

Developmental Disability Services of Jackson County



Empowering Individuals Through Advocacy & Support



Why:

To support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families with services that respect their choices, increase their opportunities, encourage their independence, and assist their inclusion in all aspects of the community.

How:

- In 1976 the citizens of Jackson County voted to create our Board to develop and provide needed local services for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- From that modest beginning, we have worked with the Jackson County Administration, Legislature, parents, providers, and individuals for 45 years to fill gaps and strive to ensure that all people we help support get access to the services they need.

What we do:

Annual Funding Grants – to local providers for sheltered employment, community employment, day programs, residential services, and related supports.

Transportation – provide transportation to work, services, training, and education for 500 persons a day (pre-covid).

Facilities – Provide free facilities for IDD organizations to deliver services in.



What we do:

Training – specialized training in CPR, First-Aid, Medication Management, Gentle Teaching, and targeted topics for providers, individuals, professionals, and families.

Community Outreach – provide resources, materials, crisis funding, transition assistance and benefit supports to those seeking services.

Case Management – Provide Medicaid funded case management services to over 1600 individuals.



What we do:

All services and supports provided through our tax levy funds are free to qualifying individuals. Currently we directly serve over 3,500 individuals and families.

Partnerships and collaboration - with over 100 agencies and organizations throughout Jackson County and Missouri including local providers, the Department of Mental Health, DESE, Vocational Rehabilitation, UMKC, the Missouri DD Council, MARC, and the Missouri Association of County DD Boards, all for the pursuit of better services.



Impact:

Everything eitas does makes an impact in the community through our work supported by the Tax Levy and additional Medicaid services we provide.

These vital services are at risk with revenue losses during the pandemic.

The people we serve have been impacted most by the pandemic due to isolation, and have the highest risk of serious illness from COVID-19.

Our funds granted to providers help us all address services to reduce isolation and to develop work and day settings that are safe for people.



Today

We are here today to request special funds to help our Jackson County organization get back on its feet from the severe losses that have occurred as a result of the COVID Pandemic.

The documents we have provided you outline in detail our losses. Having these lost funds replaced by America Rescue Plan dollars that were provided by the Federal government for just such a situation is critical for maintaining our level of supports and commitment to our fellow citizens.

We are happy to answer any questions, and there are others here to support our request that may wish to speak as well.



Thank you



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