

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019



Developmental
Disability **Advocates**

Connecting Individuals with Resources
IN JEFFERSON COUNTY - SINCE 1978

Formerly the Jefferson County Developmental Disabilities Resource Board

40th
ANNIVERSARY



New Name, Same Great Organization

The Jefferson County Developmental Disabilities Resource Board (JCDDRB) changed its name to Developmental Disability Advocates in September of 2018. This occurred as part of our 40th Anniversary celebration. Developmental Disability Advocates is a local governmental entity responsible for administering county property tax funds for the development and operation of services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Who Is Eligible For Services?

Jefferson County residents who have a developmental disability as determined by the Department of Mental Health—St. Louis Regional Office (314)587-4800. Examples of a developmental disability include Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Epilepsy (and other seizure disorders), Down Syndrome and other intellectual disabilities.

<p>Plan _____</p> <p>SERVICE COORDINATORS</p>  <p>A Service Coordinator meets with you to develop a plan based on your strengths, interests, needs, and goals for the future.</p>	<p>Link _____</p> <p>SERVICE PROVIDERS</p>  <p>Your Service Coordinator will assist you with connecting to local service providers to implement your plan.</p>	<p>Advocate _____</p> <p>COMMUNITY</p>  <p>Our agency advocates at the local and state level to ensure resources and opportunities exist for people with developmental disabilities.</p>	<p>Fund _____</p> <p>SUPPORTS</p>  <p>We receive county property tax dollars and also access funding from Medicaid and the Department of Mental Health to support community based services.</p>
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Special THANKS to all those who have served on our Board of Directors over the past 40 Years

Dana Hockensmith
Ron Hoenninger
Janet Mangan
Pervis Seabaugh
Sam Maxwell
John Freeman
Ellen Dietrich
Paul Powell
Ken Ott
Richard Mayer
Rev. Harold Fleischhauer
Al Ems
Charlotte Mason
Paul Rainwater
Jean Jose
Gene Cozine

Sam Martin
Margaret Wille
Steve Rowe
Howard Harmon
Hope McGrummen
John Agers
Michael Bingman
Vince Coleman
Christine Higgs
George Guffey
Robert Little
Jake Dietrich
Rita Braun
Nancy Smith Walker
Charles Hudson
Judy Cummins

Susie Vacca
Tom Bookstaver
Karen Thompson
Barb Anderson
Gary Roettger
Jo Anne Jeffries
Margo Pigg
Bill McKenna
Anthony Casey, Jr.
Barb Uhls
Amy Rhodes
Josh Bauman
Marsha Mertens
Elizabeth Spagh
Erica Watts
Randy Starkey



CARF is an international accrediting body for specialized services such as those provided by Developmental Disability Advocates.

In December 2018, CARF awarded a three-year accreditation to Developmental Disability Advocates for the following services:

Community Services Coordination

Governance Standards

Our organization received NO recommendations from the surveyors. Less than 3% of all organizations world wide that are accredited by CARF receive no recommendations.



Meet our Board of Directors

Pictured here are members of the Developmental Disability Advocates Board of Directors.

Back row: (from the left)

Tom Bookstaver
Gary Roettger, Vice-Chair
Vince Coleman, Treasurer
Dr. Anthony Casey

Front row: (from the left)

Erica Watts
Elizabeth Spaugh
Margo Pigg, Chairperson
Dr. Marsha Mertens, Secretary

Not pictured:

Josh Bauman



Our nine member, voluntary Board is appointed by the Jefferson County Executive with the advice and consent of the County Council. Of these nine members, two must be related by blood or marriage within the third degree to a person that has a developmental disability and at least seven must reside in Jefferson County.

Board meetings are held monthly (except May and December) and are open to the public. If you would like to attend a Board meeting, please check our website for dates, times, locations and agendas.



From the Executive Director's Office

I am so honored to have served as Executive Director for Developmental Disability Advocates during 2018-2019. We celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the passage of the “Special Ones” proposition which established a county property tax for the purpose of providing needed services to people with developmental disabilities and their families. Today, this property tax generates over \$3 Million to support community based agencies in Jefferson County who directly provide residential, vocational, recreational, social and transportation services.

One evening in 1954, the Kulik family was sitting in their front yard in Imperial. A couple walked up and introduced themselves. The Pope family had a son, Billy and they wanted him to be able to attend school. They had heard that the Kuliks had a son with “challenges” and they hoped the two families could work together to accomplish their dream of a local special school. They recruited others. With just six families and a lot of dreams this group started the Jefferson County Association for Retarded Children (ARC). In the early years the work of the ARC was done by dedicated volunteers, volunteers all sharing the same dream.

Between 1957 - 1977, the ARC was instrumental in opening the doors of the county's first school, preschool, sheltered workshop and residential agency (Pony Bird) for people with disabilities.

In 1978, the ARC worked to pass the “Special Ones Tax” that created the Jefferson County Commission for the Handicapped (now Developmental Disability Advocates).

The creation of this local tax played a big role in the expansion and creation of support services. From 1978 through today, there has been steady growth in the number and diversity of services available in the county thanks to the continue advocacy of families and the vision of key leaders such as Dr. Tony Casey and Ms. Jennifer Wooldridge. Many people have shared their time and talents to serve on the Board of Directors of the agency, none more so than Mr. Vince Coleman, who has served on the Board for 32 of its 40 years of existence.

Our past is rich and notable. Our future holds opportunity and promise. What will the next 40 years look like for people with developmental disabilities in Jefferson County? Our goal is that it includes choice, independence, self-determination, and meaningful inclusion. We at Developmental Disability Advocates will embrace changes and advancements in the field and focus on best practices, innovation, and growth to ensure that Jefferson County is one of the best places to live in the state of Missouri for all people. We are grateful for our past and eagerly anticipate our future! Please join us on our journey!

Regards,

Stacey Ismail

Mission

Vision

Values

Mission

It is the *mission* of Developmental Disability Advocates to provide resources to create opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities in Jefferson County to live full and enriched lives.

Vision

It is the *vision* of Developmental Disability Advocates that individuals with developmental disabilities live a life of their choice and are fully included in the community.

Person Centered

Respect & Dignity:

All individuals are treated with respect and dignity and their rights are ensured by persons providing them with services and supports.

Valued:

All individuals are viewed holistically as valued members of their family and community.

Choice:

Individuals and/or the support team design their services to enhance their lives and achieve their personal vision.

Quality Services:

Individuals and/or the support team determine the quality of services based on the outcomes experienced.

Financial Accountability

Management:

All public and private funds shall be administered with transparency and in full compliance with acceptable accounting standards.

Sustainability:

The financial status of DD Advocates, along with those organizations it funds, shall have a strong viability for the short and long term.

Stewardship:

DD Advocates shall utilize its available resources in the most efficient and effective manner possible

Outcomes:

Providers seeking funding from DD Advocates shall define and demonstrate their positive impact on the lives of the individuals served.

Leadership

Staff Excellence:

The organization strives to recruit, hire, train and retain employees with the best skill sets and provide opportunities for professional growth.

Board/Staff Partnership:

Board members and staff work together to fulfill the organization’s mission through open communication in a spirit of collaboration and consensus building based on trust and respect of each other’s roles and responsibilities.

Community Partnerships:

DD Advocates facilitates a service delivery system that maximizes coordination to increase effectiveness and efficiency without infringing on individual choice.

Creativity/Innovation:

DD Advocates will explore new service models and trends that represent best practice for consideration and implementation.

Shining Star Dakota

To meet all our Shining Stars from

2018-2019 visit our website at

<https://www.ddadvocates.org/shining-stars/>

Dakota Steffens grew up in Imperial with his parents, sister and brother. Dakota is also close to his grandparents who live right next door. Many would describe Dakota as being positive, outgoing, inspirational, faithful, and encouraging to others.

Dakota has many aspirations in life and is very active in his community. He was featured on the front page of the Jefferson County Leader when he participated in the Seckman High School March for Hunger. He and other students marched five miles down Seckman Road collecting food donations. Dakota additionally participates in Special Olympics, Beyond All Disabilities baseball, city council meetings, bible study at his church, summer camps and activities with Variety Club and the Dream Factory. Dakota is a patient ambassador for Shriner's Hospital. He has a love for sports, is manager of Seckman High School's football team, and his life long dream is to become a sports broadcaster.

Dakota will be graduating from Seckman High School in May of 2019. He plans to attend Jefferson College and pursue a career in sports broadcasting. Dakota also recently began pursuing another interest of public/motivational speaking about advocacy. This past year he was the key note speaker at the Special Olympics Gold Medal Gala. He was on the 92.3 Bud & Broadway radio show where he talked about his interest in a sports broadcasting career. In December, he co-hosted the Law Enforcement Torch Run Awards Ceremony in Jefferson City with Jim Moran.



Service Coordination

Type of Service

There are three levels of support that our agency provides:

Level 1—for those three years old and above who do NOT have active Medicaid and only desire information and /or referrals. A resource specialist will be available to assist you.

Level 2—for those three years old and above who do NOT have active Medicaid and desire an assigned Service Coordinator and an annual Individual Service Plan (ISP) with regular contact.

Level 3— for those 16 years old and above WITH active Medicaid. Some may be eligible to participate in a waiver program which offers an array of individualized services.

What People Served Say....

91% of those who completed our annual survey said;

I feel that my Service Coordinator plays an important role in my life, because of the service they provide.

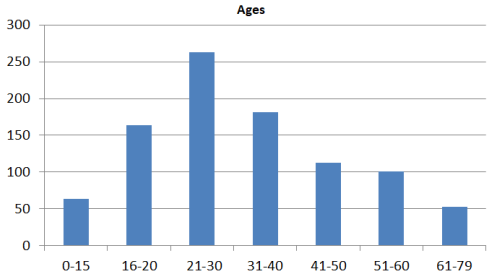
97% of those who completed our annual survey said;

I feel that my Service Coordinator treats me with respect and dignity.

Who Do We Serve?

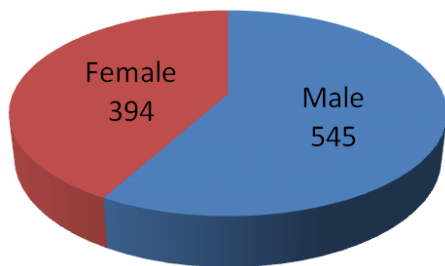
At the start of the fiscal year, July 1, 2018, DD Advocates served 893 individuals. We finished the year with 939 on June 30, 2019.

Just prior to the beginning of the fiscal year in April of 2018, the Department of Mental Health’s regional office began transitioning some of the individuals served by the regional office over to the Service Coordination team at Developmental Disability Advocates. It was at this time that the agency began serving individuals as young as 3 years old. Prior to this, DD Advocates served ages 16 and up.



By The Numbers

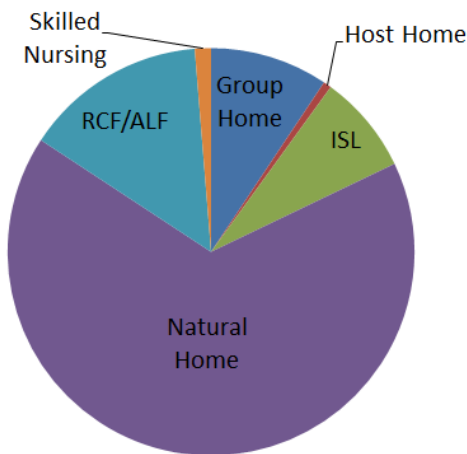
Who Do We Serve?



Ages	# Served
3-15	64
16-20	164
21-30	263
31-40	181
41-50	113
51-60	101
61-79	53

Where Do They Live?

Most individuals served reside in their natural home however, in Jefferson County there are many living options for individuals with developmental disabilities. Of those served by DD Advocates, here is the breakdown:

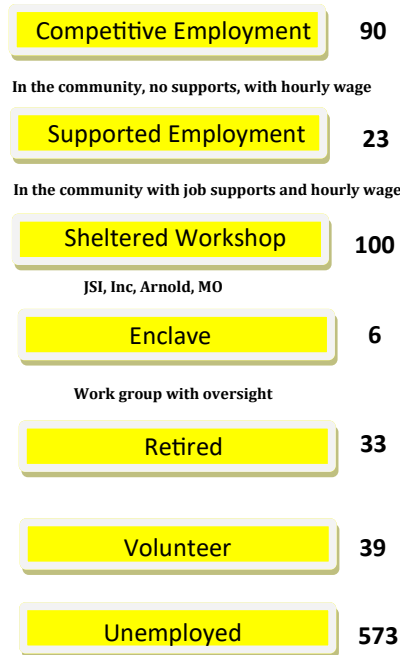


RCF/ALF - Residential Care Facility/Assisted Living Facility

ISL - Individualized Supported Living

Where Do They Work?

25% *Of individuals served are employed:*



Unemployed number does not include anyone 16 or younger

There are many employment opportunities for individuals in Jefferson County. Some individuals opt not to work, or have been employed and are now retired.



JEFFERSON COUNTY'S
Special *Ones

**A look back at the
past 40 years...**





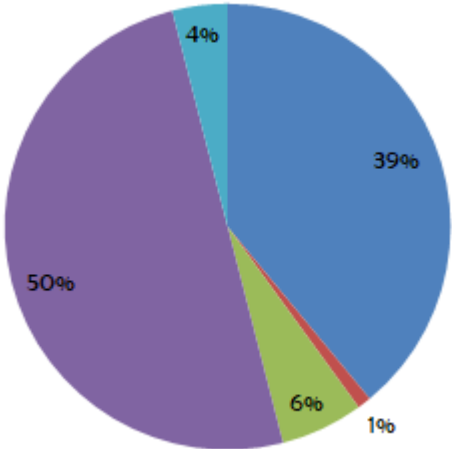
Financial Review

Revenues

	Total FY18	\$5,960,274		Total FY19:	\$6,266,549
Service Coordination	\$2,334,282	39%		\$2,478,936	39%
Interest Earned	26,790	1%		44,559	1%
Building Rent Income	418,024	7%		408,332	6%
County Taxes	3,059,788	51%		3,102,295	50%
Other Income	121,390	2%		232,427	4%

FY19 Revenue

- Service Coordination
- Interest Earned
- Building Rent Income
- County Taxes
- Other Income



The financial statements are audited annually. The FY18 and FY19 audits were completed by Crouch, Farley & Heuring, P.C.

A copy of the financial statements may be requested by calling 636-282-5500

Expenses

Total FY18 \$5,754,371

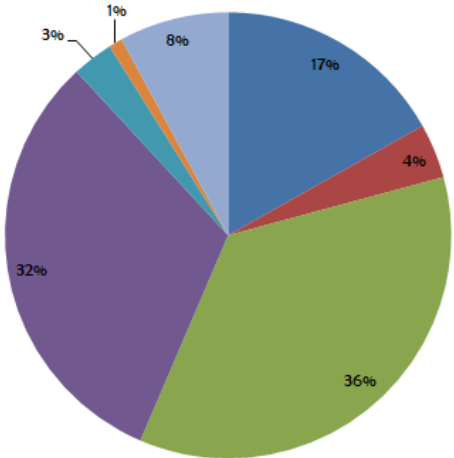
Total FY19: \$5,989,862

Transportation	\$1,079,483	19%
Depreciation	238,815	4%
Personnel	1,879,424	33%
Agency Funding & Match	1,983,028	34%
Family Supports	150,000	3%
Interest Expense	32,176	<1%
Other Costs	391,445	7%

Transportation	\$1,045,467	17%
Depreciation	241,726	4%
Personnel	2,132,630	36%
Agency Funding & Match	1,895,819	32%
Family Supports	150,000	3%
Interest Expense	29,689	<1%
Other Costs	494,531	8%

FY19 Expenses

- Transportation
- Depreciation
- Personnel
- Agency Funding & Match
- Family Supports
- Interest Expense
- Other Costs



Net Assets as of June 30, 2018 were \$8,489,968

Net Assets as of June 30, 2019 were \$8,766,655

Who We Fund



Organization	FY19 Funding
OATS (JC Transit)	\$1,042,967
NextStep for Life, Inc. (Residential, Employment, Day Services, Leisure Services)	\$900,000
Pony Bird (Capital Projects - Kitchen/Laundry)	\$221,728
JSI, Inc. (Sheltered Workshop Operations)	\$188,667
NextStep for Life, Inc. (My Care Respite)	\$150,000
Partnership for Hope Match (20% Match to DMH)	\$127,610
Judevine (Social Skills Program)	\$49,385
Rainbow Village (ISL home in Imperial)	\$48,750
Family Advocacy and Community Training (FACT) (Family Supports Partner)	\$32,864
Disability Resource Association (DRA) (Ramps/Home Modifications Program)	\$30,000
Sunnyhill, Inc. (Technology/Information Management Improvements)	\$30,000
Camp Scholarships (Sunnyhill, Camp Wonderland, Camp Barnabas, Camp Guardian, etc.)	\$22,300
Mercy Jefferson (Employment Curriculum Materials)	\$8,992
Spirit Strides (Therapeutic Horseback Riding)	\$7,235
St. Louis ARC (Supported Employment)	\$4,224
Elks Mobile Dental (Mobile Dental Services)	\$2,900
Jeffco Express (Transportation)	\$2,500





Barb McDowell Memorial Fund

The Barb McDowell Memorial Fund was established on June 2, 1999 in recognition of Barb McDowell. Barb served from 1981—2000 as the Executive Assistant of the JCDDR (now known as Developmental Disability Advocates) During her 19 years, she felt that individuals served should have their needs met and in some cases there is not funding to meet their needs. The Barb McDowell Memorial Fund provides financial assistance for special expenditures when no other funding is available, up to \$300. The McDowell Family as well as other local sources continue to contribute to the fund to honor Barb McDowell's legacy. In FY19, more than \$1,600 in special expenditures were funded. Since 1999, more than \$72,000 of financial assistance has been provided to individuals in Jefferson County.

For more information or to donate to this fund, contact DD Advocates at 636-282-5500

Developmental Disability Awareness

Each year, Developmental Disability Awareness Month is celebrated nationally in March. The Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council (MODDC) organizes a Disability Rights Legislative Day each March at the Capitol in Jefferson City in which the Jefferson County TOGETHER Advisory Committee participates. Appointments are made with Jefferson County State Representatives and Senators to share information with them about legislative priorities and needs for people with developmental disabilities and how certain bills might impact them positively or negatively. In March 2019, representatives from DD Advocates, NextStep for Life, and Pony Bird met with legislators and emphasized the strong collaborative relationships in the county that provide for a comprehensive array of services and supports for individuals and their families. Additionally, the group informed legislators about the Direct Support Professional (DSP) crisis impacting the nation, state and county; the importance of Employment First legislation for Missouri; and the concerns about a for-profit Medicaid managed care model being adopted in the state.





Pictured from left: David Weiler, DD Advocates; Ray Amanat, Speaker, Heroes In Action



Dr. James Linsen, Speaker, Psychological Network, Inc.

Annual Provider Conference

In October 2018, DD Advocates hosted an annual provider conference for the county. Agencies sent many of their Direct Support Professionals, Supervisors, and Administrative employees. DD Advocates partnered with Jefferson College on the event that was held in the Viking Room at Jefferson College in Hillsboro. Jefferson College also issued CEU's to those in attendance. The theme was "Caring for the Caregiver" and lots of effort was made to ensure that the attendees felt appreciated for the work they do. There were three very inspiring speakers at the event as well as lunch and attendance prizes. Thank you to all the agencies who made it possible for your employees to attend this event!



Front row from left: Pam Branson, DD Advocates; Sandy Nappier, Jefferson College; Back row from left: Ginny Hill, DD Advocates; Iness Panni, Pony Bird



John Conway, Speaker, Easterseals Midwest



Pictured from left: Stacey Ismail, DD Advocates; Ray Amanat, Speaker, Heroes In Action; Dawn Warner, DD Advocates

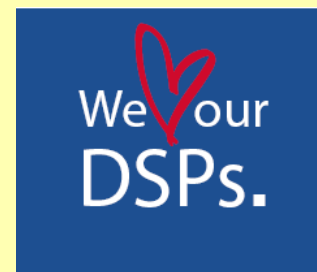
Direct Support Professional (DSP) of the Year

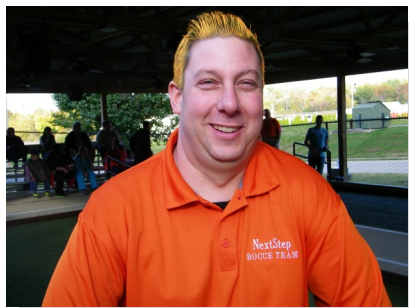
Katrina Loveless



Katrina Loveless of My Place Residential was announced as the DSP of the Year. Agencies around Jefferson County who provide support to individuals with developmental disabilities were encouraged to submit their top DSP and from those submittals, the Board selected Katrina for this honor. Katrina has been employed by My Place Residential for over 10 years. She goes above and beyond to make all the residents feel special, treating them like they are part of her family.

Pictured above from the left are: Luke Spaugh; Stacey Ismail, Executive Director of Developmental Disability Advocates; Elizabeth Spaugh, Board Member of Developmental Disability Advocates; Katrina Loveless; and Vince Coleman, Board Member of Developmental Disability Advocates.

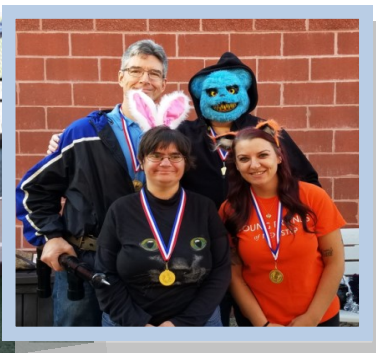




1st Annual Boo-cce Tournament



On October 27, 2018 the TOGETHER group hosted the first annual “Boo”-cce Tournament in Herculaneum. This event was also a legislative meet and greet with state and local officials. Eight teams participated and the winning teams were Dave’s Wild Bunch in bracket 1 and Patrick’s Friends in bracket 2. There were spooky snacks, toilet bowl punch, a photo selfie area and the Best Team Costume prize went to My Place/My Place II. Great fun was had by all!



Dave’s Wild Bunch



Patrick’s Friends





TOGETHER

A Developmental Disability Advisory Group

“Together we can do more than if we work alone”

TOGETHER is an advisory group to Developmental Disability Advocates and other agencies that support people with developmental disabilities. Members are appointed by the Board of DD Advocates.

Parents/other family members, self-advocates, and professional/direct care staff from local disability programs can apply for membership. The group meets most months and is made up of nine to twelve members who serve rotating terms. The DD Advocates Executive Director, Stacey Ismail, serves as the meeting facilitator and the DD Advocates Executive Assistant, Dawn Warner, serves as the Recorder of minutes. All members are asked to make the commitment to attend meetings and be open about their views regarding support services that are needed in Jefferson County.

As an advisory group, TOGETHER may:

- Review and advise on programs and policies of DD Advocates;
- Advise on methods of service delivery;
- Recommend specific programs and services that encourage the highest level of independence possible; and
- Advocate for people with developmental disabilities and their families

The TOGETHER Advisory Group consists of:

Angie McGoveran, DD Advocates, Chairperson
 Misty Reigert, DD Advocates, Vice-Chairperson
 Brock Guseman, Self Advocate
 Kim Bolin, Family Representative
 Nicole Myers, School Representative
 Becca Tincknell, Self Advocate

Tim Melton, NextStep for Life, Inc., Agency Representative
 Bruce King, Sunnyhill, Inc., Agency Representative
 Keri Martin, DMH/St. Louis Regional Office Representative
 Iness Panni, Pony Bird, Inc., Agency Representative
 Michael Hicks, Family Representative



**Developmental Disability Advocates
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Festus, MO 63028**

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Herculaneum, MO 63048**

**Service Coordination Office
1615 Vine School Road
Herculaneum, MO 63048**

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North Fax: (636)282-5511
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Find us on

