

State of Missouri
Office of Administration
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY



2007 ANNUAL REPORT

Office of Administration

Governor's Council on Disability

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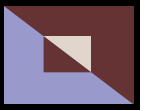


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HISTORY

The Governor's Council on Disability traces its roots to the World War II era. In 1947, President Harry S Truman issued an Executive Order establishing the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. This Committee was created to assist disabled WW II veterans with reentry into the civilian workforce. In 1949, Missouri established the state Governor's Committee to share information about work related problems facing people with disabilities. In 1994, our statute was updated to broaden our mission beyond employment, enabling the Governor's Council on Disability to become a voice for more than one million Missourians with disabilities in all facets of life, including state government.

MISSION

To provide leadership and support so people with disabilities achieve inclusion and independence.

VISION

The Missouri Governor's Council on Disability will be recognized, statewide as the primary organization providing leadership to improve the lives of Missouri citizens with disabilities.

GOALS

The Missouri Governor's Council on Disability's Strategic and Operational Plan was reviewed and updated for 2008 on October 20, 2007. The Goals are:

- Goal I: Advise all state agencies and advocate for policies and practices that impact Missouri citizens with disabilities.
- Goal II: Create public policies and encourage system changes that eliminate barriers to people with disabilities.
- Goal III: Expand opportunities and independence for people with disabilities in all aspects of their lives.
- Goal IV: Gather input from disabilities-related organizations and the public on disability related issues and report the results of this information.
- Goal V: Develop, explore, and implement strategies to increase resources for and the operating efficiency of the Council.

For the complete Strategic/Operational Plan, please visit our website at www.gcd.oa.mo.gov and click on Strategic/Operational Plan.



COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

- 20 members and a chairperson comprise the Council.
- The Governor appoints members.
- The appointment of the chairperson requires the advice and consent of the Missouri Senate.
- Members represent each of the nine U.S Congressional Districts.
- The majority of members are people with disabilities.
- The Governor's Council is comprised of the following committees: Executive, Finance and Development, Personnel, Strategic Planning, Advocacy; and Legislative and Programs subcommittees

Daniel P. Card II, Chair
St. Louis
First Appointed: 4/19/05

Matthew Hughes
8th Congressional District
Farmington
First Appointed: 3/29/05

Renee Dawn Powell
5th Congressional District
Columbia
First Appointed: 10/16/03

Karen Benson
7th Congressional District
Mount Vernon
First Appointed: 10/9/01

Mary Ellen Jenison
Member 8
Lee's Summit
First Appointed: 8/9/96

Joseph Sartorius
Member 2
St. Louis
First Appointed: 11/8/02

Joseph Colagiovanni
St. Louis
First Appointed: 9/27/05

Todd Mayfield
Member 1
Jefferson City
First Appointed: 10/9/01

Dr. Hani Soudah
St. Louis
First Appointed: 11/29/05

Edward Duff
7th Congressional District
Joplin
First Appointed: 7/19/05

Sarah Olson
Member 4
Columbia
First Appointed: 4/6/05

Molly Tallarico
Member 5
St. Louis
First Appointed: 5/26/05

Michael Esser
2nd Congressional District
Chesterfield
First Appointed: 10/14/05

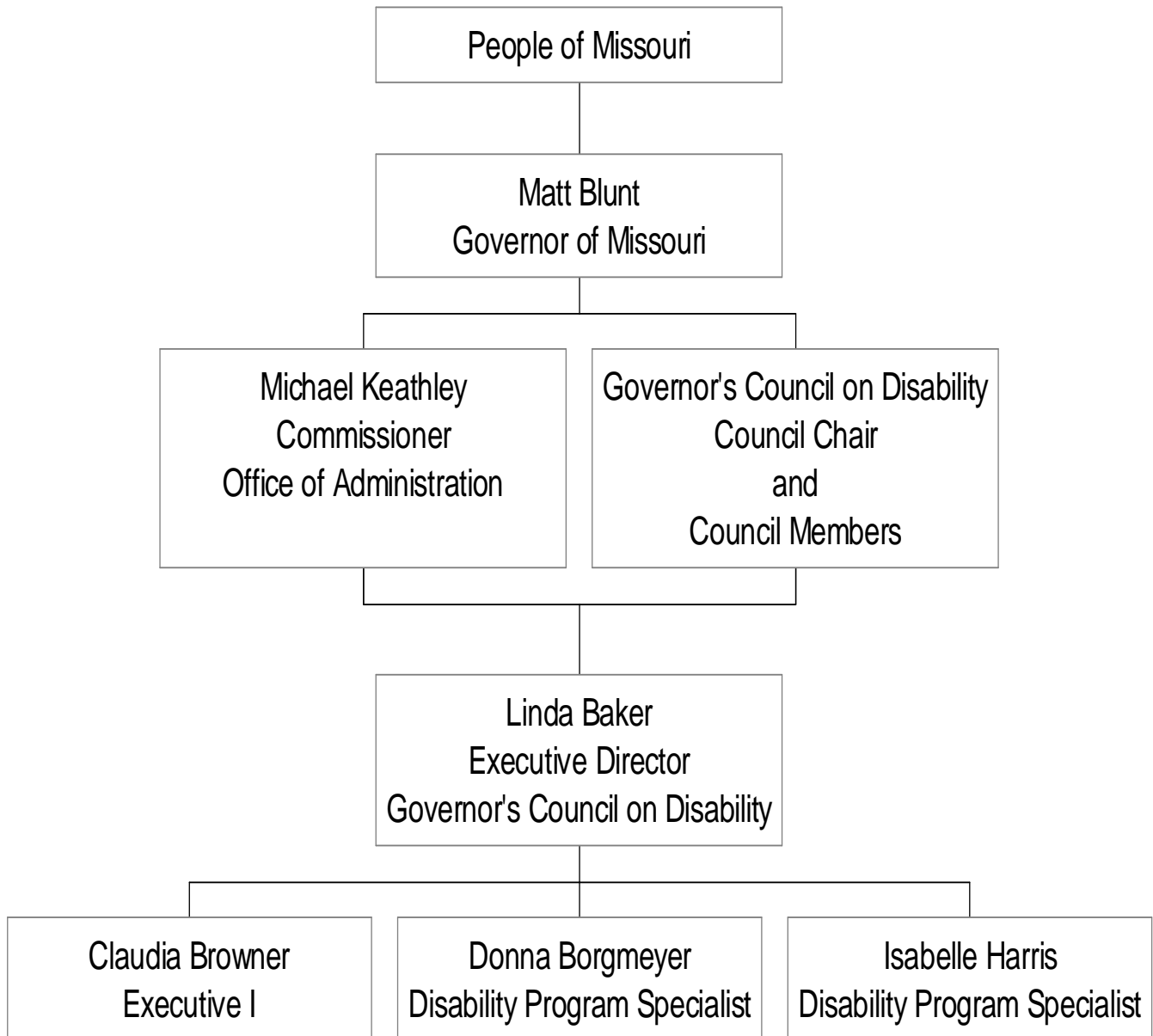
Susan Orton
2nd Congressional District
Creve Coeur
First Appointed: 7/19/05

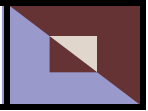
There are currently five Council member vacancies.

Kathleen Fagin
Member 3
Chesterfield
First Appointed: 4/19/05

Donna Pavlick
9th Congressional District
Columbia
First Appointed: 6/22/05

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE





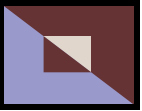
COUNCIL EVENTS 2007

STAFF CHANGES

- The Governor's Council on Disability (GCD) named Linda Baker as the new Executive Director effective March 1, 2007. Ms. Baker had been working as a Disability Program Specialist for the GCD since 1996. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida and a Master's Degree in Social Work from St. Louis University in Missouri. She also has been a Certified Social Worker (ACSW) since 1980. Under Ms. Baker's leadership, the Council is looking forward to expanding the working relationships with other state departments, employers and stakeholders in Missouri and focusing efforts on the employment of people with disabilities.
- Isabelle Harris was hired August 16, 2007 as a Disability Program Specialist. Her focus will be the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and the transition of youth with disabilities from high school to college or employment.

PROGRAMS

- The GCD developed and maintained partnerships among the state departments. The state department liaisons are encouraged to attend the quarterly Council meetings and provide input.
- Council staff participated and represented the GCD at Disability Mentoring Day events in Kansas City, Columbia, and Joplin.
- The GCD received a proclamation from Governor Matt Blunt, declaring October 17 as Disability Mentoring Day.
- The Council's Strategic Planning Committee reviewed and updated the Strategic/Operational Plan for 2008 on October 19, 2007. The entire document is posted on the GCD's website. (www.gcd.ia.mo.gov, click on Strategic/Operational Plan)
- Council staff provided exhibit booths at various conferences throughout the State of Missouri to raise disability awareness and provide information on disability related programs and resources.
- Staff provided presentations on the topics of employment of people with disabilities, disability awareness, service animals, the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and the Business Leadership Network as requested by agencies and employers.
- The GCD continued its annual programs
 - ⇒ Legislative Education Project
 - ⇒ Poster & Journalism Contests
 - ⇒ Missouri Youth Leadership Forum
 - ⇒ Inclusion Awards



FINANCES

The Governor's Council on Disability's programs are primarily financed through General Revenue. This funding covers personnel costs for most Council activities. The Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008) budget is listed below:

Personnel (4 FTE):	\$165,462.00
Operating Expenses:	<u>\$ 36,248.00</u>
Total:	\$201,710.00

At the time of publication, the Council has spent \$14,724.35 in operating expenses, 40.62% of the FY08 budget. Expenses include supplies, travel, Council meeting expenses, and expenses on GCD programs, with the exception of the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum.

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF) is the only program that is not funded through General Revenue funds. This program is funded through a mixture of private donations, grants, and contracts.

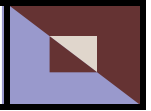
On April 4, 2007, the IRS assigned an Employer Identification Number (EIN) to the GCD/**MYLF** and on April 10, 2007, the IRS issued a letter regarding the MYLF's tax status as exempt from federal tax, thereby making the organization eligible to receive charitable contributions, which are deductible for federal income, estate, and gift tax purposes.

The following is a synopsis of the 2007 event.

Beginning balance transfer (FY07) July 1, 2007	\$55,056.32
2007 MYLF event costs:	
Supplies & Material	\$ 1,064.44
Presenter Fees and Travel Expenses	\$ 4,593.33
Staff Travel	\$ 954.73
Meals (separate from MU billing)	\$ 282.50
Accommodation	\$ 2,170.56
University of Missouri – Columbia *	<u>\$ 9,104.95</u>
Total Spent:	\$18,170.51
Balance December 7, 2007	\$36,885.81

* Includes: Lodging, meals, banquet facilities, meeting rooms, conference center fees.

The average cost of the 2007 MYLF was about \$1,300 per student delegate.

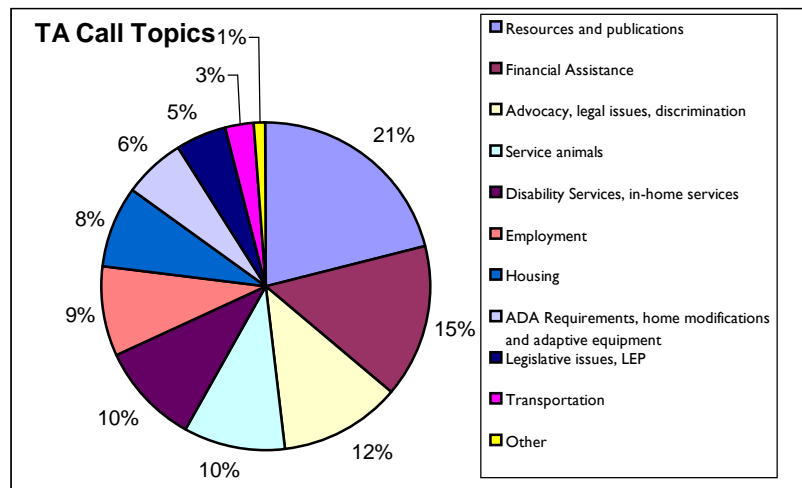


ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Governor's Council on Disability provides disability-related technical assistance to individuals, businesses, governmental and agency representatives from all over the state, and occasionally from other states, by phone, letter, or e-mail. Most contacts were from individuals in need of resources in order to live more independently. Referrals were made to Centers for Independent Living, state and federal agencies, and other non-profits, including faith-based groups and community action agencies. In some instances, referrals were made to businesses or for-profit entities. The Council also worked with a number of state legislators to provide solutions to individuals' problems and issues.

In this past year, the Council received a substantial number of calls concerning funding for health care assistance, utility assistance, service animals, transportation, and home modifications. Other common inquiries included information on disability statistics, state statutes, ADA guidelines and regulations, FMLA issues, how to find employment, how to secure affordable housing, and questions about potential discrimination on the job or in public places. Overall, the Council assisted more than 450 different callers with their inquiries. Additionally, the Council responded to more than 150 e-mail inquiries and requests. While the number of callers has decreased by 18% compared to 2006, the number of e-mail inquiries has increased by 130%.



PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE EXHIBITS

The Governor's Council on Disability provides educational programs on disability rights and disability awareness, employment of people with disabilities, service animals and other disability-related topics to any group or organization in Missouri requesting such information. Educational programs are specifically tailored to the individual or group to ensure effectiveness. At each of the quarterly public Council meetings, a presentation is provided on different disability-related topics.

During calendar year 2007, Council staff developed and presented 20 programs to more than 2,000 interested individuals around the state.

AWARDS

The Governor's Council on Disability sponsors the Annual Inclusion Awards and Poster and Journalism Contest each year.

ANNUAL INCLUSION AWARDS

The Annual Inclusion Awards recognize and honor private and public employers, individuals, groups, and organizations for their successful inclusion of people with disabilities in the areas of employment, education, advocacy and community. The Council's Programs Subcommittee selects the winners of the Inclusion Awards, who are nominated by individuals or organizations in their communities.

The awards for the Bob Aldridge Advocate of the Year and Excellence in Universal Design and Technology will be presented to the winners during the Annual Power Up Conference at Tan Tar A, Osage Beach in April 2008. The awards for the Employer of the Year and Educator of the Year will be presented in the winners' local communities to raise disability awareness in the communities.

The 2007 Inclusion Award winners were:

Bob Aldridge Advocate Award—Andrew Lackey, Paraquad, Inc., St. Louis.

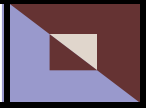
For the past two years, Mr. Lackey has coordinated the Community Advocates Program. Community Advocates work to make positive changes for people with disabilities by addressing barriers to full participation. In addition, Mr. Lackey has been instrumental in ensuring access to public transportation for people with disabilities and has helped to coordinate legislative meetings with elected officials and advocates to discuss problems with the paratransit system. Mr. Lackey annually participates in the GCD's Legislative Education Project and has helped coordinate the St. Louis ADA March and Rally. He is a member of the National Council on Independent Living's Civil Rights and ADA Subcommittee.

Excellence in Universal Design and Technology Award—McCormack Baron Salazar, Inc.

Mr. Richard Baron, through his corporation, is the leading developer in the United States on universally designed, mixed income, multifamily rental properties. Mr. Baron developed "6 North", an 82-unit apartment complex in the Central West End of St. Louis. This property, now home to tenants with and without disabilities, at all age ranges, is completely universal; in the housing units, the retail spaces in the building, the common areas, and the fitness center. The entire project was planned to be universal from the onset. Proof of its success comes from the fact that the building rented quickly, vacancies are filled immediately and tenants report great satisfaction. Both the New York Times and the St. Louis Post Dispatch proclaimed Baron's achievement: "Universal Design: St. Louis apartment complex exemplifies growing trend of making buildings accessible to everyone."

Large Employer of the Year Award—Target in Kansas City.

Bob Ulrich, the Chairman and CEO of Target states, "At Target, diversity is something we integrate into all aspects of our business." At the Kansas City Target store, Manager Steve Murphy's philosophy is "Give me a special needs team member any day! They work so hard, appreciate their job and do incredibly well. They develop a loyalty and productivity that many typically functioning people don't.



They aren't 'disabled'.... They are 'differently-abled'." Mr. Murphy's drive to employ special needs individuals began when his sons were diagnosed with Autism. Mr. Murphy works closely with local government and private agencies to place individuals in an appropriate job match.

Small Employer of the Year Award—Dwyer Instruments in Grandview.

In 2006, this employer was one of the first to be involved in the Disability Awareness Month activities and has since been on the forefront to advocate for the hiring of persons with disabilities in Kansas City. Dwyer has worked diligently to employ persons with disabilities and focuses on successful placements. Mr. Michael J. Murphy works closely with clients, case managers and counselors in an effort to keep employees on the payroll. Mr. Murphy and Dwyer Instruments have not let the stigma deter them from the goal of including everyone in their hiring pool.

Educator of the Year Award—Katheryne Staeger-Wilson., Missouri State University.

Ms. Staeger-Wilson is the Director of Disability Services at Missouri State University (MSU) in Springfield. Her efforts for inclusion have extended beyond the University by expanding her reach into the community. Ms. Staeger-Wilson advocates for principles like full inclusion and Universal Design on campus and locally. Together with MSU students with disabilities, she worked on making Universal Design a top priority for MSU's new recreation center. She started a poster campaign titled "Changing How We Perceive Disability", pertaining to disability pride and invisible disabilities. She initiated the first Delta Alpha Pi Honor Society at MSU for students with disabilities and recruited volunteers to work with the Southwest Center for Independent Living's youth transition program to act as mentors. Ms. Staeger-Wilson sees youth with disabilities as the future for creating a more inclusive world.

POSTER AND JOURNALISM CONTESTS

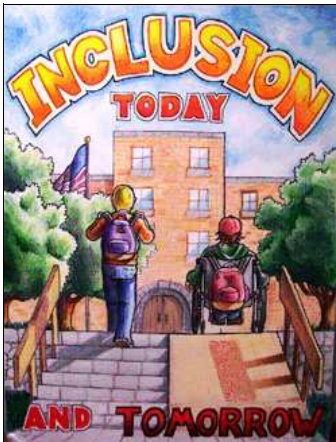
Each school year, the Governor's Council on Disability sponsors a Poster and Journalism Contest for middle and high school students to reward excellence in art and journalism and to increase disability awareness and promote inclusion of people with disabilities among Missouri's youth.

Both contests are open to middle and high school students grades 7 through 12 and prizes are awarded to the top three winners of both middle school and high school age groups. Information about the contests is distributed statewide to schools and local organizations.

The number of students who participated in the contests went up from 270 in 2006 to 392 in 2007, which is a 45% increase in participation. 146 posters and 246 essays were submitted in the contests in 2007. The first, second, and third place winners in both contests were selected by the Council's Programs Subcommittee and received savings bonds of \$500, \$250, and \$100 respectively. The recipients were honored at the Missouri Assistive Technology's Power Up conference in Columbia in April 2007. Several businesses donated items that were used as "door" prizes for the non-winning entrants. The winners for the 2007 Poster and Journalism Contests were:

POSTER CONTEST (High School)

1st Place



Paul Hoefener 12th Grade
Nichols Career Center,
Jefferson City

2nd Place



Jenny Schaben 10th Grade
Osage RIII, Westphalia

3rd Place



Ben Gulick 12th Grade
Lee's Summit High School

JOURNALISM CONTEST (High School)

1st Place

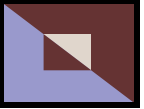
Brianna Larson
11th Grade
Washington High School
Washington

2nd Place

Peter Goldschmidt
12th Grade
Helias High School
Jefferson City

3rd Place

Katie Birkenfield
10th Grade
Kearney Sr. High
Kearney



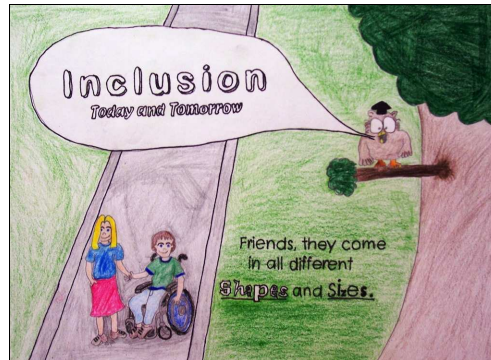
POSTER CONTEST (Middle School)

1st Place



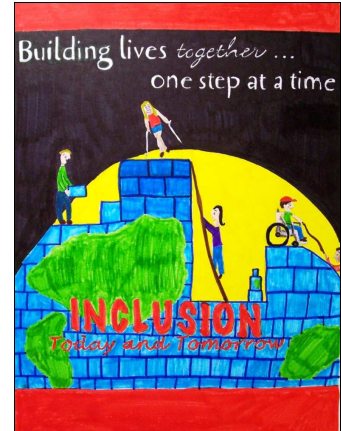
Kerry Otto 8th Grade
Osage RIII School, Westphalia

2nd Place



Brett Maxson 9th Grade
Kirkwood High School

3rd Place



Kelli McCrann 9th Grade
Kirkwood High School

JOURNALISM CONTEST (Middle School)

1st Place

Valerie Kimball
7th Grade
Rolla Middle School

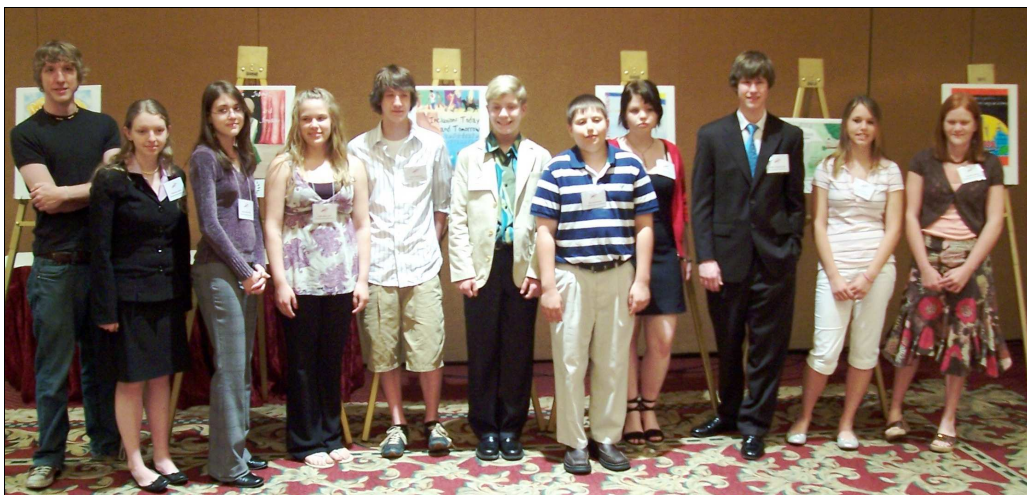
2nd Place

Alex Steinmann
7th Grade
South Valley Middle School

3rd Place

Nathan Olson
7th Grade
Willard Middle School

2007 Award Presentation



2007 Award winners at the Award Ceremony at the Power Up conference, April 2007:
Paul Hoefener, Brianna Larson, Katie Birkenfield, Kelli McCrann, Brett Maxson, Nathan Olson, Alex Steinman, Jenny Schaben, Peter Goldschmidt, Kerry Otto, Valerie Kimball (not pictured: Ben Gulick)

PUBLICATIONS

DIRECTORY OF RESOURCES FOR MISSOURIANS WITH DISABILITIES

The Governor's Council on Disability publishes a variety of information, including the *Directory of Resources for Missourians with Disabilities*. Over 50 printed copies were requested by individuals and agencies throughout the year, while more than 300 visitors per month downloaded the online version. The online directory is user-friendly and allows each user to search by category. It is also more current and cost efficient, saving the Council in printing and shipping costs.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

During the legislative session, a weekly update - *Legislative Update* - was distributed to keep interested individuals up-to-date on legislation that potentially impacts individuals with disabilities. Over 1,080 individuals received the publication via email, the regular mail system and the website. The number of recipients increased by 20% compared to 2006.

The Governor's Council on Disability also disseminated a variety of other publications, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines*, the *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Questions and Answers* booklets, *Disaster Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities*, *Missouri's Guide to Home and Community Based Services*, *Missouri's Guide to Housing Assistance Programs* and *Missouri State Capitol Access Guide*.

LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION PROJECT

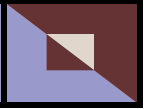
The purpose of the Legislative Education Project (LEP) is to educate about the Missouri legislative process and motivate individuals by providing opportunities to become actively involved in positive public policy for people with disabilities. The LEP is sponsored annually during the legislative session.

During the 2007 legislative session, over 100 individuals attended the three-day LEP training program, held weekly from Tuesday through Thursday at the state capitol. Participants arrived on Tuesday morning and were given an overview of the legislative process and a list of bills that would have an impact on individuals with disabilities. Participants were then encouraged to visit with senators and representatives and their staffs to discuss their concerns and voice their opinions. Attendees were also strongly encouraged to attend any hearings that took place while they were in Jefferson City. Individuals left Jefferson City on Thursday of the week with a new confidence in getting their voice heard both in Jefferson City and in their home districts.

New for 2008 is a customized training provided by the Governor's Council on Disability for those who are unable to commit to staying three days for the LEP.

Governor's Council on Disability annually conducts a Legislative Priority Survey to determine the top legislative priorities among people with disabilities. The survey is sent out to agencies and individuals. Based on the more than 200 returned surveys, the 2008 legislative priorities for the Governor's Council on Disability will be:

- Medical Services and Health Care
- Transportation
- Employment
- Accessible and Affordable Housing



MISSOURI BUSINESS LEADERSHIP NETWORK

The Missouri Business Leadership Network (MOBLN) champions opportunities to create productive and supportive partnerships among people with disabilities, private businesses, and governmental and community agencies. MOBLN promotes and enhances employment opportunities for qualified people with disabilities.

MOBLN sponsored three Disability 101 Seminars in April, May and June in St. Louis on the topics of "Creating Inclusive Workplaces", "Accommodation Strategies and Disclosure", and "Assistive Technology and Resources". In October, MOBLN held an Ability Fair in St. Louis to bring together employers, service providers and job candidates with disabilities.

Linda Baker, Executive Director of the Governor's Council on Disability and MOBLN coordinator, conducted ten presentations to Missouri Career Centers throughout the state about creating initiatives to hire people with disabilities.

As a new initiative for 2008, Brown Shoe Company has invited twelve (12) employers to encourage hiring initiatives for people with disabilities and implement a plan to address the barriers in hiring people with disabilities. More information about the Missouri Business Leadership Network is available on the Internet at www.mobln-gateway.org.

MISSOURI YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF) was held July 22-25, 2007 at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Fourteen (14) student-delegates participated in the four-day event, which is a unique career leadership training for high school juniors and seniors with disabilities, compared to 12 in 2006. By serving as delegates from their communities, young people with disabilities cultivated leadership, citizenship, and social skills. Activities included speakers, small group discussions, assistive technology demonstrations, career exploration, mentoring luncheon, and a day at the State Capitol in Jefferson City to meet with legislators.



MYLF participants visit the State Capitol to meet with legislators.

Outcomes from the MYLF are:

- Eight alumni attended the 2007 MYLF as peer counselors and junior facilitators
- Two alumni participated in national conferences on a panel with youth with disabilities from other states (National Association of Youth Leadership Forums annual meeting in Orlando, Florida and the National ADA Symposium)
- One alumna was elected Vice President of the Student Council
- One alumna was elected as the Easter Seals Missouri State Ambassador

The 2008 MYLF will be held at the University of Missouri in Columbia from July 27-30, 2008. The Governor's Council on Disability and the Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities are working together to plan and organize the 2008 event.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Governor's Council on Disability participated in numerous outreach activities throughout the year to promote disability awareness and inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of life. Some of the highlights were:

- GCD staff continually updated their website to inform the public of upcoming events and new information and resources relating to disability. Our office received inquiries regarding our website content from people nationwide. In an average month, our website receives about 70,000 hits or 2,400 hits per day. The average number of visitors to our website is 9,740 per month or 320 per day with an average of 668 page views per day.
- GCD promoted the ADA Anniversary Event—Road to Freedom, St. Louis Stop on July 28, 2007.
- Council staff participated in National Disability Mentoring Day events in Joplin, Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Charles and Columbia in the month of October. October is the National Disability Employment Month and October 17 is Disability Mentoring Day. Council staff presented the Governor's proclamation declaring October 17 as Disability Mentoring Day in Missouri. More than 400 high school students throughout the state had the opportunity to meet mentors in their local communities. Joplin's efforts received local media coverage.
- GCD provided exhibit booths at the following conferences throughout the year:
 - ⇒ Power Up, Columbia
 - ⇒ Family to Family Conference, Independence
 - ⇒ Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services (MACDDS), Lake Ozark
 - ⇒ No More Stares, St. Joseph
 - ⇒ Transition Fairs in Marshall, Lee's Summit and St. Louis County
 - ⇒ Missouri School Counselors Association, Lake Ozark
 - ⇒ Walk Now for Autism Resource Fair, St. Louis
 - ⇒ Family Partnership Conference, Columbia



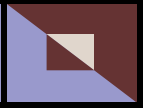
BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

As part of the Governor's Council on Disability's advisory capacity function, staff and Council members serve on a variety of boards and commissions to promote opportunities in all aspects of life, including employment, transportation, recreation, and housing. The following is a list of those boards and commissions in which staff and Council members served in calendar year 2007.

Accessible Housing Consortium, St. Louis
American Association of People with Disabilities, Kansas City
American Council of the Blind, St. Louis
Blind Literacy Task Force, Jefferson City
Boone County Family Resources, Boone County
Brain Injury Association of Missouri, St. Louis
Cardinals Access Committee, St. Louis
Central Missouri Disability Task Force, Columbia
Central Missouri United Way, Jefferson City
Children's Learning Center, Osage Beach
Clay and Platte County Parks, Trails and Greenways Board of Directors, Kansas City
Coalition for Independence, Kansas City
Columbia League of Women Voters – Health Committee, Columbia
Commission on the Courts of the Disabled
Community Rehabilitation Programs in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, Columbia
Concrete Change-Accessible Housing, Osage Beach
Council of State Directors of Vocational Rehabilitation, Columbia
Disability Policy Congress, Jefferson City
Down Syndrome Association of Mid-Missouri, Columbia
Early Childhood Comprehensive System Grant Planning Committee
East-West Gateway Council of Governments, St. Louis
Gateway Chapter, Paralyzed Veterans Association, St. Louis
Governor's Council on AIDS, Jefferson City
Heartland Productive Coalition, Kansas City
Heritage Trail and River Walk, Kansas City
Independent Living Resource Center, Jefferson City
Informed Choice Training Workgroup, Jefferson City
Kansas City Coalition Emergency and Disaster Response Board of Directors, Kansas City
Kansas City Transportation Authority, Kansas City
LEAP Project, St. Louis
Learning Disabilities Association of America, Kansas City
Lincoln University 504/ADA Committee, Jefferson City
Maryville University – Rehabilitation Counseling Program Advisory Committee, St. Louis
Mayor's Committee on Disability, Kansas City
MDA Awareness Task Force, Kansas City
METRO Advisory Committee, St. Louis
Metro Bi State Advisory Committee, St. Louis
Minds Eye Information Services, St. Louis
Missouri Bar Association and Continuing Legal Education Committee, Statewide

BOARD AND COMMISSIONS, continued

Missouri Council of the Blind, St. Louis
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Blind Task Force, St. Louis
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Special Education Advisory Panel, St. Louis
Missouri Disability Vote Coalition, Jefferson City
Missouri Disability Vote Coalition Leadership Advisory Council, Jefferson City and Joplin
Missouri Institute on Human Development Steering Board, Statewide
Missouri Parent's Act, Jefferson City
Missouri Training and Employment Council, Jefferson City Governor's appointee
MOTASH, St. Louis
MS Institute, Columbia
MS Society, St. Louis
NAMI National Consumer Council, Statewide
National Association of Governors' Committees on People with Disabilities
National Council on Independent Living, Mt. Vernon
National Council on Rehabilitation Education, Columbia
National Disability Mentoring Day Local Committee, Kansas City
National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, Columbia
National Summer Institute, Kansas City
Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City
North Kansas City School District Vocational Carpentry Advisory Board, Kansas City
Personal Independence Commission Community Education Workgroup, Jefferson City
Rehabilitation Services Administration, Columbia
Share-A-Fare (Paratransit), Kansas City
Southwest Regional Advisory Council for the MO Department of Mental Health
Special Needs Population Task Force, Mt. Vernon
St. Louis County Circuit Court ADA Committee, St. Louis
St. Louis County Commission on Disabilities, St. Louis
St. Louis Transitional Council, St. Louis
Starkloff Leadership Forum, St. Louis
State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind, Statewide
State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies, Columbia
Statewide Emergency Management Planning Teams, Statewide
Statewide Independent Living Council, Jefferson City
Statewide Navigator Task Force, Jefferson City and St. Louis
Statewide Quality Assurance Council, Statewide
Taskforce on Fair Transportation, St. Louis
The ARC of the US, Missouri Chapter
Universal Design Housing Network, Kansas City
University of Missouri Extension Council, Osage Beach
University of Missouri-Kansas City Advisory Committee, Kansas City
VSA, St. Louis
West-Central Independent Living Solutions, Warrensburg



LEGISLATION

The Governor's Council on Disability will continue to advocate for people with disabilities in the 2008 legislative session.

- The Legislative Subcommittee is examining pre-filed bills that relate to disability and is analyzing their impact on the disability community.
- The Council is using the results of the 2007 legislative survey as a basis for pursuing legislative issues in the upcoming 2008 session. Please refer to page 14 of the annual report for a listing of the legislative priorities.
- The Governor's Council on Disability and the Statewide Independent Living Council will continue to co-sponsor the Legislative Education Project (LEP) (see page 14).

PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE COMMISSION

The Personal Independence Commission (PIC) completed its sixth year of work. As established by Executive Order 01-08, the PIC is charged with advising the Governor on necessary policy and program changes to assure that Missourians of all ages and disabilities have access to a range of community support services. The PIC includes individuals with disabilities, family members of people with disabilities, senior citizens, advocacy groups, a representative of the Lieutenant Governor's office, four members of the General Assembly and representatives from the Departments of Social Services, Mental Health (DMH), Health and Senior Services (DHSS), and Elementary and Secondary Education.

The staff of the Governor's Council on Disability continued to provide technical and staff support to the activities of the PIC. In 2007, the PIC has worked with DHSS and DMH on the Money Follows the Person Grant received by DHSS, DMH and Department of Social Services (DSS). DHSS will be seeking input and guidance from the PIC as they implement the various components of this grant. The PIC also closely monitored information concerning MO HealthNet and issues surrounding Bellefontaine Habilitation Center.

Proposed 2008 PIC Meeting Dates

January 14, 2008
April 14, 2008
July 14, 2008
October 20, 2008

The PIC meetings are scheduled to begin at 10:30 AM at the State Capitol in Hearing Room 3.

For more information, please visit the Personal Independence Commission website at <http://www.gcd.ia.mo.gov/PIC/pic1.shtml>.

2008 MEETING AND EVENT DATES

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES

January 25, 2008

April 18, 2008

September 19, 2008

November 14, 2008

The 2008 Council meetings are scheduled to begin at 9 AM at the
Governor's Office Building
200 Madison Street
Room 470
Jefferson City, MO

The Council meetings are open to the public. If you would like to attend or request additional information, please contact our office at gcd@mail.mo.gov or 1-800-877-8249.

MISSOURI YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - COLUMBIA

July 27-30, 2008