



MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Edited by Erica Allcorn
Published by Cheyenne Freeman

FROM THE DESK OF TRAVIS DEMOSS

Renewal

Spring is a great time of renewal, isn't it? There's something about new grass growing, new leaves coming out and the first blooms of the season. The garage sales begin with folks purging the old and readying for the new, gardens are being planted and summer vacation plans are in the works. Here at MPower, we consider each and every plan year that time for those we serve. It's our time with folks to plan for their needs and their futures. We firmly believe that when we believe in the

hopes, wants and dreams of the people we serve that it is the first and most important step in achieving those goals. Planning for services that are in direct sync with a person's personal goals is our mission and our pleasure. Our Service Coordination team is specifically trained and prepared to meet this task with everyone on their caseload and the results are amazing. It's this vision of support that keeps MPower moving forward. It's why we get up every day and meet the needs of individuals head-on and with a smile. Because we

know that the power of the dream, and the promise of renewal will produce some wonderful blossoms.

MPOWER'S VISION STATEMENT:

We are committed to the belief that promoting an individual's hopes, wants and dreams is the first step to achieving self-determination.

MEET THE TEAM

Erica Allcorn	Angela May
Kellie Berry	Shayla Mitchell
Dakota Cantwell	Erica Rennison
Christy Coslet	Alex Rutledge
Erica Cox	Sonia Setzer
Diana Crouch	Kristyn Siegel
Travis DeMoss	Jennifer Trent
Jessica Elgin	Tim VanBebber
Tyler Emerson	Tammy Waggoner
Dana Evans	Elizabeth Washington
Cheyenne Freeman	Ashlea Withers
Nik Langston	Ashley Weir

MESSAGE FROM HR

- MPower will be closed on May 27th, 2024 for Memorial Day



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FROM THE DESK OF ELIZABETH WASHINGTON

Medicaid Renewals

In the World of Services and Supports for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities, as I am sure with anyone whom is insured with Medicaid in Missouri, it is vital. In 2020 COVID occurred and MO Medicaid provided many needed allowances at the time. One of those was the continuity of Medicaid without annual renewal. On April 1st of 2023 the MO Medicaid renewal process was started again. In many of these cases oversights have been made by representatives, the individual, and MO Medicaid. Individuals are losing Medicaid due to ineffective re-application practices. Information may have been sent out but the family has moved in the last 3 years and has not updated their information with MO Medicaid. We continue to hear reports of

family members on the phone for a 4-hour hold only to be disconnected. While I could continue down this path. I choose to provide information that is out there to help be proactive.

Firstly, if you are the guardian or parent of an individual that utilizes MO Medicaid, or completing for yourself, set up an account at <https://mydss.mo.gov/>. On this portal you can update addresses to receive notification, submit renewal information, see renewal deadline date, find a provider and so much more. If you find yourself without access to the website, you are able to walk into the local Family Support office and wait for an in-person appointment (local addresses below). Lastly, there is also the option of a phone call, 855-373-4636. I wish everyone

who is supporting someone or going through the renewal process themselves, the best. BE PROACTIVE!

Local Family Support office in Saline and Pettis County:

Marshall Resource Center

Address: 1239 Santa Fe Trail Marshall, MO 65340-9115

Drop Box: NO DROP BOX

Hours of Operation: Normal Hours 8 am to 5 pm M-F. We continue to honor appointments and accept walk-ins.

Sedalia Resource Center

Address: 808 Westwood Sedalia, MO 65301

Drop Box: NO DROP BOX

Hours of Operation: Normal Hours 8 am to 5 pm M, T, Th, F and 9 am to 5 pm W. We continue to honor appointments and accept walk-ins.

Reference:

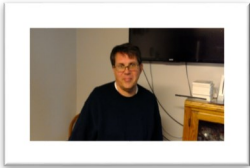
<https://mydss.mo.gov/>

https://ds.mo.gov/ds_map/

<https://apps.dss.mo.gov/BenefitReview/BenefitSummary.aspx>

FROM THE DESK OF A SERVICE COORDINATOR

Terry Ray



Terry Ray

Travel is such an integral part of life for us all, and thankfully the individuals we work with get to experience these wonderful adventures as well. Terry Ray has wanted to travel to Daytona, FL and his staff has helped him achieve this dream. Terry and one of his staff will be traveling to Daytona for a four-day trip where he will get to experience different tourism opportunities including a visit to the speedway which he is very excited for. His staff will also be taking him to the Alligator Farm in St. Augustine where he can

explore the zoological park and get to see many different species of birds and witness alligator feedings. The LACOMO apartments have always been amazing at helping individuals achieve their travel dreams and hearing Terry talk about his chance to travel is a welcomed joy.

By Dakota Cantwell

FROM THE DESK OF ERICA RENNISON

Thinking about my daily devotional this morning, the focus was on JOY. I reflected on this week's staff meeting as well as the situations that I have witnessed this week. I remember the PURE JOY that Alex and Kellie had on their faces and in their voices as they described an assistive technology conference they went to and the resources and ideas they were exposed to. It's like you could see them mentally looking over their list of clients on their caseload and evaluating each individual circumstance to assess how these individual

lives might be bettered by technology. They were full of JOY and were spreading it to all who attended the staff meeting. Through their enthusiasm, others shared in their JOY and others began visualizing their client case-loads and inventing scenarios where assistive technology could impact their clients for the better.

I think about Jeff, a client who's resided in RCFs for several years and is now going to be supported in an individualized setting so that all of his needs are met, and he is safe. Reading the

addendum brought me JOY. I was JOYful for Jeff AND for his Service Coordinator who had the honor of getting to know him and connecting his needs with services and supports to help meet his goals.

I encourage us all to seek out opportunities that bring JOY. Share these situations with others. We all have an opportunity to seek out JOY and to spread it to others through our words, actions, and kindness.

FROM THE DESK OF A SERVICE COORDINATOR

Six Months *nearly 7 by the time this hits the press* has flown by! I could go on and on about all the incredible people that I have met over the last six months, and I haven't even met them all yet! One is an amazing guy named Chris Hutton.

Chris is the life of the party and always greets me with the most gentlemanly firm handshake! Like any man's man Chris likes a good action movie, car magazine, and looking at semi-trucks. Chris attends Day Program at Kelly's Place and he loves it there. In the past Chris has always struggled with

communicating effectively, and that can be a struggle for a guy who loves people and doesn't know a stranger!

This past year Chris has worked incredibly hard with the staff at Kelly's Place to improve his communication skills. He has been spending time doing flash cards and can recognize sight words now! When Chris started, he could not complete this task and now he does so with ease! He is working on more words and adding animal flash cards now. Not only is Chris perfecting his ability to recognize sights

words he has also been working diligently on his verbal communication. Chris has been working so hard that he can now effectively communicate with his guardian and staff at Kelly's Place. In the past Chris was difficult to understand, which was frustrating for him at times. It is amazing what Chris can do when given the opportunity to learn. Keep up the great work Chris, I can't wait to see what you can accomplish!

By Kristyn Siegel

MAY—DAYS OF AWARENESS

NATIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING MONTH



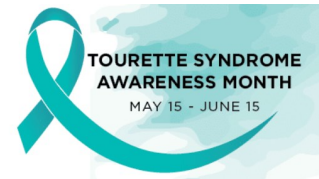
NATIONAL MOBILITY AWARENESS MONTH

PRADER-WILLI SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH



WILLIAMS SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH — 5/15 TO 6/15



COME CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB!!!

WWW.MPOWERTCM.ORG

SEDALIA OFFICES
316 West 4th Street
Sedalia, MO 65301

MARSHALL OFFICES
316 North Jefferson Avenue
Marshall, MO 65340

Sedalia Phone: 660-596-7926
Marshall Phone: 660-831-5140
Fax: 888-972-8106
Email: tdemoss@mpowertcm.org

MPOWER'S MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering people to manage the direction of their life.



MPOWER

Derived from the word "Empower" and meaning "to promote the self-actualization or influence of one's self".

Welcome to MPower, an agency developed to meet the Targeted Case Management needs of adults with disabilities in Pettis and Saline Counties. At MPower, we have dedicated ourselves to providing the highest quality case management services available in Central Missouri. We believe that the individuals we serve deserve an advocate that is highly trained, well-educated on the latest trends and highly motivated to assist people in navigating the intricate systems of State and Federal funding sources and the growing list of qualified providers.

We believe in you, we believe in your hopes, wants, and dreams. We believe that when you are "MPowered" to make your own choices and have the proper supports, then you have the greatest potential for success.

It is our pleasure to walk beside you.