

Winter 2018

Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council





Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council
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Kit Stahlberg, Chairperson

Vicky Davidson, Executive Director

www.moddcouncil.org

Eric R. Greitens,
Governor

Justice for Carl DeBrodie

For more than 30 years, Developmental Disabilities Councils have played a critical role at the State and Federal levels in helping all States and Territories develop, improve, and expand the system of services and supports for people with developmental disabilities. The council's mandate is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration in all aspects of community life.

The Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council is gravely concerned by the untimely death of Carl DeBrodie and will continue to follow reports of what his lived experience may have been like living in a system that allegedly seems to have failed him on so many levels.

The Council takes the position that people with disabilities have the right to be free from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Missouri must develop ways to prevent the abuse of people with disabilities and ensure that they can report abuse and have their reports taken seriously, treated appropriately, and investigated fully.

Data reflects that people with disabilities are far more likely to be the victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation than those without disabilities. Disturbingly, the abuse of people with disabilities is less likely to be reported to authorities and, when reported, is less likely to result in criminal investigation and prosecution. The Council has been following Carl DeBrodie's story and has high expectations that once all investigations are completed that there will be justice for Carl and that there will be necessary systemic changes implemented so that others may avoid such a gruesome death and lived experience. Waiting for justice and expecting real systems change, the Council is dedicated to working collaboratively with stakeholders to create a better system and more inclusive society for those with disabilities.

To learn more about what the Council is doing to address abuse, neglect, and exploitation, please review our position papers and projects at the links below.

MODDC's Victimization Awareness Campaign, "It's Happening", <http://www.andwecanstopit.org/>

MO-Wings (Missouri's Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders),
http://www.moddcouncil.org/?page_id=whatsnewstory&id=39

First Responder Disability Awareness Training, http://www.moddcouncil.org/?page_id=whatsnewstory&id=58

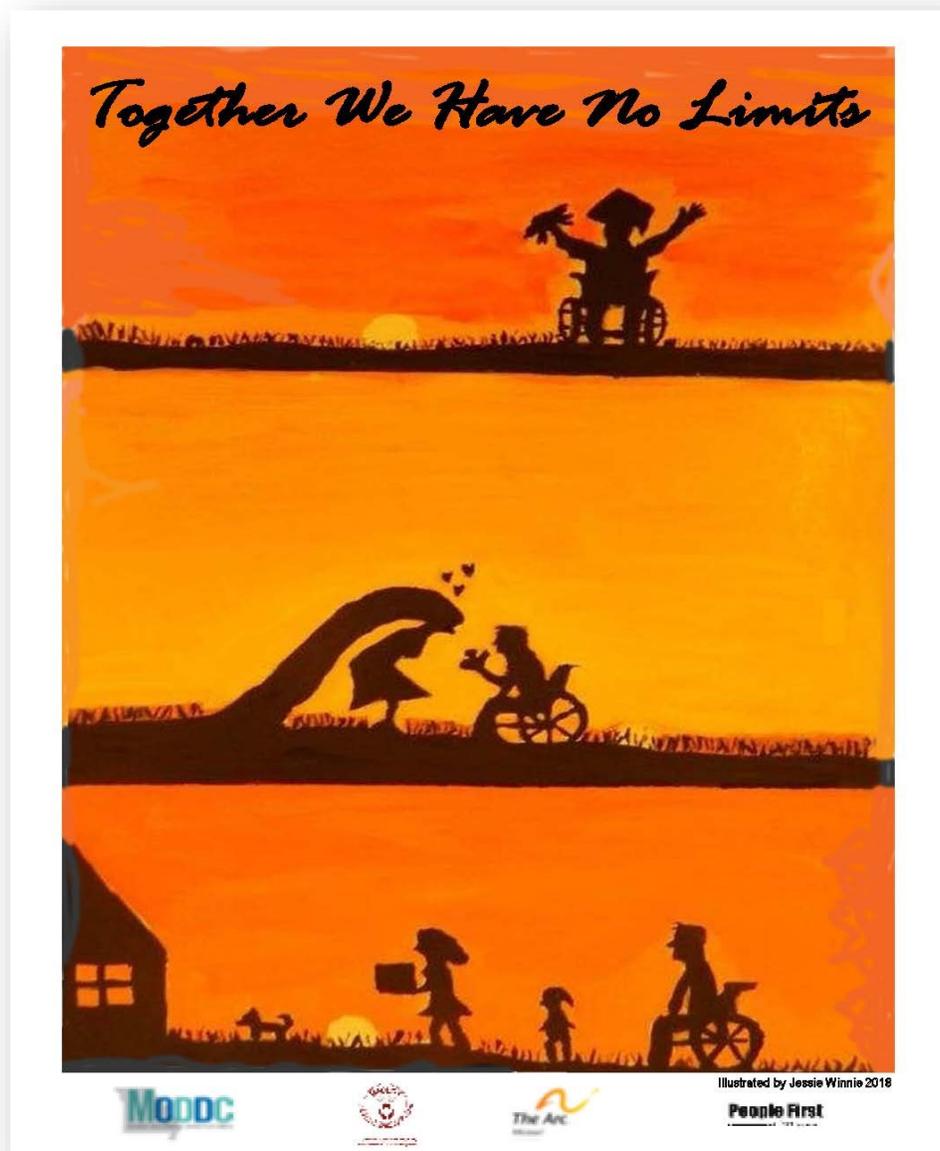
MODDC's position paper on Personal Safety and Well-Being, <http://www.moddcouncil.org/uploaded/SES%20-%20Missouri%20DD%20Council%20Personal%20Safety%20Paper%20-%20FINAL.PDF>

MODDC's position paper on Self-Determination and Guardianship,
<http://www.moddcouncil.org/uploaded/SES%20-%20Missouri%20DD%20Council%20Guardianship%20Paper%20-FINAL.PDF>

The Winner of the 2018 Missouri Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Poster & Bookmark Contest

Well the results are in! Thanks to everyone who participated in the judging of the artwork submissions, we really had a lot of great artwork this year. In keeping with the National theme, "Together we have no limits", we have chosen a submission from a very talented artist from the Springfield area, **Jessica Winnie**. We anticipate posters to be printed and ready to go by early February 2018 and sent to schools, libraries, State Legislators and others prior to Developmental Disabilities Awareness month in March. In addition we will have a lot of great resources and suggested activities on the DD Council website: www.moddcouncil.org to assist you and others to make the most of this event.

If you have an idea of where you'd like the poster and bookmarks to be sent or just have a question please contact us at 800-500-7878.





SAVE THE DATE!

**This year's EMCEE.....
Christopher Worth of
Paraquad!**

Disability Rights Legislative Day!

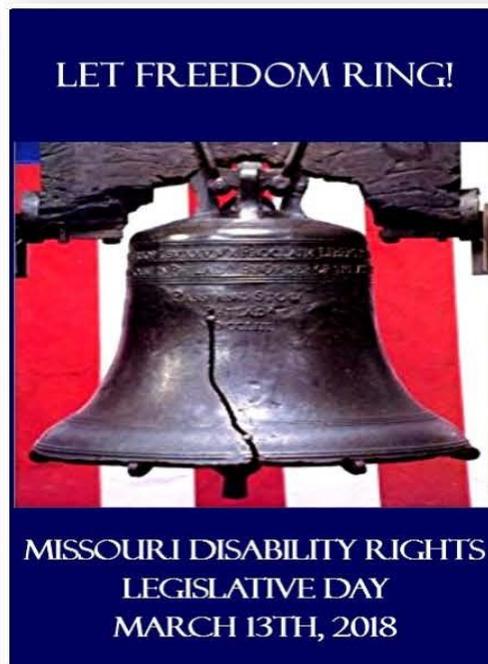
“Let Freedom Ring!”

Tuesday, March 13th, 2018

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Missouri State Capitol

Please call 800.500.7878 if you need more information.



Please post and/or share. Thank you!

MODDC is pleased to announce the release of the DB101 Benefits and Work Calculator transparency tools to the public.



This enhancement to DB 101 is a culmination of over a year’s worth of work and additional funding from the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council to enhance the users understanding of how these public benefits systems work.

DB 101 is a free, anonymous, state specific, online calculator to allow individuals to see in real time, how income from a job will interact with their public benefits. The transparency features allow DB 101 users the ability to see “behind the screen” and be more self-assured on how, and why the calculations are made.

To access the transparency features:

- complete a DB101 benefits & work calculator session.
- visit the monthly income/expense screen in the results section.
- click on any of the quantities in the income/expense summary; or click on the “income/expense details” or “health coverage details” tabs.
- click on any of the quantities shown to drill down on the origin of that number.

If you find something you don’t understand or that appears to be incorrect, please use the “give feedback” link appearing in the right sidebar of each page of the calculator, to tell us what you saw and what you expected to see instead. We’ll keep a close eye on the feedback. Check it out for yourself at: <https://mo.db101.org>.

The council would like to thank our partners: The Missouri Department of Mental Health, the Division of Developmental Disabilities, the Division of Behavioral Health and the Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation, for their ongoing financial support in keeping Missouri DB101 maintained.



Representative Jean Evans Visits a “Model Employee” During *Take Your Legislator to Work Month*

Manchester, MO - (October 12, 2017) — As a member of Missouri’s Workforce Development Committee, Representative Jean Evans from Missouri District 99 said the “Number One issue” that she hears from business owners “is trying to find employees with good work ethics and soft skills.” UCP Heartland’s V.P. of Programs Judy Grainger was delighted to introduce Rep. Evans to Damien, a program participant with UCP Heartland described as a role model for his co-workers at Bandana’s Bar-B-Q in Manchester, Missouri.

Representative Evans met Damien as part of “Take Your Legislator to Work Month,” an event encouraged during “National Disability Employment Awareness Month,” during the month of October.

Rep. Evans met Damien at Bandana’s where Damien works as a dishwasher. Rep. Evans said, “Damien was all business during the conversation,” not wanting to take attention away from his work. Rep. Evans added, “Damien’s boss said he has a great work ethic, is always happy and on time.”

Many potential employees like Damien have challenges in the application and interview process. “Bandana’s was the only business that would consider allowing Damien to have a working interview when he was job seeking,” Grainger said. “Because Damien has limited verbal skills, his employment specialist with UCP Heartland, Duane Gruis, asked Bandana’s to have Damien demonstrate his abilities in the kitchen. Within 10 minutes, Damien was hired as a dishwasher.”

Skill-based interviews are just one of many creative ways employers can connect with potential employees living with a disability. “Inclusion drives innovations” is a current mantra in the field of disability employment.

With unemployment at 3.9% in St. Louis County (according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics), there are more jobs than people willing or able to work. “We have people with disabilities that want to work and employers who need employees. We just need to get them together,” Rep. Evans said.

About UCP Heartland

Offering five distinct programs in Metropolitan St. Louis including Employment Services, UCP Heartland serves people with a spectrum of disabilities: physical, developmental and behavioral. The agency offers programs that serve clients living with Autism, Down Syndrome, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy and Alzheimer’s, among many others.

The agency’s unique impact is providing opportunities for people with a range of abilities to discover their true purpose and experience a life well lived as part of a community rich in diversity. For more information on UCP Heartland and its employment programs, please visit www.ucpheartland.org.

Governor Greitens Visits Challenge Unlimited, Inc. At Fort Leonard Wood Army Base



[FORT LEONARD WOOD ARMY BASE] – Missouri Governor Eric Greitens visited the Fort Leonard Wood army base in Missouri to meet with representatives of Challenge Unlimited, Inc. and hear about their strong local support for the base. Governor Greitens agreed to visit the Fort at the invitation of Challenge Unlimited, a non-profit organization that provides opportunities and a wide range of supported employment services to individuals with disabilities.

Challenge Unlimited extended an invitation for Governor Greitens to visit Fort Leonard Wood in celebration of **National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)**, which runs through the month of October. The purpose of NDEAM is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. Since 2010 the organization has employed individuals with disabilities and veterans at the Fort, where they provide janitorial services covering over 99 buildings and 1.2 million cleanable square feet.

During his visit, Governor Greitens met with the following Challenge Unlimited representatives: Stephanie Brown, Vice President of Program Services; Jennifer Trudeau, Public Relations Advocate; Tracey Sargeant, Project Manager; and the janitorial staff at Fort Leonard Wood. They were honored to tell Governor Greitens about the organization's presence at Fort Leonard Wood and the significant, positive impact it has on their workforce of individuals with disabilities.

Stephanie Brown stated, "Workplaces welcoming the talents of people with disabilities are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy. In this spirit, Challenge Unlimited recognizes National Disability Employment Awareness Month every October to raise awareness about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of people with disabilities. Activities during this month, including Governor Greiten's visit to Fort Leonard Wood Base, will reinforce the value and talent people with disabilities add to our workplaces and communities and affirm Fort Leonard Wood's commitment to an inclusive community." Jennifer Trudeau added, "While National Disability Employment Awareness Month is just one month out of the year, Challenge truly lives and breathes this mission on a daily basis."

Governor Greitens was very impressed with Challenge Unlimited's presence at Fort Leonard Wood, as well as the array of services that the organization provides to individuals with disabilities. Challenge Unlimited will continue to work with legislative leaders to ensure individuals with disabilities have the ability to live, work and participate in their communities at the most optimum level.

About Challenge Unlimited, Inc.: Challenge Unlimited, Inc. is a national nonprofit organization with over 50 years of sound experience in providing housing, and employment opportunities to people with disabilities through their specialized contract support services to state, federal and commercial companies. In addition, as an AbilityOne provider, they offer high quality services, comprehensive staffing solutions and customized facility management services at a fair market price to federal and state government and commercial contractors. For more information contact: Jennifer Trudeau, Public Relations Advocate, jtrudeau@cuinc.org, 618.462.4787

Partners in Policymaking

Congratulations to our new participants for the 2018 Partners in Policymaking training! Please welcome:

Abria Edwards of St. Louis
Carrie Stetz of St. Charles
Cassidi Jobe of Kansas City
Dawn Fredman of Glendale
Deana Schulte of Holts Summit
Dorothy Cardetti of St. James
Ellen Reed of Des Peres
Ian Cameron of Moberly
Jeanette Rogers of St. Charles
Jennifer Drury of St. Louis
Jill Thomas of Kansas City
Jonathan Davis of St. Louis
Jonathan Spencer of Boonville
Julia Rotert of Gladstone
Katherine Rucker of Kansas City
Katie Beegle of St. Peters
Kenneth Joplin of St. Louis

Lacy Waggoner of Oregon
Leah Hammel of Chesterfield
Lori Holbrook of St. Peters
Luke Barber of Des Peres
Maria Grazzia Goyes of
Springfield
Mary Gupton of Hannibal
Melissa Skaggs of Willard
Michella Cameron of Moberly
Natalina Ehlers of Kansas City
Rachel Baskerville of Osage
Beach
Rickeeta Brooks of St. Louis
Sara Brown of Camdenton
Stacy Bann of St. Louis
Stephanie Mefford of St. Joseph
Tania Pacheco of Springfield

Partners in Policymaking

Training Schedule for 2018

February 2-3, 2018	Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia
March 2-3, 2018	Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia
April 13-14, 2018	Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City
May 4-5, 2018	Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia
June 1-2, 2018	Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia
July 13-14, 2018	Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia
August 3-4, 2018	Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia
September 7-8, 2018	Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia

Classes begin promptly on Friday at 12:30 pm (check in at 12:00 pm) and end at 9:00 pm. We resume class on Saturday morning at 7:30 am and end at 3:30 pm.

Enjoying our Partners in Policymaking Graduate session with Adam Sass and Cheryl Bates-Harris. Our topics for the weekend of training were Home and Community Based Services and Employment Services.





Office of Administration

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

26th Annual **Inclusion Award**

The Governor's Council on Disability's annual Inclusion Award program recognizes and honors a Missouri resident, organization or business that illustrates excellence in leadership for the "best of the best inclusion practices". Individuals are also encouraged to nominate state and local government divisions or universal design/assistive technology that demonstrate excellence in inclusive practices.

For more information and the nomination form, please visit

<http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/inclwin.htm>

5th Annual **Youth Leadership Award**

The Governor's Council on Disability will honor a youth with a disability that is demonstrating outstanding leadership, advocacy, and dedication to and for the disability community at large in Missouri.

For eligibility criteria and the nomination form, please visit

<http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/youthleadershipaward.htm>

2nd Annual **Website/IT Award**

The Governor's Council on Disability's annual Website/IT Award recognizes an agency or organization that has the most outstanding and accessible organizational website.

For eligibility requirements and the nomination form, please visit

<http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/websiteaward.htm>

The awards will be presented at the 2018 Power Up
Missouri Assistive Technology conference.

Deadline for submitting nominations is January 31, 2018.

Questions? Contact the Governor's Council on Disability at 573-751-2600 or 1-800-877-8249

2018 Council Meeting Dates

January 18-19, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia

March 15-16, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia

May 17-18, 2018

Stoney Creek Inn, Columbia

July 19-20, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia

September 20-21, 2018

Embassy Suites, St Charles

November 15-16, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn, Independence