

BE THE SPARK

NOVEMBER 2025 | EDITION



JOHNSON COUNTY
BOARD OF SERVICES



K-POP DEMON HUNTERS TAKE OVER TRUNK OR TREAT!

Some of our team joined in the Halloween fun at the Survival House Trunk or Treat, and our K-Pop Demon Hunters trunk was a total hit — one of the most recognized booths of the night!

A huge thank-you to TCM Molly for bringing the theme to life and transforming her vehicle into a K-Pop masterpiece. Survival is currently working to raise \$10,000, and a generous donor has agreed to match donations up to \$10,000 — doubling the impact of every gift!

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



— 01/04



The **Festival of Trees** is one of our most beloved holiday events! Guests are invited to stroll through a winter wonderland of beautifully decorated trees, wreaths, and stockings – all available through raffle. Children can enjoy crafts, cookies, and hot chocolate while visiting with Santa, making it a perfect family outing to kick off the holiday season.

Entry to the event is by donation, and every dollar raised supports individuals with developmental disabilities living right here in Johnson County.

Date: November 13th, 2025

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Location: 209 E Market Street, Warrensburg



Letter from the Director

I get asked sometimes, “What’s the hardest part of your job?” And just as often, “What’s the most rewarding?” The truth is it’s all connected.

One of the hardest parts of this role is knowing that need often outweighs resources. When families call in crisis, when individuals are stuck on a waiver waitlist, or when we have to say “not yet” to something important, it weighs heavy. These aren’t numbers. These are real people with real lives on hold.

It’s also hard balancing urgency with process. We want to move fast because the needs are immediate, but we also have to be intentional, thoughtful, and fair. That tension is something I carry every day.

But here’s the thing: I wouldn’t trade this role for anything because I also get to see the most meaningful parts of what’s possible.

I get to see people find their voice and start advocating for themselves. I get to hear from families who finally feel like they have a partner in the process. I get to work with a team of passionate people who show up every day to make things better.

And I get to say yes, yes to funding that supports inclusive recreation, yes to a training that helps a case manager grow, yes to helping someone move one step closer to their version of a good life.

The most rewarding part? It’s watching change happen (quietly, steadily, sometimes even joyfully) and knowing we helped spark it.

Leadership comes with hard decisions, heavy days, and lots of responsibility. But it also comes with moments of impact that remind me: This is exactly where I’m meant to be.

Thank you for trusting JCBS. Thank you for partnering with us in this work.



Staff Spotlight: Abby Wilson

If you've ever called or stopped by the Johnson County Board of Services, chances are you've been greeted by the friendly face of Abby, our amazing Office Administrator. Abby grew up right here in Leeton, Missouri, and brings that small-town warmth and reliability to everything she does. When she's not keeping our office running smoothly, she's spending time with her son Theo and caring for her beloved horses — her favorite way to unwind and recharge. And here's a fun fact you might not know — Abby is a twin!

We're so grateful for all the ways Abby keeps our team organized, connected, and smiling every single day!

When we're not brunching it up at our annual Brunch & Bubbly or dancing the night away at Disco Night, the JCBS Foundation is hard at work behind the scenes making a real difference right here in Johnson County.

Each month, our Foundation reviews funding requests submitted by Johnson County Board of Services (JCBS) case managers. These requests come directly from individuals and families needing a little extra support to live their good life, things like therapies, sensory equipment, adaptive tools, respite care, and community memberships that make daily life more accessible and fulfilling.

The JCBS Foundation was established in 2010 to help support the mission of JCBS — ensuring that people with developmental disabilities have the same opportunities and access to community life as everyone else. Over the years, the Foundation has grown from a small group of dedicated supporters to a vibrant local force for good.

So far this year alone, the Foundation has given over \$15,000 back to individuals and families right here in Johnson County. Proof that every fundraiser, every donation, and every partnership helps create a stronger, more inclusive community for all.

Learn more about the JCBS Foundation!



Resources

Contact us

www.jcmbs.com/our-team/

Missouri Family to Family – A Statewide Resource Center

www.mofamilytofamily.org

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 Meeting 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. Meeting dates are subject to change with notice. Please see our website for meeting information:

JCMBS.COM/PUBLIC-NOTICE/

November 18th, 2025

February 17th, 2026 (tentative)

May 19th, 2026 (tentative)

Targeted Case Manager Satisfaction Survey!

A screenshot of a survey page with a blue background. At the top left is the Johnson County Board of Services logo. The title is 'Targeted Case Management Satisfaction Survey'. Below the title are several sections of text: '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.', and 'This survey takes approximately 5-10 minutes to complete'.

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

[Click Here for Survey](#)