

Partners In Policymaking 2014 Class Application



Partners make a difference!

What is "Partners"?

Interested in becoming a leader in your community? Then Partners in Policymaking is for you! Partners is a leadership training program designed for self-advocates and parents of young children with developmental disabilities.

Based on a national model, the overall goal of Partners is to develop productive partnerships between people who need and use services and those in a position to make policy and law.

Partners are able to accomplish this by having opportunities to meet and talk to national leaders in the field of developmental disabilities and become acquainted and connected with organizations, opportunities and possibilities.

The program provides information and the development of skills around current issues, state-of-the-art approaches, as well as policymaking and legislative processes at local, state and national levels.

What Is My Role As a "Partner"?

The Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council is currently accepting applications from interested people for the 20th Partners class! The program is open to a limited number of people. If selected, the Council will pay for lodging and meals and reimburse participants for travel. Depending upon individual needs, respite and attendant care may also be reimbursed. Participants will be expected to:

- make a commitment to attend eight two-day sessions between February and September 2014.
- complete all homework assignments, to include one major project designed to meet competencies.

All sessions will begin at noon on Friday and conclude late on Saturday afternoon. This commitment is necessary to benefit fully from the training. Partners graduates agree that the commitment is well worth the life changes that result from the training program.

Attendance at ALL sessions is mandatory. Only individuals selected to participate in Partners in Policymaking will be able to attend.

What Topics Will Be Addressed?

- History of Disability Movements: Parent, People First, Independent Living
 - Quality Education
 - Employment, Housing and Person Centered Planning
 - Positive Behavior Supports
- Parliamentary Procedure: How to Take Control of Meetings
 - State/Federal Policy and Legislative Issues and the Process by Which You Can Channel Your Concerns
 - Assistive Technologies for People with Disabilities
 - Community Organizing

2014 Program Dates

DATES	LOCATION
February 7-8	Columbia
March 7-8	Columbia
April 4-5	Jefferson City
May 2-3	Columbia
June 6-7	Columbia
July 11-12	Columbia
August 8-9	Columbia
September 5-6	Columbia

Who Should Apply?

The Missouri DD Council is seeking a diverse group of highly motivated and enthusiastic men and women to participate in the next Partners in Policymaking class. A limited number of participants will be selected. Thus, preference will be given, but not limited to:

- Parents of children ages eight and under who have developmental disabilities
 - Adults with developmental disabilities
- People who do not have previous involvement with advocacy organizations
 - People who represent different cultures throughout the state



"The Partners in Policymaking training was a life-changing experience. The first sessions were emotional because they forced me to think about my son as an adult, which was something I never allowed myself to do. I now have a much brighter future in mind, and it doesn't scare me to think about planning for his future . . . and mine."

Tammy Wheaton
2012 Graduate

Applications must be postmarked by December 13, 2013 to be eligible

Individuals selected to participate in Partners will be notified by mail by the first week of January 2014. For additional information, or to request a different format of the application, please contact:

Pam Byars
Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council
P.O. Box 687, 1706 E. Elm Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
573-751-8611
800-500-7878
pbyars@moddcouncil.org



MISSOURI DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING **APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION**

If you need help with completing this form, please call 1-800-500-7878
APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 13, 2013
INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

NAME:		STREET ADDRESS:	
CITY:	COUNTY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE:
HOME PHONE NO. (Include area code):		WORK PHONE NO. (Include area code):	
ARE YOU: <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE		RACE/ETHNIC BACKGROUND:	

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

1. Are you a person with a developmental disability (See definition listed in brochure. If yes, please describe your disabilities): YES NO YOUR AGE: _____

2. Are you a parent of a son/daughter who has a developmental disability? (Please answer for each child if you have more than one child with a disability. See definition of developmental disabilities located in this brochure.)
 YES NO AGES: _____

Describe the disability and how it affects the ability to function in at least three areas of major life activity (Part D of definition in this brochure).

Describe your child's school placement:

Does your son or daughter live at home? YES NO

Do you have other children?
 YES NO How many? _____ Ages? _____

3. What services are you or your child currently receiving (i.e., First Steps, School, Respite Care, Case Management, Employment, Attendant, etc.)?

4. Why are you interested in the program? (Is there a specific issue, area of concern, or problem that encourages you, to apply?)

5. If selected to participate in the Partners in Policymaking training program, I will:

YES NO • Travel to Columbia and Jefferson City to attend the regularly scheduled meetings. (Reimbursement for mileage would be available.)

YES NO • Make a commitment to attend eight two-day sessions (Fridays and Saturdays) held monthly from February 2014 - September 2014.

YES NO • Complete all homework assignments.

YES NO • Complete one major project (i.e., a letter-writing campaign, organizing a town meeting). Major projects are decided upon by Partners Coordinator and myself, depending upon my interests and competency needs.

6. Are there any special accommodations necessary for you to participate in this program? YES NO
(If yes, describe accommodations needed accessibility, interpreters, respite care, attendant services, special diet, transportation, etc.):

7. What types of experience and length of time have you had in advocating for people with developmental disabilities? (Membership in other organizations is **NOT** a requirement.)

8. Please tell us a little about yourself and your family and why you think you would be a good candidate for this program. What do you hope to gain from this experience? What will you bring to this experience? (Please complete this question on a separate page or pages. **The advisory committee will place significant emphasis on the responses to this question.**)

Please list two references. Include names, addresses and phone numbers:

(1)	(2)
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How did you learn about the Partners in Policymaking Program?

Please mail the completed application to:

Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council
P.O. Box 687, 1706 E. Elm Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
(800) 500-7878 or (573) 751-8611

Developmental Disabilities Definition

The term “developmental disabilities” means a severe, chronic disability of a person five years of age or older which --

(A) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments;
(B) is manifested before the person attains age 22;
(C) is likely to continue indefinitely;
(D) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:

- self care,
- receptive and expressive language,
- learning,
- mobility,
- self-direction,
- capacity for independent living, and
- economic self-sufficiency; and

(E) reflects the person’s need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other services which are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated; except that such term when applied to infants and young children means individuals from birth to age five, inclusive, who have substantial developmental disability or specific congenital or acquired conditions with a high probability or resulting in developmental disabilities if services are not provided.

Source: Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-402)

Information available in other formats upon request.