

October 2018

Volume 2 Issue 4

Lake Area Resources and Connections

Supported Decision Making

Special Events

- ◆ CCDDR Christmas Party Dec. 3rd, Camdenon High-school, 5pm
- ◆ Craft night @ Mo Mentor in Camdenon. 3rd Thursday of each month, FREE & OPENTO ALL ,YOU MUST CALL to RSVP

573-873-7320 ext 200

Miller County Board
for Services for the De-
velopmentally Disabled
573-348-3751

Morgan County Board
for the Developmentally
Disabled 573-569-4240

Camden County Devel-
opmental Disability Re-
sources. 573-317 9233

How did you decide to buy your car? Did you look at statistics like MPG, safety ratings and size? Did you visit car lots or look at cars online? Perhaps you conferred with friends and family? When you visited a dealership did you talk over the offer with your spouse or use an online app of some sort to evaluate the deal you were getting?

If you did any of those things you were participating in Supported Decision Making. Very few of us actually make important decisions on our own. Whether its health related or recreational options, most people consider input from various sources before making a choice. It happens so quickly and naturally we don't even recognize the process.

So...why do we assume people with developmental disabilities have to make decisions on their own? Historically we have declared that since an individual can't make decisions on their own, they must have a Guardian. Why are we holding individuals with disabilities to a higher standard than we hold ourselves? If we make decisions with support, why can't they?

Supported Decision Making is an alternative to Guardianship. Supporting individuals to examine options, consider consequences and make informed decisions can result in better choices and a greater level of commitment and accountability.

Having a Guardian does NOT eliminate the opportunity to make bad choices. Poor spending habits and unsafe behavior do not magically go away when a Guardian is appointed. But actively pursuing Supported Decision Making can help change those behavior patterns. Part of Supported Decision Making is understanding that there are natural consequences, and then dealing with those consequences. I bought a used SUV a few years ago because I liked the DVD players in the back seat for the grandkids.....30 days later the transmission went out. I made a bad choice. Do I need a Guardian/Conservator? It's OK to make a mistake. It's OK to keep trying to get it right.

Guardianship is expensive and may not achieve what you think your family wants. Talk to advocates in your area before you pursue Guardianship.

Lake Area Resources and Connections

Ongoing Events

- Good Neighbors, First Baptist Church, Eldon, 3rd Monday of each month at 6pm
- People First, 2nd Thursday of each at LODC/Camdenton 4pm
- Share the Harvest Food Pantry Camdenton 573-317-5855 for hours
- Hope House Food Pantry Lake Ozark 573-365-0099 for hours
- Helping Hands of Central MO, 784 Hiway 52, St. Elizabeth
- Food for Morgan County Pantry, 100 Jones Ave, Versailles
- Ivy Bend Community Food Pantry, 41569 Ivy Bend Rd, Stover

Spotlight on Success

We had a great time at our Swim Party! It was a beautiful day at Camp Wonderland, Almost 50 people showed up to swim and socialize.

Arc of the Lake Board Member Rusty Warnock turned out to be a great cook!! Who knew?



The whole Board folds, stuffs, and stamps the newsletter.

We want to keep you informed on topics that are meaningful to you and your family.



P.O. Box 1055

Osage Beach, MO 65065

Learning Lunches

Starting in February, Arc of the Lake will begin hosting **Learning Lunches**. You can come and share a *meal* with Arc members, families and individuals with disabilities. While you're there the Arc will present informational speakers on topics that concern you every day.

The first Learning Lunch will be about Financial Planning, ABLE accounts and Special Needs Trusts. Check the *January* edition of our newsletter for specific date and location in February.

Strategies to support real lives

Send us an email and let us know what you're interested in. Place **ARC** in the subject line

myrna@cddr.org, nancy@mcbsdd.com

Phone: 573-317-9233

Fax: 573-317-9332