



Connecting Again!!

March 16, 2022

Stoney Creek Hotel, Columbia, MO

Agenda

9:30-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:15	Welcome and Introductions: Stacey Ismail, President MOAAIDD
10:15-11:10	Presence to Belonging: What are the steps people take to build their relationships and social roles in new settings? This session will walk through the steps we all take to make connections in new environments. Participants will use hands on activities to practice skills that will help you build your network. Speaker: Sharon Spurlock
11:20-12:10	Candace's Corner: How I Connect with My Community Interviews with individual with disabilities about what they do to connect in their communities. Speakers: Candace Cunningham, Amanda Koch, Luke Barber and Terra Caudill
12:10-1:00	Lunch – MOAAIDD Annual Meeting
1:00-1:50	Individual Advocacy in Missouri: Learn about individual advocacy efforts which include: The new Charting My LifeCourse, Self-advocate Charting LifeCourse Ambassadors, People First of Missouri, Success in Telling your Story and more. Speakers: David Forbes, Patty Goss & Susan Parker
2:00-2:50	MO State of the State in Transportation: As each day passes, access to transportation is becoming one of the hottest topics of conversation in every community. It begs the question, what do we know about transportation in Missouri? This isn't about roads and bridges. It's about transit services and how we can help people get to work, go grocery shopping, receive health care services, go to church...in other words, be able to access our communities. We simply don't know what we don't know right now, but we do know some things. It is time to find out more and what we can do to improve transit services in Missouri! Speaker: Ed Thomas
3:00-3:50	Technology Needs in MO: There are two primary technology needs for people with IDD in Missouri: access to high-speed internet and the availability of appropriate devices. However, little is known about how to address these needs. Substantial federal resources are flowing to Missouri to increase broadband access but information about how to ensure service is available for individuals with IDD is lacking. We also need more information about who needs certain devices and how they can do the most good. In this session, participants will explore the feasibility of conducting a rigorous statewide study on the technology needs of individuals with IDD. Speakers: David Baker and Mike Abel
3:50 -4:00	Wrap Up

Presenters



Stacey Ismail

Opening Remarks: Stacey Ismail, President MOAAIDD- Stacey is presently the Executive Director of Developmental Disability Advocates in Jefferson County, MO and has worked in the field of developmental disabilities for over 30 years. She holds her MEd in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Missouri – Columbia. Stacey has served in many roles throughout her career with diverse expertise in state government, early intervention, Senate Bill 40 and non-profit executive leadership. She is a past Board member of MO-APSE and has been active in MACDDS since 2014. Stacey is currently a Board member of MOAAIDD and has served as President during 2021-2022.



Sharon Spurlock

Presentation: Presence to Belonging- Speaker: Sharon Spurlock
Sharon Spurlock has worked in support of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1982. She currently serves as Senior Director of Family Support at the St. Louis Arc overseeing planning and problem solving for the 4,000 individuals and families who reach out for help. She was a founding collaborator in the UMSL SUCCEED program and continues to advocate for better college options for people with all abilities. Sharon is a Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador Coach who is passionate about supporting people with intellectual disabilities and their families to live their best lives.



Candace Cunningham

Presentation: Candace Corner: How I Connect with My Community - Speakers: Candace Cunningham- Candace is at Research Aide at the University Missouri Kansas City- Institute for Human Development (UMKC-IHD). She facilitates self-advocacy efforts including People First and Candaces Corner. Candaces Corner is Informational interviews on important topics and spotlighting self-advocates who leaders want to help others reach success. Each interview includes Q & A where you'll learn from others and get tips and resources on important topics.



Amanda Koch

Amanda Koch- Amanda is a self-advocate leader and is President Elect of the MOAAIDD. She a founding member and current president of People First of Franklin County. She was the first self-advocate to take the new online training "[Charting My LifeCourse](#)". Amanda is a [Special Olympics Health Ambassador](#). In 2021 she was honored as the Mental Health Champion for the Division of Developmental Dishabilles. Amanda also works at Walgreens when she is not busy being a wedding planner or doing crafts.



Luke Barber

Luke Barber- Luke is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work & Public Policy from the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). He was one of the founders of the Able-Disable Partnership at UMSL which is a student club focused on advocating for students with disabilities, especially for needed building modifications. Luke Barber is a disability self-advocate, who has a diagnosis of autism. He is very familiar with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. He also has presented several sessions at multiple national conferences about disability and self-advocacy.



Terra Caudill

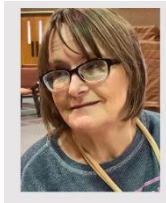
Terra Caudill- Terra is a Training Assistant for The Arc of the Ozarks. After several years failing to find the right supports which allowed her to be her own advocate and be as independent as possible and with a little support as possible. Terra found just enough supports at the Arc of Ozarks. She has been involved in self-advocacy groups the Arc as well as Abilities First. She has enjoyed telling her story at the Real Voices Real Choices conference, SOAR -Self Advocacy Conference and elected officials and candidates prior to the 2020 election.



David Forbes



Susan Parker



Patty Goss

Presentation: Individual Advocacy in Missouri- Speakers:

David Forbes-David lives in Springfield, Missouri. He has been a consultant with the University Missouri Kansas City- Institute for Human Development (UMKC-IHD) and the LifeCourse Nexus since 2020. He has been using and training on Charting the LifeCourse for more than 8 years. He is a Charting the LifeCourse "No Wrong Door" and "Person-Centered" Planning Ambassador. David worked for Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities as an Advocacy Specialist for 8 years.

Susan Parker - He is a member of People First of Missouri with the Springfield chapter. Susan Parker encourages advocacy through her daily work as a Self-Determination Instructor at Easterseals Midwest, President of the St. Charles People First Chapter, Ambassador of Charting the Life Course, member of the Gateway Coalition and being an inspiration to others with a disability. Susan has used her voice for over 15 years to create a lasting impact on Missouri Legislation regarding the "R" word, accessible parking signs and allowing parents with a disability to have the right to raise their children successfully without harassment. Susan has dedicated her adult life to speaking up for others with disabilities and advocating for their rights.

Patty Goss-Patty has been involved in self-advocacy since November of 2003. That was when she went to her first People First meeting. Before then, she didn't even know self-advocacy existed. It's been a big part of her life ever since. She is a People First of Springfield member and is the current Vice-President of People First of Missouri. She never misses a meeting!



Ed Thomas

Presentation: MO State of the State in Transportation - Speaker: Ed Thomas

Ed was born in Monett, Missouri, and grew up in Ozark, Missouri. He became the Executive Director for the Camden County Senate Bill 40 Board, dba Camden County Developmental Disability Resources (CCDDR), in March of 2012. Since joining the CCDDR team, Ed is serving/has served in various professional and community service roles, including:

Founder/Task Force Member (2016 to 2017) – Lake of the Ozarks Transportation Task Force

Cofounder (2017) – Lake of the Ozarks Transportation Council

Board Chairperson (2017 to Present) – Lake of the Ozarks Transportation Council

Task Force Chairperson (2019 to Present) – Missouri Transportation Task Force

Founder/Initiative Member (2017 to 2019) – Lake Area Housing Initiative

Cofounder (2019) – Lake Area Community Development Corporation

Special Board Advisor (2019 to Present) – Lake Area Community Development Corporation

Board Member (2019 to Present) – Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services

Executive Committee (2015 to 2019) – Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services

Association President (2017) – Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services

Cofounder (2014) – Local Area Needs Initiative

Board Member (2014 to 2020) – Local Area Needs Initiative

Task Force Member (2014 to 2020) – Missouri Victimization Task Force

Board President (2014 to 2018) & Board Member (2014 to 2020) – Arc of Missouri

Board Member (2016 to 2020) – Missouri Association of People Supporting Employment First



David Baker



Dr Michael B Abel

Presentation: Technology Needs in MO- Speakers:

David Barker- David Baker is the director of Missouri Assistive Technology, Missouri’s federally funded state assistive technology program. David’s interest and involvement in assistive technology began nearly 30 years ago when he had the pleasure of working with an individual who was using one of the first commercially available augmentative communication devices. Fascinated with what adapted technology can do to level the playing field and open opportunities, David has devoted his entire professional career to the incorporation of assistive technology into the daily lives of individuals with disabilities.

Dr. Michael B. Abel- Mike Abel is Associate Director at the University of Missouri – Kansas City Institute for Human Development, Missouri’s UCEDD, where leads applied research and evaluation initiatives. He is engaged in research projects related to education, leadership, child development, and workforce development with an emphasis on vulnerable populations, including individuals with disabilities. Mike holds an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Educational Leadership Policy and Foundations, an M.A. in Educational Administration, and an M.A. in Early Childhood Education. He served in a number of professional capacities with organizations/agencies including the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council, Missouri AAIDD, Missouri Departments of Health and Senior Services and Elementary and Secondary Education, Illinois Governor’s Office of Early Childhood Development, Erikson Institute, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children. He is the co-author of *Building on Whole Leadership: Energizing and Strengthening Your Early Childhood Program* (Gryphon House).

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