

# BE THE SPARK

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

JCBS NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER 2023 EDITION



**JOHNSON COUNTY**  
BOARD OF SERVICES



During a recent strategic planning session, our team came together to do a little team building and discuss potential strategic priorities for the upcoming year. We used Charting the LifeCourse framework to state what we wanted and did not want for our agency. We reflected on our mission statement and values to ensure our thoughts aligned with our purpose.

Community Resource Specialist, Naomi Aviles, provided insight from our targeted case management survey and provider surveys.

These invaluable insights, provided by the individuals we serve, their families, dedicated providers, and diligent support staff, offer a comprehensive view of our performance and areas for growth. Analyzing this feedback enables us to adapt and refine our services, fostering an environment of continuous improvement and unwavering dedication to those we serve.

We will continue to grow, develop, and **SPARK** (Supporting People with developmental disabilities through Advocacy, Resources, and Kindness).

## FALL EVENTS

Page 2 – Check out upcoming events in JOCO

## GET TO KNOW US

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## THANK YOU

Page 4 – Last month, we celebrated DSP Appreciation Week!

# Letter from the director



At the end of September, Liz and I had an opportunity to present some of our social media insights at the Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services' (MACDDS) annual conference.

We shared social media has the potential to become a valuable tool in the field of developmental disabilities in many ways. It can facilitate communication, raise awareness, provide support, and promote advocacy for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Social media allows for the rapid dissemination of information and resources, including articles, research, webinars, and educational content. Our Facebook page is a collection of resources and information – our own content and content shared from other organizations.

Social media can also serve as virtual gathering places where individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and professionals can connect, share experiences, and provide emotional support.

We offer a forum on Facebook, called JCBS Family Forum, where families can connect, ask questions, and share information. Be sure to check it out here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1437139043700967>

## FALL EVENTS IN JOHNSON COUNTY

Fall has arrived in Johnson County, and with it comes a season brimming with exciting events and festivities. As the leaves change colors and the air turns crisp, our community comes alive with a vibrant fall-themed activities. From pumpkin patches and harvest festivals to spooky Halloween gatherings, there's no shortage of fun and memorable experiences to be had. So, grab your scarves and embrace the cozy spirit of autumn as we embark on a season filled with warmth, togetherness, and the magic of fall in Johnson County.



"Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go." - Unknown

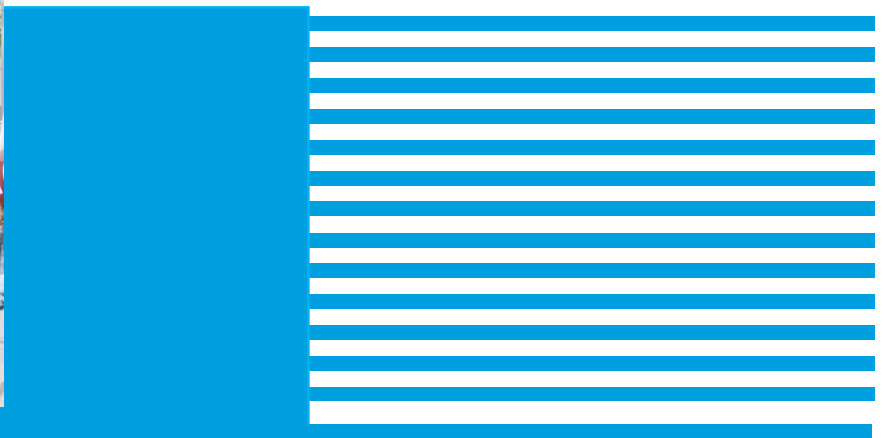


## Get to know our Targeted Case Manager Leads, Shelly and David!

Let's introduce you to two fantastic people in our agency: Shelly Taylor and David LeMarr, our amazing Targeted Case Manager Leads. Shelly and David are excellent leaders and great supporters of their teams. They're also here for you if you need help - just another friendly face you can reach out to at our agency. You'll usually find their contact information on the back of your Individualized Support Plan (ISP). Shelly and David both bring many years of experience in this field. Their expertise and compassionate approach ensure that our individuals can live their good life.

**Shelly Taylor**  
[staylor@jcmbbs.com](mailto:staylor@jcmbbs.com)  
Ext. 712

**David LeMarr**  
[dlemarr@jcmbbs.com](mailto:dlemarr@jcmbbs.com)  
Ext. 702



## THANK YOU!

Last month, our donut fairies made a special visit to our local direct care agencies, where compassionate Direct Support Professionals provide invaluable assistance to individuals with developmental disabilities. During Direct Support Professional Week, we wanted to extend our heartfelt appreciation for their unwavering dedication and care. These professionals exemplify the true spirit of empathy and support, making a profound impact on the lives of those they serve.

Caregivers may not always share DNA with our individuals, but they become family in the truest sense through their love and care.

## RESOURCES

### Contact us

[www.jcmbs.com/our-team/](http://www.jcmbs.com/our-team/)

### Missouri Family to Family – A Statewide Resource Center

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

### Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council

The MDDC has many different resources located on their website. One resource is called Disability Benefits 101. MDDC has released the DB101 Benefits and Work Calculator and transparency tool. For more information visit their website!

[www.moddcccouncil.org/resources/](http://www.moddcccouncil.org/resources/)

### Charting the LifeCourse Tools

Charting the LifeCourse is a framework designed to help you organize your ideas, vision, and goals, as well as problem-solve, navigate, and advocate for supports.

[www.lifecoursetools.com](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/**

**November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

**August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## Need help with Medicaid?

### Contact

Liz Hargrave

[ehargrave@jcmbs.com](mailto:ehargrave@jcmbs.com)

(660) 240-3343 EXT 708



**Last month we met with the Johnson County Commissioners to show our appreciation and update them on what is happening at JCBS!**



## 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](mailto: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](http://shorturl.at/qtwn8)