

BE THE SPARK

Supporting People with developmental disabilities through Advocacy, Resources, and Kindness

JCBS NEWSLETTER | AUGUST 2023 EDITION



BACK TO School

We cannot believe it's already August and summer break is almost over. The back-to-school season brings a sense of excitement and anticipation for students and their families. It's a time to embrace fresh opportunities, make new friends, and nurture existing friendships.

For some, this may be a year of transitions, going into a new school or transitioning out of school completely. This can bring up a mix of emotions for anyone. It can be both scary and fun, presenting new challenges and opportunities for

personal growth. Why is it important to embrace change as best as we can? Change often pushes us out of our comfort zones. Change stimulates innovation and creativity. When faced with new situations, we are compelled to think differently, explore other perspectives, and come up with creative solutions. Change can help increase empathy and understanding and allows us to relate better to others' experiences and perspectives.

Alan Watts said, "The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance."

LEARN MORE

Page 2 – Learn more about the RestRoomApp

BACK TO SCHOOL

Page 2 – Check out these back-to-school events and resources

EVENT SPOTLIGHTS

Page 3 – Stay up-to-date on all JCBS and JCBS Foundation events!

letter from the director



In today's digital age, technology has become an incredible force in transforming everyone's lives for the better, but especially for people with disabilities. Assistive technology (AT) has emerged as a powerful tool that enhances accessibility, independence, and inclusivity.

Some AT examples include screen readers, mobility devices, dressing aids, adaptive keyboards, vacuum robots, smart home devices, vibrating alarm clocks, text-to-speech software.

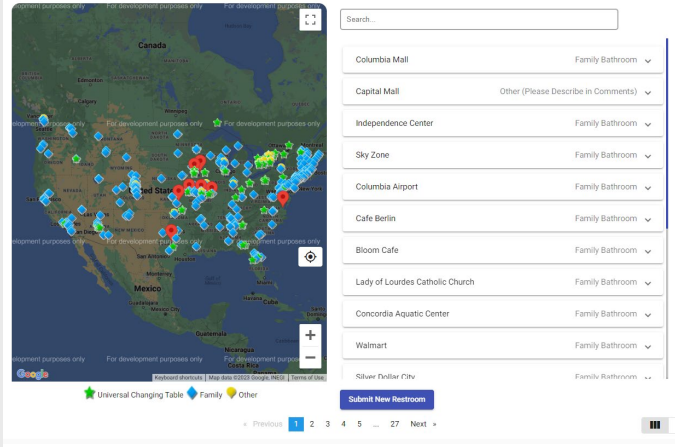
By harnessing technology's potential, we empower people to overcome challenges, reach their aspirations, and lead fulfilling lives.

As a society, let's continue to embrace assistive technology, advocate for its accessibility, and ensure that no one is left behind. Together, we can build a future where technology serves as a bridge, connecting people of all abilities and fostering a more compassionate and understanding world.

In closing, our mission statement at JCBS is to SPARK, Support People with Developmental Disabilities through Advocacy, Resources, and Kindness.

RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

Three years ago, Missouri Disability Empowerment Foundation partnered with the College of Engineering at the University of Missouri to create the [RestroomApp.org](https://restroomapp.org), an app that helps identify where accessible restrooms are in public. This interactive map of gender neutral, family restrooms and universal changing stations throughout the country is now available as an app! You can also add restrooms you run across as you travel. This app is available on both Apple and Android.



BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS AND RESOURCES

MPACT – Missouri Parents Act (MPACT) is a non-profit. They have been Missouri's federally funded Parent Training and Information Center since 1988. Their mission is simple: To empower families to advocate for themselves so that children with special education needs can reach their full potential in education and life – through support, training, and education.

<https://www.missouriparentsact.org/>

Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education – Did you know the DESE website has tons of special education resources?

<https://dese.mo.gov/special-education/compliance/parent-information>

All-Starz Barbershop of Warrensburg is hosting their 7th annual Back 2 School event! Haircuts, supplies, shoes, and activities! This sounds like a fun time! You must sign up for haircuts and supplies. Follow their Facebook event page for more details.

<https://fb.me/e/1nMLwllCc>

7TH ANNUAL BACK 2 SCHOOL EVENT

- ★ FREE HAIRCUTS FOR ALL SCHOOL AGE KIDS
- ★ FREE SHOES & SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR KIDS IN NEED
- ★ FACE PAINTING
- ★ BOUNCE HOUSES
- ★ OBSTACLE COURSE
- ★ PUSH UP & PULL UP CHALLENGE

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023 3 - 7PM

816-345-5735

@allstarzbarbershop2014

@allstarzbarbershop

@allstarz1 • allstarzllc.com

You scream, I scream, we all scream for ICE CREAM!

We are thrilled to announce our much-anticipated event of the year – our 2nd Annual Ice Cream Social! Mark your calendars and get ready for an evening of fun, games, delicious ice cream, and fantastic face painting.

This event is a wonderful opportunity for our individuals and families to come together, get to know other people, connect with our local direct care agencies, and get to know our amazing team.

This event is for our individuals, their families, and direct care staff! We cannot wait to see you there!

(Ice cream alternatives will be available)



Johnson County Board of Services Presents

Bright Sox Softball Tournament

Join us for our first annual co-Ed fundraiser tournament

\$360 per team

- Minimum 9 players and 4 females
- Sign up deadline August 31st



West Park and Legion field
Warrensburg, MO, 64093

Saturday September 23, 2023



JOHNSON COUNTY
BOARD OF SERVICES

8:30 AM - Team Arrival
8:45 AM - National Anthem
9:00 AM - START
3:00 PM - Bright Sox Game
5:00 PM - Championship

Sign up online or call Liz Hargrave at 660-240-3343 ext. 708

ATTENTION BRIGHT SOX PLAYERS!

We are hosting our first ever softball fundraising tournament! We are asking our community to help us keep our league going. During our tournament, right before the Championship, we will have one Bright Sox game! We would love to see all our players out there so SAVE THE DATE!

Follow us on Facebook and share our tournament!



RESOURCES

Contact US

<https://www.jcmbs.com/our-team/>

Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council Resources

The MDDC has many different resources located on their website. One resource that stuck out is Disability Benefits 101. MDDC has released the DB101Benefits and Work Calculator and transparency tool. For more information and to review more resources please visit their website!

<https://moddcouncil.org/resources/>

Charting the LifeCourse Tools

Charting the LifeCourse is designed to be used for your own life, for your family members, or in the work you do. The framework and tools will help you organize your ideas, vision, and goals, as well as problem-solve, navigate, and advocate for supports.

<http://www.lifecoursetools.com/>

Public Notice

Quarterly Board Meetings are held via Zoom or in person at the Johnson County Board of Services office located at 200 N Devasher, Warrensburg, MO 64093. Meetings are held quarterly on the third Tuesday of that month. Meetings dates are subject to change with notice. Please see our website for meeting information: **JCMBS.COM/PUBLIC-NOTICE/**

August 22nd, 2023

November 21st, 2023

February 20th, 2024

May 21st, 2024

Need help with Medicaid?

Contact Liz Hargrave

ehargrave@jcmbs.com

(660) 240-3343 EXT 708



Targeted Case Management Satisfaction Survey

Identification of Researchers:

This survey is being done by the Johnson County Board of Services.

Purpose of the Survey:

The purpose of this survey will help JCBS improve our services to the individuals we serve and their families.

Request for Participation:

We are inviting you to participate in a survey on the Johnson County Board of Services.

It is up to you whether you would like to participate. If you decide not to participate, you will not be penalized in any way. You can also decide to stop at any time without penalty. If you do not wish to answer any of the questions, you may simply skip them. If you wish to withdraw, please close the browser before submitting, at the end of the survey. Once you submit the survey, we will keep the information you provided confidentially.

Privacy:

All of the information we collect will be kept confidential. Your confidentiality will be maintained to the degree permitted by the technology used. Specifically, no guarantees can be made regarding the interception of data sent via the Internet by any third parties.

Explanation of Risks:

Completing this survey will NOT negatively affect your services.

Explanation of Benefits:

Completing this survey will help provide feedback for JCBS.

Questions

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Melissa Frey at mfrey@jcmbs.com.

This survey takes approximately 5-10 minutes to complete

Don't forget to us how we are doing! Complete our now online TCM Satisfaction Survey!

shorturl.at/qtwn8