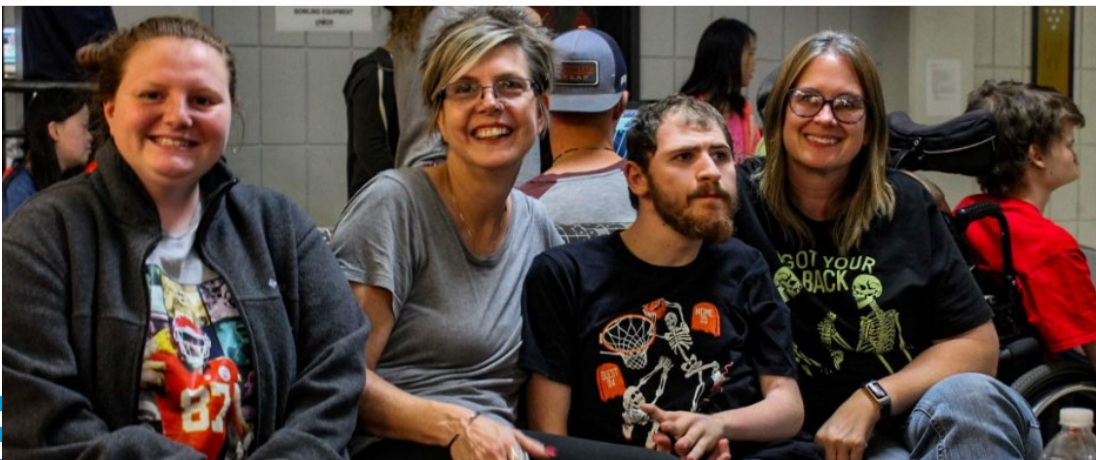


BE THE SPARK

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

JCBS NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION



Let's Roll: Special Olympics Bowling is back!

We would like to extend a huge "thank you" to the University of Central Missouri for hosting the Special Olympics bowling league.

The enthusiasm and support from the university staff and volunteers ensured all participants had an incredible and inclusive experience. Your dedication to inclusivity and fostering a supportive environment truly made a difference, allowing everyone involved to showcase their abilities. Thank you for being such wonderful hosts and bringing back the Special Olympics!

We want to extend our appreciation to RISE Community Services for their generous sponsorship. Their support made this league possible!

Additionally, we want to express our profound gratitude to the many staff and family members who dedicated their time and effort to support and assist during the event. Your unwavering commitment and involvement played an integral role in ensuring the event's success. We cannot wait to see you all at the next inclusive sport league!

A LETTER TO YOU

Page 2 – In honor of National Family Caregiver Month, we've written you a letter.

GET TO KNOW US

Page 3 – Meet our Admin team!

TCM SURVEY

Page 4 – It's almost the end of the year, don't forget to tell us how we're doing!

letter from the director



NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH AND IN HONOR OF THAT WE'VE WRITTEN YOU A LETTER....

Dear Family Caregivers,

In the midst of caring for loved ones with developmental disabilities, we want to take a moment to acknowledge and appreciate each and every one of you. Your dedication, unwavering support, and endless compassion do not go unnoticed. You are the unsung heroes who tirelessly devote your time and energy to ensure the well-being and happiness of your loved ones.

We recognize the challenges you face and the sacrifices you make daily. Your strength and resilience in navigating the complexities of caregiving are truly commendable. The commitment you demonstrate, the love you provide, and the patience you show reflect your incredible spirit and unending devotion.

At JCBS, we want you to know that we see you. We understand the profound impact your role as a caregiver has on your life. Your efforts do not go unappreciated, and your dedication is deeply valued. Your selflessness and boundless love create a nurturing environment that empowers those with developmental disabilities to thrive.

Our commitment extends beyond the individuals we directly serve. We care deeply about the well-being of every family caregiver. We're here to offer our support, resources, and a listening ear. Your well-being matters to us, and we are here to assist in any way we can.

Please remember that you are not alone on this journey. Should you ever need guidance, assistance, or simply a supportive voice, our doors are always open.

Thank you for being the cornerstone of strength, love, and care in the lives of those with developmental disabilities. You make a remarkable difference every day, and your efforts do not go unnoticed.

Sincerely,

The JCBS Team



Have you seen those November "Thankfulness Challenges?" Every day you're challenged to name something you're thankful for. Since it's November, I decided to do a shortened version and share 5 things I'm grateful for at JCBS:

1. Impactful Work: Every day, we have an opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of the individuals and families we serve. Our work supports individuals in living their good life. How amazing is that?

2. THE BEST TEAM EVER: I have the deepest admiration for our team at JCBS. Their dedication, compassion, and unwavering commitment to our mission inspires me to continuously improve and give my very best.

3. Learning and Growth: Working in this field is a constant learning experience. We're always looking for ways to expand our knowledge and develop a better understanding of the complexities surrounding developmental disabilities.

4. Collaboration and Partnership: The collaboration among our team, providers, and other TCM entities make us feel part of something bigger than ourselves. We support and uplift each other in our shared mission.

5. Gratitude and Perspective: Perhaps most importantly, I'm grateful to be grateful. Sounds silly, but it's true! Our work instills a deep sense of gratitude in all of us. It reminds us to find the beauty in diversity and inclusion and, at the same time, cherish the gift of making a difference.

Bonus: I'm so grateful for the opportunity to lead this organization. I promise not to take it for granted. In closing, I'd like to share our mission to SPARK, Supporting People with developmental disabilities through Advocacy, Resources, and Kindness.

Get to Know our Admin Team!

Meet the dedicated individuals who keep our organization running smoothly and efficiently.

Amber LeMarr, our Director of Admin, is the driving force behind our administrative operations. She recently graduated with her master's in human resources and has been huge in helping with making sure our team feels appreciated and gets what they need to do their job.

Erica Wilson serves as our Quality Assurance Team Lead, ensuring that we adhere to Department of Mental Health guidelines and providing essential training support.

And finally, say hello to **Abby Cauthon**, our friendly Office Support Professional. You'll find her at the front desk, where she's always ready to answer your calls and contribute to the seamless functioning of our office.

We are truly grateful for our outstanding admin department and the pivotal role they play in our success.



JUST A HEADS UP!

As we approach the holiday season, we want to inform you about our office closings in November. Our office will be closed on November 10th in observance of Veteran's Day, and on November 23rd for Thanksgiving, as well as November 24th for Black Friday. During this festive season, some of our dedicated case managers may be on vacation, but we want to assure you that they are committed to supporting you. If you or your families require assistance during their absence, please feel free to call our office and we will respond as promptly as possible. We hope you enjoy the start of the holiday season!

November Office CLOSINGS

November 10th,
November 23rd, November 24th

#BeTheSpark

RESOURCES

Contact us

www.jcmbs.com/our-team/

Missouri Family to Family – A Statewide Resource Center

www.mofamilytofamily.org

Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council

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

www.moddccouncil.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

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 28th, 2023

February 20th, 2024

May 21st, 2024

August 20th, 2024



Pictured above is Shelly Taylor, filming a video with Diamond Ruby Studios! Don't forget to follow us on all of our social media so you can see the finished product!



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