College & Career Readiness, DESE
- Rehabilitative Services for the Blind

### *For More Information*

<http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/vr-coopagreement1.pdf>

## Disability Awareness and Transition Fairs

### *Description*

Conducted throughout the state to provide outreach and public awareness of services, needs and opportunities for the population of individuals with disabilities.

### *Agencies Involved*

- Department of Mental Health
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Division of Workforce Development
- Institutions of Higher Education

### *For More Information*

<http://dmh.mo.gov/dd>

## Employer-Based Transition Training Programs, including Project Search

### *Description*

Business-immersed internship programs for students in their last year of school provide year-long work experiences which build technical skills and soft skills. There are multiple locations around the state. Generally, DMH-DD, VR, Community Rehabilitation Providers and the SB 40 Boards provide technical assistance, collaboration, case management and employment services under Medicaid waivers. The LEA's provide curriculum, internship oversight, staffing and high school credit.

### *Agencies Involved*

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Local Education Agencies (School Districts)
- Department of Mental Health-Developmental Disabilities
- County Senate Bill 40 Boards
- Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRPs)

### *For More Information*

<http://www.projectsearch.us>

## Missouri Connections

### *Description*

Missouri Connections is a comprehensive, online, career development and planning program that is provided free of charge to all Missouri citizens. This program supports the career development efforts of schools, community organizations, and adult job seeker programs. Missouri Connections helps individuals learn about their talents, skills, and interests and makes the connection between planning for continued education and the work world.

### *Agencies involved*

- Missouri Division of Workforce Development
- Office of College & Career Readiness, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Office of Special Education, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Office of Adult Learning & Rehabilitative Services, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

### *For More Information*

<http://www.missouriconnections.org>

## Missouri Family To Family

### *Description*

The Missouri Family to Family serves individuals with disabilities and/or special health care needs, their family, and the professionals who support them.

- Discover and navigate your family's life course with practical information and tools.
- Connect and network with others who share similar experiences.
- Find ways to make a difference that fit your time, interest, and talents.

### *Services Provided*

- Individualized information about disability resources and navigating the life you want for yourself or your child with a disability.
- Parent to parent or family to family peer support from trained Sharing Our Strength peer mentors who have lived experience with disability who can help you with your day to day problem solving and decrease your feeling of being alone.
- Training and educational resources to get you connected to opportunities for self-determination, advocacy and leadership.

### *For More Information*

<http://mofamilytofamily.org>

[800-444-0821](tel:800-444-0821)

## Missouri Interagency Transition Team (MITT) Web Resource Portal

### *Description*

A one-stop, web-based resource site developed by the MITT to provide a wide range of resources to benefit students and adults who are looking for assistance in achieving a high quality life. The resources listed on the website are broken up into five different sections: “Health,” “Education,” “Post-Secondary Education and Employment Assistance,” “Advocacy and Protection Services,” and “Independent Living.”

### *Agencies involved*

- Office of Special Education, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Governor’s Council on Disability
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Department of Mental Health
- Division of Workforce Development
- Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council

### *For More Information*

<http://disability.mo.gov/MITT.htm>

## Missouri Transition Planning Resource Locator

### *Description*

This document, developed by the MITT, provides recommended resources, services and activities for students with disabilities categorized by school building level. The numbers in the boxes correspond to the attached resource list (see page 5). Clicking on the link in the Resource List will take you to the website for that resource.

### *Agencies Involved*

- Office of Special Education, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Governor’s Council on Disability
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Department of Mental Health
- Division of Workforce Development
- Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council

### *For More Information*

<http://dese.mo.gov/se/ep/documents/se-ep-tran-plan-resource.pdf>

## Missouri Youth Leadership Forum

### *Description*

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum, operated by the Governor's Council on Disability, is a leadership program held for 5 days in the summer that focuses on leadership skills, employment, independent living skills, advocacy, and community involvement.

### *Agencies Involved*

- Governor's Council on Disability
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Missouri Assistive Technology
- Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council
- Multiple agencies and organizations collaborate and support the Missouri Youth Leadership program by providing consultation, sponsorships, recruiting applicants and recruiting staff

### *For More Information*

<http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/ylf.htm>

## Propel: UMKC's Program for Self-Determination and Employment

### *Description*

In collaboration with area agencies, UMKC developed Propel, a Transition and Postsecondary Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID). Propel will provide a two-year certificate program that includes student learning outcomes across academic, vocational, social, and independent living domains with a particular emphasis on self-determination and employment. In addition, the project will provide a Bridge to College program to prepare high school students with IDD for successful transition to post-secondary education.

### *Agencies Involved*

- UMKC, Institute for Human Development
- UMKC, College of Arts & Sciences
- UMKC, School of Social Work
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Developmental Disability Services of Jackson County (EITAS)
- Kansas City area school districts: North Kansas City, Center, and Kansas City Kansas
- YMCA of Greater Kansas City
- Expanding College for Exceptional Learners (EXCEL)

### *For More Information*

**Alexis Petri, Project Director, [petria@umkc.edu](mailto:petria@umkc.edu)**

## Show Me Careers

### *Description*

The primary goal of Show-Me-Careers is to scale up effective practices that support the seamless transition from school to employment for youth and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The project focuses on improving policies and practices that affect how smoothly young people with IDD are able to move from high school to either jobs or post-secondary education.

Collaborative teams in seven pilot communities are piloting/scaling up cross-systems approaches to transition and receive ongoing technical assistance and support from the project's Leadership Consortium.

### **Agencies Involved**

- University of Missouri-Kansas City, Institute for Human Development
- Office of Special Education, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Department of Mental Health-Developmental Disabilities
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Division of Workforce Development
- Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council
- People First of Missouri
- Governor's Council on Disability

### **For More Information**

<http://showmecareers.org>

## State Employment Leadership Network

### **Description**

A statewide project with a mission to promote system changes and enhance employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Led by the Department of Mental Health-Developmental Disabilities, the Network is used to establish practices, gather data and conduct outreach.

### **Agencies involved**

- University of Missouri-Kansas City
- Office of Special Education, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Department of Mental Health
- Division of Workforce Development
- Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council
- Senate Bill 40 Boards
- Private Not-for-Profits
- Individuals with Disabilities
- Vocational Rehabilitation

### **For More Information**

<http://dmh.mo.gov>

## Youth Council of the Workforce Investment Boards

### **Description**

The Youth Councils, in collaboration with the Workforce Investment Board and regional stakeholders, advocate opportunities for youth, including youth with disabilities, to access skill development, education and support leading to long-term economic success.

### **Agencies Involved**

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Division of Workforce Development

### **For More Information**

<http://jobs.mo.gov/jobseeker/about-us/local-workforce-investment-boards>