



MY VOICE, MY CHOICE, MY LIFE

MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

EDITED BY TAMMY WAGGONER

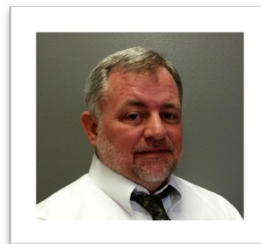
FROM THE DESK OF TRAVIS DEMOSS

The Toughest Job You'll Ever Love

I have to give the modern Service Coordinator credit. The balancing act they must achieve to get their work accomplished is incredible. I watch in amazement sometimes when an individual we serve is in need and a Service Coordinator gets right to work and next thing you know a service is in place and ready to go. Since my days as a Service Coordinator there have been changes that have pressed the role of Service Coordinator to evolve. This statement is true: "if you are doing Service Coordination the same today as you did

last year, you are being left behind." This has also been a true statement every year for the past 20 years. The average ISP 20 years ago was five or six pages. Today's ISP can be as long as twenty-four pages and takes an average of 7 hours to put together. The evolution of the Service Coordinator over the last 20 years has been vast and the learning curve is very short. Even with this reality, we still have good people, dedicated people who find their way to the office every day looking to make a difference in the lives of the individuals we serve. It's an internal drive to be in service to others and forces the evolu-

tion to occur. The measure of a Service Coordinator isn't how much they can do in a day but rather how well they do with as much as they do in a day.



Travis DeMoss
Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM HR

- Make sure to check out MPower's website. We're finally up and running. www.mpowertcm.org
- Welcome Sarah Niedwimmer to MPower's Service Coordinator team in Sedalia.
- MPower will be closed Friday, March 30 for Good Friday.



Cheyenne Freeman
Executive Office Coordinator

MPowers 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	Erica Rennison
Theresa Bahner	Sonia Setzer
Tobie Beyer	Andrea Skelly
Andrea Boone	Adrianna Summers
Christy Coslet	Ashley Stephens
Diana Crouch	Jennifer Trent
Travis DeMoss	Tim VanBebber
Anita Edwards	Lacie Varner
Cheyenne Freeman	Emily Vesser
Hazel Fromm	Tammy Waggoner
Terri Hemme	Elizabeth Washington
Monica Lemoine	Ashlea Withers
Nicole Nelson	
Sarah Niedwimmer	

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ADMIN NEWS	1
MARSHALL NEWS	2
SEDALIA NEWS	3
RELATED NEWS	4

FROM THE DESK OF ELIZABETH WASHINGTON



*Elizabeth Washington
Saline County
Manager*

Not only does March hold Spring Forward and St. Patrick's Day but it holds Missouri's 17th Annual Disability Rights Legislative Day, Tuesday, March 13th. Presented by: Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council. For more information contact them at 1-800-500-7878.

Flyer from: http://www.moddcouncil.org/?page_id=whatsnewstory&id=34

**17TH ANNUAL DISABILITY RIGHTS
LEGISLATIVE DAY**

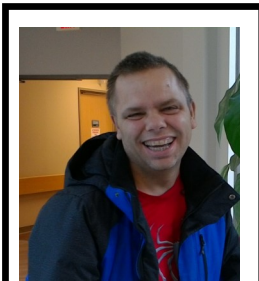
LET FREEDOM RING!

**AGENDA FOR
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018**

- VISIT WITH LEGISLATORS 11:00 AM—12:00 PM AND 1:00 PM—2:00 PM
- RALLY IN THE ROTUNDA FROM 12:00 PM—1:00 PM
 - A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR
CARL DEBRODIE
 - EMPLOYMENT FIRST
 - ABLE ACCOUNTS
 - GUARDIANSHIP
- HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES
- TICKET TO WORK

Carl DeBrodie
November 18, 1985—April 24, 2017

THE MPOWERED CONSUMER



JAMES BUCKNER

James Buckner: James or Jimmy as he likes to be called, is a 43-year-old male who resides in Marshall, MO. Jimmy has two housemates and receives residential services provided by Northwest Community Services. Jimmy is fun and caring. He is one of these hardest workers in Marshall!! When I talked with Jimmy about writing this article he wanted others to know he “really liked to work.” Jimmy has experienced jobs such as doing lawn care and janitorial work. Jimmy is currently searching for a new job in his

community with the assistance of employment services provided by Northwest Community Services. He is looking at jobs where he may stock shelves or work in the food industry. Jimmy has an eye out for employment at Dairy Queen, so he can eat the ice cream! Jimmy has also spent time volunteering at the local food pantry. In Jimmy's spare time he really likes to collect remote control trucks. He is very proud of his belongings and will often show them off to whomever enters his home. Jimmy also likes to go to the local races and

spend time in his community. Jimmy has a very distinctive laugh that you may often hear when you are around him, he loves to laugh!

By Ashley Stephens

FROM THE DESK OF ERICA RENNISON

The month of March brings about many opportunities..... Spring is starting so people are planning for the opportunity to plant their gardens and flowers. Daylight Savings Time is observed which makes some people frustrated at losing an hour of sleep and yet provides an opportunity for the longer daylight hours. People may be looking forward to the warmer months for opportunities to plan vacations, attending camp, or looking forward to family reunions. Here are some opportunities that individuals served and their teams may find helpful when planning for the warmer months.....

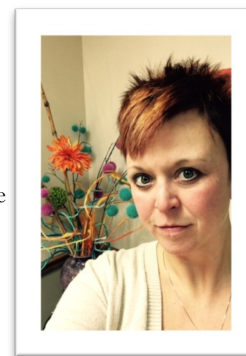
www.needymeds.org/camps/

list_aos_camps/MO/State
www.successfulsounds.com/
www.risingabilities.com
www.campbarnabas.org
www.campencourage.org
www.wonderlandcamp.org
www.campmitiog.org/
www.championsspecialministries.org
www.joshuacenter.com/
www.jcprd.com/activities/special_populations.cfm
www.sugarcreekequinapyl.wildapricot.org/page-739691?
www.visitmo.com/https://www.fairsandfestivals.net/states/MO/
www.visitcolumbiamo.com/events/
www.visitkc.com
www.sedaliaparks.com/
www.visitsedaliamo.com/events-in-sedalia/

It's possible that your Service Coordinator may be able to find resources to fund all or a portion of the cost for attending summer camp. Please contact your Service Coordinator for more information.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author



Erica Rennison
Pettis County Manager

THE MPOWERED CONSUMER

On February 9th, 2018 in 16 countries, 537 churches, with 175,000 volunteers, and 90,000 honored guests a remarkable prom experience called *Night to Shine* was held. *Night to Shine* is supported by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Out of these 90,000 honored guests around the world was Rebecca Smith, also known as Becky. Becky attended *Night to Shine* at The First United Methodist Church in Sedalia, MO. Becky was excited for this event weeks prior to it happening. Becky found the perfect dress and lovely shoes for her big night. On the day of the prom she got her hair dyed, cut, and all fixed up at a local salon. Becky looked stunning! When Becky arrived at the Prom she

was introduced to a female volunteer who would be her chaperon for the night. There were many activities to choose from such as karaoke, limo rides, dancing, dinner, etc. Becky found herself choosing to eat a catered meal, take a professional picture, sing karaoke, and dance on the dance floor. As pictured, Becky was amazing at Karaoke, she sang "I Believe I Can Fly!" Becky let loose and really put her whole heart into her karaoke, the individuals watching were very reactive to her singing, and cheered loud! Becky was very well known, it became normal for Becky to hear someone yelling "Hey, Becky Smith!" Becky received a prom queen crown and really enjoyed her

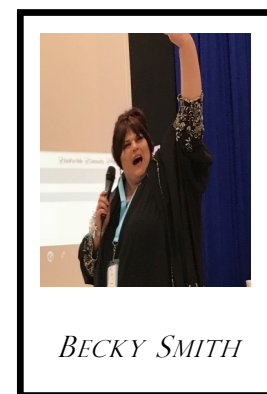
night!

"I really had a lot of fun this year, I liked the atmosphere. The person that was with me, my chaperon was cool. I thought it was really cool that she danced with me." – Becky Smith.

Night to Shine Facts from:

<https://www.timtebowfoundation.org/ministries/night-to-shine>

By Ashley Stephens



BECKY SMITH

Keeping in touch...

I would like to announce that we have officially launched a website. We're pretty pleased with it and we hope you will

visit it at: www.mpowertcm.org



COME CHECK US OUT ON
THE WEB!!!

WWW.MPOWERTCM.ORG

SEDALIA OFFICES

501 E 17th ST
Sedalia, MO 65301

MARSHALL OFFICES

316 N Jefferson Ave
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.