

Governor's Council on Disability

2015 Youth Leadership Award Winner

Winners exemplify standards of excellence in enhancing life for individuals living with disabilities

The Governor's Council on Disability (GCD) has selected the winner of the **3rd Annual Youth Leadership Award**. The Youth Leadership Award is a program to recognize an outstanding Missouri youth (age 16-26) with a disability that has demonstrated exemplary leadership by making a difference in their community.

The winner of the 3rd Annual Youth Leadership Award winner is Caitlin Bartley

Caitlin recently graduated from Lincoln University (LU) with a double major in Psychology and Social Work with Magna Cum Laude honors, and has been accepted into the Masters Program at the University of Missouri, where she will continue her quest to help others through social work. Caitlin's disability is severe, but she has never let this be an obstacle to her accomplishments. Attributes like self-awareness, proactive involvement, perseverance, goal-setting, and the use of effective support systems have led her to a successful and rewarding life. On LU campus, Caitlin initiated changes in two of the main buildings to make them accessible. Her achievements and honors include: MDA Goodwill Ambassador for central Missouri; Missouri Youth Leadership Forum graduate; Speaker for Children's Miracle Network Radiothon, Women's Rights Conference, Transition Summit, and Power Up Assistive Technology Conference; Assistant Secretary to LU's Student Government Association, and member of the Women's Leadership Academy at LU.

The award will be presented at the Power Up conference in St. Charles on April 19, 2016.

For additional information, please contact the Council at 573-751-2600 or by email at gcd@oa.mo.gov