

Governor's Council on Disability

2019 Youth Leadership Award Winner

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

The Youth Leadership Award is a program to recognize outstanding Missouri youths (age 16-26) with a disability that have demonstrated exemplary leadership by making a difference in their community.

The Governor's Council on Disability (GCD) selected the following winner and one honorable mention of the **7th Annual Youth Leadership Award** in 2019.

2019 Winners

Winner: Annie Donnell



A recent graduate of Belmont University in Nashville, Annie Donnell has worked with the Starkloff Disability Institute's Dream Big program, and is currently a paid intern at Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments. Annie serves as a junior board member and volunteer for the St. Louis Recreation Development Group, assisting with fundraising efforts for an inclusive, accessible amusement park. Annie completed the 2019 New York City Marathon as part of the Achilles International team. She established and serves as president of the St. Louis Chapter of Achilles International, an organization where runners with disabilities and volunteers come together to train in an environment of support and community.

Honorable Mention: Dylan Farmer



Dylan Farmer is a 2015 alum of the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and earned a bachelor's degree in history from Maryville University in 2019. During his time at Maryville University, he participated in the ABL (Abolish Barriers to Leadership and Employment) advocacy group and served on the Accessibility Committee. He got involved with Starkloff Disability Institute's (SDI) Dream Big youth employment initiative and served as a student intern at SDI. He volunteered for the Missouri History Museum in St. Louis and was a team leader for Maryville Reaches Out. Dylan was proud to announce that he is a full-time employee with the National Archives and Records Administration.

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