



JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

Edited by Erica Allcorn
Published by Cheyenne Freeman

FROM THE DESK OF TRAVIS DEMOSS

The Right Stuff

Most of the time in my newsletter articles you will hear me granting high praise to our highly deserving staff. This month I want to focus my attention on our board of Directors. I spent a lot of time and effort over the last six years seeking highly qualified board candidates who share in our agencies mission and core values. Members who are supportive but challenge me to have my ducks in a row and am doing the right thing for the organization, our staff and the individuals we

serve. A board that's forward looking and can recognize the need for constantly re-inventing yourself and making common sense changes in order to meet the latest demands. The SB40 Board Statute calls for a 9-person board who's job it is to collect the Pettis County tax dollar and spend that money on the individuals right here in Pettis County. Those tax dollars stay right here and they are at work providing necessary services to community members in need. the Pettis County Board is dedicated to

providing funding for high quality services and making sure the tax dollar is spent wisely. They are keenly aware of the need for services and the impact that each dollar will have on an individual's life. I'm very proud of this team of people and look forward to each months meeting because I know that when we're finished we have secured the another months services for our friends in Pettis County.

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

MESSAGE FROM HR

JOIN OUR TEAM!

MPOWER IS HIRING

A rewarding career empowering individuals with disabilities to live their life to the fullest

- Major Medical, Dental, Vision, and other Insurance options
- Retirement Fund

- Generous Vacation and Sick Leave
- Flexible Schedule
- Work from Home options

APPLY NOW

www.mpowertcm.org/careers

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FROM THE DESK OF ERICA RENNISON

We will likely be in the heat of summer when this newsletter reaches our stakeholders. It always goes by too fast. I hope all is well for those reading this article. I wanted to share some exciting news about a change we are experiencing at MPower. We have taken time this year to update our logo. When we first became MPower in 2016, we didn't have much time or maybe didn't give much thought to

the development of a logo. This year, we have been able to spend a little time on this effort and came up with something we are truly proud of. We believe this logo better represents our agency's focus (the agency motto) and keeps that in the forefront for us all while we are working. We hope to see that reminder on our platforms, in our communications, staff logo wear, and also physically, in our

offices. Please join us in celebrating our new MPower logo.



FROM THE DESK OF A SERVICE COORDINATOR

Cindy Forck is a 64-year-old lady who enjoys giving out smiles to all who come by. She lives in Slater with her two roommates where she receives care from Northwest Community Services. Those that know Cindy best know her from her warm, inviting laugh that fills her house throughout the day.

Cindy enjoys interaction and recently got to experience a trip to the St. Louis Zoo to enjoy interacting with the animals. Staff said that she smiled the entire time and even got some up-close attention from a curious giraffe who reached down and bopped the head of a roommate sitting next to her. Everybody laughed at the interaction and lots of pictures were taken of the day.

On the way back, Cindy and her travelling companions stopped at Lamberts to enjoy a meal together. Staff said that Cindy had no trouble putting the food away and enjoyed everything about the environment there. Once she returned home, staff said that Cindy passed out quickly from the excitement of the day and enjoyed a good nights rest.

By Dakota Cantwell

FROM THE DESK OF ASHLEA WITHERS

For the past.... What feels like forever... we have been struggling with staff shortages. I know agencies all across the country have had the same or similar struggles. Ever since the pandemic hit in 2020, things have just been different. And this has not stopped the constant changes in our field and how we do our jobs. I could write a novel about what an SC does day-to-day and the ever changing flow of how it happens.

We have been blessed with some amazing long-term staff though. Those people that have jumped on board and continue to wade through the deep end with us. Always willing to take on more work and more tasks, without complaint. These people are the reason I remain so dedicated to our agency and supporting the

staff. These people make this work exist and boy have they produced some amazing work. Even through the overwhelm and constant changes we have experienced in the last year, SCs that have dedicated themselves to our mission and supporting people the best they possibly can.

I have seen a steady increase in people obtaining new Medicaid Waiver slots, allowing them to access needed supports and services. I have seen SCs researching and seeking out new funding ideas and resources to allow people to live their best lives. I have seen SCs jump right into a brand-new process and muddle through it, pretending they have it all figured out when we all know we're just winging it, in hopes that it is right or goes the way we need

it to. I have seen comradery between SCs that I am in awe of. People that have each other's back and are always willing to help out.

All of these things to say, I am so lucky to be able to support and work with these amazing people. This is not an easy career choice, but it is a rewarding, fulfilling role that impacts peoples' lives. So through all of the pandemic, staff shortages, changes in DMH, and so many other things I could list; our SCs are the best people around!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Join Us In Downtown Sedalia!!

**PRE-FAIR
FIRST THURSDAY**

July 6 5:30 PM- 8:30 PM

Extended Store Hours ● Live Music ● Artists
Food Trucks ● Vendors ● Bounce House
Face Painting ● Petting Zoo

**SEDALIA
Main Streets**

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COMMUNITY INFORMATION



COME CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB!!!

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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.