HELPING TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

*Our Mission is to effectively and efficiently use agency and other available resources to enable Boone County residents with developmental disabilities to progress toward normal living and to develop, as far as possible, their capacity, performance, and relationship with other persons.*

**Governor Nixon and Local Families Discuss Benefits of Partnership for Hope**

Governor Jay Nixon sat down with two local families at Boone County Family Resources on November 4 to discuss the Partnership for Hope, a new state program that is having a positive impact on the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Governor Nixon joined parents Sandy and David Sims, of Sturgeon, and grandmother Fern Anderson, of Columbia, to discuss the home- and community-based services the Partnership for Hope is providing to 470 Missourians with developmental disabilities. The program, which took effect October 1, was made possible by a partnership between the state of Missouri, 37 participating county developmental disability boards, and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

"The Partnership for Hope will offer help and support to hundreds of Missouri families caring for loved ones with developmental disabilities," Governor Nixon said. "For too long, families were forced to wait for a crisis before help was available. This partnership shows that families and communities can work together successfully to care for individuals with developmental disabilities at home and in the community."

Prior to implementation of the Partnership for Hope, demand for home- and community-based services had resulted in a large backlog of Missouri families waiting for help. Because of the backlog, many families waited years before receiving the services they need. Priority had been given to individuals in crisis, such as individuals who were homeless or whose primary caregiver had passed away; in many of those cases, residential or institutional treatment became the only option.

Through the Partnership for Hope, individuals will receive up to $12,000 in services per year. Funding for the program comes from the Missouri Department of Mental Health, county developmental disability boards and CMS. The county boards are contributing $1.5 million annually for the program, which will be matched by $1.5 million in state funds to draw down $5.2 million from the federal government.

Continued on next page
County boards will determine which individuals within their county will receive services. In Boone County, 80 individuals will receive services through the Partnership for Hope, including Nathan and Mitchell Sims, sons of Sandy and David Sims, and Norma Anderson, the granddaughter of Fern Anderson. Since Oct. 1, more than 30 individuals already have started receiving services in Boone County.

Nathan and Mitchell Sims, who have autism, graduated from high school in May and live with their parents and sister in Sturgeon, about 20 miles from Columbia. Although the family lives in Sturgeon, Sandy and David both work full time in Columbia.

While in high school, Nathan and Mitchell benefitted from meaningful and productive daily activity, their mother said. After graduating, Nathan and Mitchell lost that daily structure, and their parents worried they might lose some of the progress they made in school.

Through the program, both Nathan and Mitchell will receive numerous services, including vocational skills, job-placement and support, and personal assistance. Most importantly, a case manager will arrange transportation to work and other locations for the brothers, which will allow both parents to continue to work. Prior to the partnership, the Sims family was ineligible for services because they were not in crisis.

"Like any parent, I want my sons to be independent, productive and happy," Sandy Sims said. "Nathan and Mitchell are very intelligent, but they need personal assistance and guidance to learn how to work. This program will help make that possible. Rather than sitting home all day, Nathan and Mitchell now have support to find employment and volunteer opportunities, and transportation to get them to work and home. This is a Godsend for our family, and we're very grateful to all those who helped make it possible."

Norma Anderson has lived with her grandmother, Fern, since she was four years old. Now 20, Norma has Asperger's Syndrome, which is a form of autism. Norma aspires to live independently, find work and care for herself.

After Norma graduated from high school, she lost access to school-based services, and she was not eligible for support under other programs because she was not in crisis. Through the Partnership for Hope, Norma has been assigned a community specialist, who will assess her abilities, target her needs and develop a plan for independent living. She also will receive training for adult life and work.

"Norma is very capable of living independently, working and contributing to the community, provided she has adequate preparation and support," Fern Anderson said. "We are very thankful for the support we are now receiving, and the results have been promising. It's wonderful to know that more families will have access to these services earlier, when they really can make a lasting difference."

Press Release courtesy of Missouri's Office of the Governor
We would like to shout a huge THANK YOU to Elks Lodge #594 for sponsoring the 2010 BCFR Annual Picnic. The crowd of 300 people enjoyed good food, good friends and good tunes at Bethel Park on September 9th.

Thanks to Jeff Mueller and Ruth Acuff for providing the entertainment and for sharing the stage with some of the amateur music enthusiasts in the crowd. Everyone is already looking forward to the picnic again next year!

The Elks’ time and generosity in sponsoring this annual picnic for clients and their families is sincerely appreciated.

2011 Partners in Policymaking Training

Interested in becoming a leader in your community? Then Partners in Policymaking is for you!

Partners is a leadership training program designed for self-advocates and parents of young children with developmental disabilities. Based on a national model, the overall goal is to develop productive partnerships between people who need and use services and those in a position to make policy and law.

The program provides information and the development of skills around current issues, state-of-the-art approaches, as well as policymaking and legislative processes at local, state and national levels.

The Missouri Planning Council is now accepting applications for the 2011 Partners in Policymaking leadership training class. The deadline to apply is December 3, 2010. For the application and to learn more, visit: http://www.mpcdd.com/. For more information, contact Pam Byars at pbyars@mpcdd.com or 1-800-500-7878.
Teaching People First Language at the University
By Jason Mize, President of People First of Boone County

People First of Boone County is teaching journalism students about people first language. So far we’ve taught four classes; we show our PowerPoint and then take questions from the students. We’ve reached about 650 students. Two of the classes were huge. Some of the students are already reporters. Others will be some day.

We feel like it’s so important to get the word out to media people, like journalism students. We’re tired of seeing newspaper stories and hearing reports about “the handicapped”. We tell the students there are two ways to segregate people with disabilities – one way is to put them in a building and close the door. Another is with language.

Language can label and segregate. Language can hurt. We talk a lot about the R word. You’d be surprised how many students raise their hands when I ask them if they’ve ever used the R word. They just don’t realize how the word makes me and others feel. My own brother called me that when I was a kid.

We tell them if you’re writing or speaking about a person with disability – mention disability only if it matters – and if it matters, USE PEOPLE FIRST LANGUAGE. One time Jeff won an award for his volunteer work in Columbia. He tells the students about reading in the newspaper about the “disabled man” who won the award. “That man was me,” he says. “How about ‘Columbia man wins’?” he asks them. It’s like, if you’re writing about someone’s accomplishments, then write about their accomplishments. Why label them “disabled”? And that’s what we mean when we say language segregates people.

One of our members, Rene, recently had a seizure on a downtown sidewalk. An article came out in the paper describing her as a “victim” who had “suffered” a seizure, and about the good Samaritans who came to her rescue. She says it does make sense for the reporter to mention her disability in a story like that, but she says epilepsy is something that is part of her life as a person. She’s not a victim. She thinks it could have been a good opportunity for the reporter to write about what to do when someone has a seizure. Anyway, that’s the type of thing we’re teaching the students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People First Language to Use</th>
<th>Instead of Labels that Stereotype and Devalue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>people with disabilities</td>
<td>the handicapped; the disabled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>people with cognitive or developmental disabilities</td>
<td>the mentally retarded; retarded people; he/she is retarded; the retarded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a person who has Down syndrome</td>
<td>he/she’s a Downs</td>
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<tr>
<td>a person who has autism</td>
<td>autistic</td>
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<tr>
<td>a person who has epilepsy; person with a seizure disorder</td>
<td>an epileptic; a victim of epilepsy</td>
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<tr>
<td>a person who uses a wheelchair; people who have a mobility impairment; a person who walks with crutches</td>
<td>a person who is wheelchair bound; a person who is confined to a wheelchair; a cripple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a person who has quadriplegia; people with paraplegia</td>
<td>a quadriplegic; the paraplegic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he/she has a congenital disability</td>
<td>he/she has a birth defect</td>
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<tr>
<td>accessible buses, bathrooms, etc. reserved parking for people with disabilities</td>
<td>handicapped buses, bathrooms, hotel rooms, etc. handicapped parking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Talent Has No Boundaries

Each October, National Disability Employment Awareness Month spotlights the employment of people with disabilities.

The 2010 National Disability Employment Awareness Month theme emphasizes the rich diversity and talent that workers with disabilities bring to the workplace. Employment offers greater freedom, independence, and the chance to fully participate in and contribute to society.

"Our diversity of talent is the wellspring of innovation and creativity in the workforce," says Kathleen Martinez, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy.

The Campaign for Disability Employment (CDE) is collaborating with AMC Entertainment to bring the "I Can" public service announcement (PSA) to select movie theaters nationwide, thanks to the efforts of one of the CDE's founding partners, the U.S. Business Leadership Network.

The "I Can" PSA features seven people with disabilities sharing what they can do on the job when given the opportunity and reminds everyone that at work, it's what people CAN do that matters. "I Can" has aired nearly 20,000 times on national television and cable stations and more than 20,000 times on national radio stations. This important collaboration with AMC Entertainment will enable the CDE to reach moviegoers with the "What can YOU do?" message and remind everyone that people with disabilities want to work and that their talents and abilities benefit America’s businesses and economy.

To find tools and resources to foster a work environment that is inclusive of the talents and skills of qualified people with disabilities, visit whatcanyoudocampaign.org.

Disability Issues Candidates’ Forum

On October 13, the Columbia Disability Issues Coalition hosted a candidates’ forum at the public library. Seven candidates participated in the forum, answering questions posed by advocates Max Lewis and Aimee Wehmeier. The Coalition is composed of several local disability-related agencies that come together expressly for this purpose in election years.

“These forums are important for Boone County given the large number of people with disabilities who live here,” says Lewis. “They deserve a forum in which to understand and interact with future leaders who will be in positions to affect policy that may impact their lives. For the candidates, it’s an opportunity to learn about the issues important to their constituents, and about circumstances requiring their immediate attention.”

In this most recent forum, candidates answered questions and discussed challenges in four main areas: Healthcare/Medicaid, Home & Community Based Services, Efficiency in Government, and Special Education. For election results from the districts represented (9, 21, 23, 24, & 25) go to http://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/ElectionResults/20101102.htm.
SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT

Gabriella is 19 years old, from St. Louis, and attends the University of Missouri in Columbia. She is currently a sophomore and majoring in Film Studies with a long term goal of becoming a movie director and/or a screen writer. Going to college is the first time Gabriella has lived away from home. The first semester of college she went home every 2 weeks. By the second semester she only went home on breaks and plans to do so again this year. Gabriella is diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy and is a strong self advocate. In Gabriella’s free time, she volunteers for the St. Louis Muscular Dystrophy Association and went home for Labor Day weekend to volunteer at the MDA telethon. She also volunteers time speaking at MDA events.

Last year, Gabriella became the first person in a wheelchair to go through sorority recruitment on the MU campus. She describes the process as “fun but intense.” Gabriella has since joined Kappa Kappa Gamma and is now living in her sorority’s house on campus, where they have created an accessible living area for her. She states that the Greek system on campus has been very accommodating and she is enjoying living in the house with her 80 sorority sisters. Gabriella has great motivation and determination and we hope to see her name on the big screen someday as a movie director or screen writer. Keep it up Gabriella!

Mike did not know the true feeling of independence until August, 2010. After sustaining a head injury in 1984, Mike was placed under Cass County guardianship. Once Mike completed rehabilitation, he moved to Columbia to receive more intensive disability services and has lived at Paquin Tower since. Although Mike realized that he required supports to live independently, he never felt that full guardianship was needed; instead he believed that he was capable of managing the key areas of his life and wanted to be responsible for making his own personal and medical decisions.

In June, 2009, Missouri Protection & Advocacy (MP&A) presented an informational session on guardianship in Boone County Family Resources’ building. Mike contacted MP&A to request further information about terminating his guardianship. Soon after, Mike began working with Attorney Lisa Sutherland; they worked together from summer 2009 to summer 2010 to prepare a successful case that supported Mike’s capabilities and discredited his need for guardianship.

On August 4, at a guardianship hearing in Cass County, Mike and his team provided documentation and testimony regarding Mike’s abilities. After deliberation, Judge Campbell who had determined Mike incapacitated twenty-six years ago, determined that the best interests of Mike required that the Letters of Guardianship be terminated. Mike’s story proves that with perseverance anything is possible.

Kevin began working at ACT in 1997 as a consumer receiving supported employment services funded by the Medicaid Waiver Program. Kevin appreciated the security of a supportive work environment, but over time felt he had more to offer. Kevin was given additional duties and completed some basic employee training, but his opportunities were limited as a consumer of services rather than an employee of ACT. Kevin sought assistance with finding community employment on several occasions but always changed his mind when his confidence waned.

Last Fall, because of a change in Medicaid benefits Kevin was unable to continue in the Waiver program. Kevin inquired about a position at ACT, but none were available. He again turned to Vocational Rehabilitation for help finding a new job but had no luck due to the poor economy. BCFR was able to pay for supported employment during Kevin’s job search, but only for a few months. Just as his supported employment services were about to end, Kevin’s supervisor left unexpectedly. ACT’s administration decided to restructure Kevin’s department and the supervisory position was split into two part-time positions. The openings were posted internally and Kevin applied for one of them. After going through the interview process, Kevin was hired in February. He has proven to be an outstanding employee and takes his new responsibilities very seriously. Kevin has a lot to be proud of and was featured in ACT’s spring newsletter.
**LET’S TALK! How to Help Your Child Learn and Use Language!**

Children love learning new things. Did you know there are many ways to help your child learn to talk? Here are a few fun ideas to try:

### Books
- Share books with your child each day
- Point to the pictures and use a natural and cheerful voice to name the items
- Allow your child to lead what to look at or name in the book
- Allow the child to handle the book and turn the pages
- Read books that show familiar routines
- Create a home-made photo book with pictures of your family, pets, etc.

### Songs
- Sing songs and recite nursery rhymes
- Choose songs that name facial features or body parts that you can pair with finger or body movements
- Use a familiar melody to make up a song about what you and your child are doing
- Use songs and games to help your child learn a variety of words
- Encourage the child to fill-in 2 to 3 words at the end of a line
- Use gestures with songs

### Games
- Name objects around you
- Talk about what you and your child are doing, feeling, touching and seeing
- Encourage your child to imitate you
- Imitate your child’s body movements, actions, facial expressions and sounds
- Get face to face with your child, or hold toys near your face

**Remember OWL**

**Observe**: notice what your child is looking at

**Wait**: stop talking, lean forward, look at your child expectantly

**Listen**: don’t interrupt

Information excerpted from “Let’s Talk About Fun: Using Books, Songs, Games, and Toys to Promote Language Skills”, presented by University of Missouri graduate students Rachel Harness and Megan Anderson.

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**PARENTS AS TEACHERS**

By Mary Jacks, Support Coordinator

Belinda Masters, Coordinator of the Columbia Public School District’s Parents as Teachers (PAT) program, recently spoke to staff of BCFR and the Early Childhood Advisory Council. It was announced that program budget cuts have resulted in a staff reduction of 21 educators, which in turn affected 1500 local families who lost their PAT early childhood services.

Also announced was a new, free screening service for infants and toddlers at the Columbia PAT office on Vandiver Drive. To be eligible, the child must reside in the Columbia Public School District, be between 6 months and 34 months of age, and not be currently enrolled in the PAT program services.

Each child will be screened in the areas of health, vision, hearing and overall development. During the child’s appointment, parents will work with a specially trained PAT Parent Educator who will summarize the results of the child’s screening and provide recommendations for follow up activities and/or refer additional services.

Screening is a quick and effective way to help determine whether or not a child is developing within the normal ranges for children of his or her age.

To make an appointment, call 214-3955. Further details about the screening service are available at: http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us/misc/screening.pdf
Utility Assistance
Central Missouri Community Action - utility assistance and weatherization program for financially eligible families or persons who are elderly or disabled. 573-443-8731 for more info.
Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services - emergency utility assistance to qualifying individuals in Boone County based on income and budget expenses. Call 573-874-7356.
Salvation Army - limited utility assistance available. May be reached at 573-442-3220.

Health Care
$4 prescriptions are offered at a variety of locations in Columbia including Gerbes, Hy-Vee, Schnucks, Sam’s Club, Walmart, Walgreens and more. Check online or ask the pharmacy for a listing of the medications included on the $4 list.
Voluntary Action Center - prescription assistance for qualifying individuals; find out more at 573-874-2273.

Christmas
Salvation Army - Toys for children and grocery vouchers for low income families, elderly people and people with disabilities. Sign-ups will occur in early November. Call 573-442-3229.
Toys for Tots - Toys for children in low income families. Call Dannie Weddle at 573-446-5192.

Food
Free food is available for qualifying individuals at the Community Harvest Food Pantry (874-7848), the Salvation Army (442-3229) and Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen (875-0826).

General Assistance
Boone County Council on Aging provides volunteer assistance with raking leaves and shoveling snow. Recipients must be low income adults age 55 and older. Call 573-443-1111.

Tracking Medications and Other Medical Information
If you, or a family member, are taking several medications, you know that keeping track of when and how to take them can be a juggling act. The more drugs that are taken, the greater the risk of taking the wrong drug or dosage or experiencing dangerous side effects from drug interactions. Two approaches to tracking medications, both FREE, are listed here as examples. One is an online service that also offers information about new drugs, warnings and interactions; the other provides detailed tracking information and is maintained on your own computer after downloading the software. Both require passwords and user names.

Mednotes: https://www.drugs.com/mednotes.html (online; your information is stored and protected on a website)
Assemble relevant medical information in an easy-to-read personalized format. Gain access to in-depth consumer information, drug comparisons, historical news, access to detailed warning and interaction information. Choose to be notified when new FDA alerts are issued and when any new drugs become available for any of your existing medical conditions. Printer-friendly reports for discussion with your doctor or pharmacist and separate medication profiles for yourself, family members or patients.

Consumer Reports’ My Medication Tracker: http://www.consumerreports.org/health/medication-tracker/index.htm (password-protected, electronic record of your medications on your home computer; either PC or Mac)
Keep medications organized and prevent drug errors while maintaining an up-to-date list of all the drugs you take - prescription and over the counter - including dosages, expiration dates, cost of each medicine, directions on how to take your medicines, and the number of refills you have left. You can also record and store information about your allergies, vaccinations, the medical conditions you have, and your insurance coverage information. Simply download the software onto your computer, set up a user name and password, and begin entering your medications by clicking on the "Add New" button.
Support Groups

AQUIRED AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP meets the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1:00-2:30 p.m. at Services for Independent Living. For more information, contact Jill at 874-1646 (ext. 222).

COLLEGE YOUTH NETWORK (SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING) meets monthly. For more information contact Mark at 874-1646 (Ext. 216).

COLUMBIA DOWN SYNDROME SUPPORT GROUP sponsors play dates and other events and offers online support to parents of children with Down Syndrome. For more information, visit http://www.columbiadowns syndromesupport.com/.

FIBROMYALGIA/CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME SUPPORT GROUP meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at SIL from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 4th Thursday of each month from 6:30-8:30 pm at Columbia Public Library. For more information call Barbara Hartwig at 449-4842.

FOSTER/ADOPTIVE PARENTS OF MID-MISSOURI (DFS) meets the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Blue Ridge Christian Church, 2400 Blue Ridge Road. Call Karin Stuart at 882-9180 for information.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN GROUP meets the fourth Thursday from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the Columbia Senior Center. For more information, call Art Schneider, University Extension, at (660-882-5661) or visit http://www.outreach.missouri.edu/.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NETWORK (SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING) meets 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at SIL. For more information contact Mark at 874-1646 (Ext. 216).

HEAD INJURY SUPPORT GROUP meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at Rusk Rehab Center at 7 p.m. For more information, call Lisa Scott at 817-2703.

LDA (LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION) meets either the 2nd or 3rd Tuesday of the month. Public meetings are held every other month—the public may attend the Sept., Nov., Feb., and April meetings. For more information, call Sharon Bussard at 443-3277.

MOMS OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM meets monthly to share information and resources. For more information, contact Lora Hinkel at lorahinkel@hotmail.com

MISSOURI APRAXIA SUPPORT GROUP meets to share information and resources. For meeting times/locations, contact Barbara Varner at 573-687-3526 or varnerb@missouri.edu

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUPPORT GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of every month from 1 to 3 p.m., September through May, in the Quarter Deck Building. For more information call Deanna Harper at 882-6767.

PARENT NETWORK (SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING) meets 2nd Thursday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at SIL. For more information contact Mark at 874-1646 (Ext. 216).

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP meets on the first Thursday of each month at the Senior Center, 1121 Business Loop 70 East, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. For more information call Gerri Neely at 573-815-3554.

PAVE (PEOPLE ADVOCATING FOR THE VOICE OF EQUITY) meets regularly. For more information contact Jill at 874-1646 (Ext. 238).

MEET AND GREET GROUP (SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING) meets 2nd & 4th Friday. Time and location vary, for more information, call Bryon at 874-1646 (ext. 223).

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP (SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING) meets every Tuesday from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at SIL. For more information call Jill at 874-1646 (ext. 238).
Upcoming Conferences

December 3  Behavioral Treatment and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) – NADD Teleconference series. (Intermediate level) 2:00-3:00 p.m. Central Standard Time. For more information call 800-331-5362 or visit the website http://www.thenadd.org/pages/conferences/teleconference.shtml.

December 6  The Neuropsychology of Persons With Intellectual Disabilities – NADD Teleconference series. (All levels) 2:00-3:00 p.m. CST. For more information call 800-331-5362 or visit the website http://www.thenadd.org/pages/conferences/teleconference.shtml.

December 7  Communication Strategies to Reduce Behavior Concerns and Enhance Quality of Life – NADD Teleconference series. (Intermediate level) 2:00-3:00 p.m. CST. For more information call 800-331-5362 or visit the website http://www.thenadd.org/pages/conferences/teleconference.shtml.

December 8-11  TASH – Embracing Difference….It's Time – Annual Conference in Denver, CO. For more information and to register visit www.tash.org.

December 9  Understanding Your Rights in Education – MPACT & OCR. Workshop. 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Location: Boone County Family Resources, 1209 E. Walnut, Columbia, MO. Free. To register call 1-877-349-3312 or visit the website http://www.ptimpact.org/.

December 9  Business Partnerships in a Down Economy – Webinar. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. For more information visit the website http://www.apse.org/training/webcasts.cfm or call 804-278-9187.


December 15  Supporting Inter-professional Staff: A Path Toward Effective Care for Challenging Behaviors – NADD Teleconference series (Intermediate level) 2:00-3:00 pm Central Standard Time. http://www.thenadd.org/pages/conferences/teleconference.shtml.

2011

February 17-19  Early Intervention - The Earlier They Get Started, The Faster They Learn To Talk – Workshop. CEU’s available. Contact: Betsy Moog Brooks at 314-692-7172 or bbrooks@moogcenter.org.

March 3-4  Autism Works – A National Conference on Autism & Employment – Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel, St. Louis, MO. Agendas and registration available online in the coming months at dps.missouri.edu/Autism.html.


The Assistive Technology Exchange Program (ATEP)

ATEP is an online database of donated assistive technology equipment and devices that are available to individuals in need.

To learn more about the program, view the equipment or donate equipment, visit: www.bcfr.org/assistivetech/home.htm or call Teresa Reno at 874-1995.

Boone County Family Resources appreciates our patrons and their continued support

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Do You Know Someone We Can Help?

A Developmental Disability is a mental or physical impairment that occurs before the person is 22 years old, is likely to continue, requires individually planned, coordinated services and limits the person in two or more areas (self-care, communicating, learning, walking, judgment and living or working independently).

Persons with a developmental disability and their families are eligible for services from Boone County Family Resources. The Family Support Program is a collaborative effort of the Boone County Family Resources Board and the Department of Mental Health through the Central Missouri Regional Center. To apply for services contact BCFR.