STILL GOING STRONG

I.L. SUMMIT

May 22 - May 24, 2022

Branson Convention Center & Hiltons of Branson

MoCIL

Missouri Centers for Independent Living

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH INDEPENDENCE

CIARA HARDEN

Creator and designer of the I.L. Summit Program

Ciara Harden is the Program Assistant for Independent Living Resource Center in Jefferson City, MO. She recently graduated from Columbia College with a Bachelors Degree in Organizational Leadership. She is also a content creator, public speaker and t-shirt designer. Ciara is a stage 3 ovarian cancer survivor, who is passionate about people and their development. Her greatest strength is her ability to bring light to any situation with her smile and presence.

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PURPOSE OF IL SUMMIT

WHO

The I.L. Summit is open to Centers for Independent Living & our partners who serve the disability community.

WHY

Increase your knowledge of programs and services for individuals with disabilities.

HOW

I.L. Summit 2022 will feature 30 breakout sessions, 2 keynote general sessions, and opening day sessions that will discuss non-profit board of directors polices, governance models, recruiting board members, increasing board member participation, and financial planning.

Pat Chambers

President of MOCIL

Patrick (Pat) Chambers is the Executive Director of Heartland Independent Living Center in Owensville, Missouri. Pat has worked in the Independent Living field for the past 23 years. His first 11 years in I.L. were at On My Own, Inc. in Nevada, Missouri. He was honored as the Nevada Citizen of the Year in 2008. Pat came to Heartland in late 2009.

Pat is currently in his fourth year as President of Missouri Centers for Independent Living (MOCIL). During this time the association's membership has grown from 13 Centers to now include all of Missouri's 22 Centers for Independent Living. This is the first time any state association of Centers has included every Missouri Center in its membership. He was appointed to the Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council (MOSILC) in 2008 and was reappointed in 2011, serving into 2016. He served as Chairperson of MOSILC for a two-year period during that time.

Larry Milton

Branson Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

City of Branson MISSOURI

BransonMo.gov

WELCOME TO BRANSON!

As Mayor of the city of Branson, and on behalf of the citizens of our community, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to the 2022 I.L. Summit Attendees. We are delighted that you have given us the opportunity to host your event!

I am confident you will enjoy visiting Branson where millions of people vacation each year. Whether you're enjoying the live entertainment at our many theaters and venues, strolling through one of the city's 12 museums, playing at an award-winning theme park, cruising on one of our spectacular lakes, shopping – one of our visitors' favorites pastimes – we know you'll find many ways to relax and have fun while attending your meetings.

Branson hospitality goes way back to the first visitors who came primarily to hunt and fish, when the first railroad train arrived in 1906. The following year, tourism began in earnest when Harold Bell Wright published the popular "Shepherd of the Hills" novel, and fans arrived to see the quaint Ozarks settings described in its pages.

Now, 110 years after we became a city, Branson has received many accolades including being listed in 2022 TripAdvisor's Best of the Best US Trending Destinations at #3 – we have been in the top 20 Best of the Best for 11 years in a row!

We send our best wishes for a most successful event, and we appreciate the opportunity to be the host city to such a distinguished group.

Sincerely,

Mayor Larry Milton
Branson, Missouri

Jason Outman

President of Branson Chamber of Commerce

Welcome to Branson!

On behalf of the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and Convention & Visitors Bureau, it's my pleasure to welcome the 2022 I.L. Summit attendees to Branson!

If this is your first visit to Branson, we believe you'll be surprised by what you find. From our famous live shows to our world-class theme park to the natural beauty of the Ozarks, we believe you'll find many activities to keep you busy when your meetings are finished for the day. Our community is proud to offer a rich variety of entertainment and we hope you'll take time to sample our shows, lakes, attractions, shopping and unique museums.

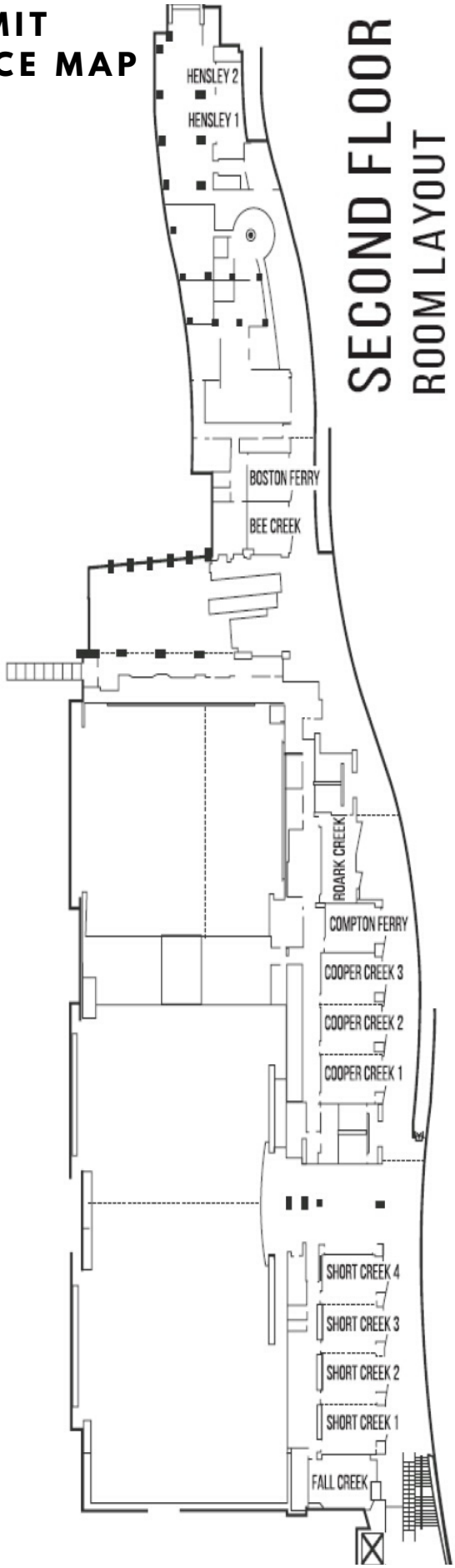
We appreciate the opportunity to host you in our fair city and hope that you will find Branson to be an exciting and fun-filled destination to plan your next meeting or leisure trip.

Have a great time in Branson and we send best wishes for a most successful event. Hope to see you again soon.

Warm Regards,

Jason Outman, CDME, CASE
President/CEO
Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce & CVB

I.L. SUMMIT MEETING SPACE MAP
2022



MISSOUR CENTERS FOR INPENDENT LIVING

2022

Independent Living Centers	Telephone	Counties Served
Access II ILC	660-663-2423	Caldwell, Carroll, Daviess, Grundy, Harrison, Livingston, Mercer, Ray
Bootheel Area ILC (BAILS)	573-888-0002	Dunklin, New Madrid, Pemiscot, and Stoddard
Delta Center ILC (DCIL)	636-926-8761	Lincoln, St. Charles, Warren
Disability Resource Association (DRA)	636-931-7696	Jefferson
Disability Citizen Alliance for Independence (DCAI)	573-244-3315	Crawford, Dent, Iron, Reynolds & Washington
Empower Abilities (SCIL)	417-886-1188	Christian, Dallas, Greene, Lawrence, Polk, Stone, Taney, Webster
Heartland Independent Living Center (HILC)	573-437-5100	Gasconade, Maries & Franklin
Independent Living Center of SEMO (ILCSEMO)	573-686-2333	Butler, Carter, Ripley, Wayne
Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC)	573-556-0400	Callaway (Holts Summit only) Camden, Cole, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan & Osage
Living Independently for Everyone (LIFE)	573-756-4314	Madison, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve

MISSOUR CENTERS FOR INPENDENT LIVING CONTINUED

Midland Empire Resources for Independent Living (MERIL)	816-279-8558	Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Clinton, DeKalb, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway, Worth
North East Independent Living Services (NEILS)	573-221-8282	Clark, Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls
On My Own Inc. (OMO)	417-667-7007	Bates, Cedar, Hickory, St. Clair, Vernon
Ozark Independent Living (OIL)	417-257-0038	Douglas, Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Shannon, Texas, Wright
Paraquad	314-289-4200	St. Louis, St. Louis County
Rural Advocates for Independent Living (RAIL)	660-627-7245	Adair, Chariton, Knox, Linn, Macon, Putnam, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, Sullivan
SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence (SADI)	573-651-6464	Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Mississippi, Perry, Scott
Services for Independent Living (SIL)	573-874-1646	Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Cooper, Howard, Montgomery, Randolph
The Independent Living Center Inc. (TILC)	417-659-8086	Barry, Barton, Dade, Jasper, McDonald, Newton
The Whole Person Inc. (TWP)	816-561-0304	Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte
Tri-County Center for Independent Living (TCIL)	573-368-5933	Phelps, Pulaski, Laclede
West-Central Independent Living Solutions (WILS)	660-422-7883	Benton, Henry, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis, Saline

2022 IL SUMMIT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Pat Chambers

Shelby Butler

Rob Honan

Susan Roemer

Deb Hobson

Shannon Porter

Amy Jenkins

ACRONYMS

As they appear

A

ACCESS II: Access II Independent Living Center

APRIL: Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living

C

CC of SWMO: Community Clinic of Southwest Missouri

CPO: Community Partnership of the Ozarks

F

FSD: Family Support Division

G

GCD: Governor's Council on Disabilities

M

MIHDC: Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation

MO ASPE: Missouri Association of People Supporting Employment First

MOF2F: Missouri Family to Family

N

NEILS: North East Independent Living Services

NFB: National Federation of the Blind, Springfield, MO. chapter

P

PQ: Paraquad

T

TWP: The Whole Person

V

VA: Veterans Administration

VHSO: Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks

I.L. SUMMIT AGENDA

2022

SUNDAY MAY 22

CC 1 - Cooper Creek 1 Rm. **CC 2** - Cooper Creek 2 Rm. **CC 3** - Cooper Creek 3 Rm.

CF - Compton Ferry Rm. **FC** - Fall Creek Rm. **SC** - Short Creek Rm.

Breakout Sessions #1 - 10:00am to 12:00pm

CF	Three Legal & Eight Core Requirements for Dynamic Nonprofit Boards	Dan Prater, BKD

LUNCH 12:00PM TO 1:30PM
(ON YOUR OWN)

Breakout Sessions #2 - 1:30pm to 3:30pm

CF	Communicating Vision & Mission	Dan Prater, BKD

I.L. SUMMIT AGENDA

2022

MONDAY MAY 23

CC 1 - Cooper Creek 1 Rm. **CC 2** - Cooper Creek 2 Rm. **CC 3** - Cooper Creek 3 Rm.

CF - Compton Ferry Rm. **FC** - Fall Creek Rm. **SC** - Short Creek Rm.

SHORT CREEK RM.
BREAKFAST 7:30AM TO 8:30AM

Breakout Sessions #1 - 8:30am to 9:50am

CC1	A History of Independent Living	Billy Altom, APRIL
CC2	The CARF Process	Heather Swymeler, Access II & Jennifer Larson, Abilities First
CC3	Legislative Advocacy	Carrie Scheer & Bri Conley, Paraquad
FC	Grant Writing	Christina Ryder, Grantwell
CF	Missouri Medicaid for the Aging & Disabled	Mallory Arnold & Lane Lakey, Family Support Division

MORNING NETWORKING & SNACK BREAK
9:50AM TO 10:20AM

MONDAY MAY 23

CC 1 - Cooper Creek 1 Rm. **CC 2** - Cooper Creek 2 Rm. **CC 3** - Cooper Creek 3 Rm.

CF - Compton Ferry Rm. **FC** - Fall Creek Rm. **SC** - Short Creek Rm.

Breakout Sessions #2 - 10:20am to 11:40am

CC1	Equity and Prosperity	Francine Pratt, Prosper Springfield
CC2	Aging in Place	Amanda West & Bethany Hornbeck, Empower: Abilities
CC3	Barriers to Value Based Living: A new vision for case management	Jessica Venegoni & Maggie Adler, Missouri State University & Empower: Abilities
FC	ADA Basics	Troy Balthazor, Great Plains ADA Center
CF	Missouri Medicaid for the Aging & Disabled	Mallory Arnold & Lane Lakey, Family Support Division

"Still Going Strong" General Session 12:00pm to 1:30pm

SC	Discovering the Soul-A Centering Soul Exercise Resonate with Matt Richardson and An Interactive Talk about Wellnes	Brian Hoover & Matt Richardson

Breakout Sessions #3 - 1:30pm to 2:50pm

CC1	Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council Survey's	Justin Clarke, TWP & Mike Parker, PQ
CC2	Universal Design is Within Reach	Aileen Dressler, Courtesy Care Plus, LLC

CC 1 - Cooper Creek 1 Rm. **CC 2** - Cooper Creek 2 Rm. **CC 3** - Cooper Creek 3 Rm.

CF - Compton Ferry Rm. **FC** - Fall Creek Rm. **SC** - Short Creek Rm.

CC3	Voting	Leigh Anne Haun, MO. Developmental Disabilities Council
FC	Veterans Programs (panel)	Michelle Reinmiller, VA JoAnn Morrison, VHSO Ronald Bauder, VA Jenny Gano, VHSO
CF	Charting the Lifecourse	David Forbes, LifeCourse Nexus & UMKC Kyla Mundwiller, UMKC

AFTERNOON NETWORKING & SNACK BREAK
2:50PM TO 3:20PM

Breakout Sessions #4 - 3:20pm to 4:40pm

CC1	Addressing the Housing Problem	Travis Rash, TWP & Wayne Crawford, MIHDC
CC2	The Rural Transportation Dilemma	Billy Altom, APRIL
CC3	New Opportunities in Employment	Amanda Line, MO ASPE
FC	Assistive Tech for Low Vision and Hearing	Amanda West & Bethany Hornbeck, Empower: Abilities
CF	Collaboration & Networking	Ashley Corsolini, Community Partnership of the Ozarks & Shelby Butler, Empower: Abilities

TUESDAY MAY 24

CC 1 - Cooper Creek 1 Rm. **CC 2** - Cooper Creek 2 Rm. **CC 3** - Cooper Creek 3 Rm.

CF - Compton Ferry Rm. **FC** - Fall Creek Rm. **SC** - Short Creek Rm.

SHORT CREEK RM.
BREAKFAST 7:30AM TO 8:30AM

Breakout Sessions #5 - 8:30am to 9:50am

CC1	The Governor's Council on Disability	Rachel Rackers, GCD
CC2	How to Engage Through Marketing & Outreach	Brooke Kendrick, NEILS
CC3	Civic Engagement & Community Access (panel)	Shelby Butler, EA Dawne Gardner, City of Springfield Carolyn McGee, NFB
FC	ADA Programs	Troy Balthazor Great Plains ADA Center
CF	COVID Recap; Lessons Learned & Takeaways	Stephanie Brady, CC of SWMO

MORNING NETWORKING & SNACK BREAK
9:50AM TO 10:20AM

TUESDAY MAY 24

Breakout Sessions #6 - 10:20am to 11:40am

CC1	Emergency Preparedness	Karen Benson, Convoy of Hope
CC2	No Wrong Door	Mary Turner, Missouri Family to Family
CC3	Expanding Capacity through Student Partnerships	Dr. Kathy Nordyke, MSU
FC	Challenging Nursing Home Transitions	Steve Wright, Empower: Abilities
CF	Best Practices for Connecting to and using Volunteers	Alex Cobb, Senior Age

General Session & Keynote Address - 11:30am to 1:00pm

SC	The Challenge is the Future	Billy Altom, APRIL

STILL GOING STRONG

IL SUMMIT PRESENTERS

2022

DAN PRATER

Dan is a member of BKD National Not-for-Profit Group. He uses his background in the not-for-profit industry and higher education to help not-for-profit and community groups be more effective in accomplishing their missions. His leadership in local, regional, and national organizations makes him well suited to guide clients in the areas of board governance, strategic planning, public relations, and outcome assessment. He has more than 20 years of experience in organizational leadership and management. Prior to joining BKD, Dan worked and consulted with various organizations and service groups, including domestic violence and child abuse centers, international relief agencies, and outreaches as well as private and public universities.

Dan's area of expertise is not-for-profit board governance and practice. He has led several large research projects and has been published numerous times on a variety of industry-specific topics such as volunteerism, civic engagement, and economic impact.

BILLY ALTOM

Executive Director
Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living

My name is Billy Altom and I am the Executive Director of the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL). APRIL is a national membership organization dedicated to advancing the rights and responsibilities of people with disabilities in rural America. APRIL provides leadership and resources on rural independent living through a national network of rural centers for independent living, programs and individuals concerned with the unique aspect of rural independent living. The goal of APRIL is to work together to find solutions to common problems and to bring rural issues in independent living into focus on the national level.

I have been involved in the independent living movement for almost 40 years. After acquiring a spinal cord injury in 1985, I attended college at the University of Arkansas and received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. My first job out of college was for the Arkansas Protection and Advocacy system in the Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR) program. I quickly transitioned to the Independent Living world by accepting a job at Spa Area Independent Living Services (SAILS) in Hot Springs, Arkansas before becoming the Executive Director of the Delta Resource Center for Independent Living in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

During my career, I have been appointed to councils by three different Arkansas governors, served as chair of the Rail Vehicles Access Advisory Committee for the United States Access Board, appointed by Department of Transportation Secretary Foxx to the Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity and was appointed by former President Obama to the National Council on Disability in 2016.

As a person with a disability, I have an ingrained knowledge and responsibility to promoting and upholding the independent living philosophy. I have seen and experienced the injustices people with disabilities have endured and am committed to the ideals of advocacy and empowerment which will enable people with disabilities to lead self-directed lives.

HEATHER SWYMELER

Heather has been the Director of Access II for 12 years. During her tenure at Access II I.L.C., the center has gained CARF accreditation and expanded services to include In-Home and Employment programs and most recently opened a health & wellness Center including a 24 hour universally designed fitness center. Heather has been working with CARF for 9 years.

JENNIFER LARSON

Jennifer is the Executive Director of Operations for Abilities First in Springfield, MO. Jennifer has worked in the social work field for 30 years. She has been a Support Coordinator and the Director of the First Steps Early Intervention program's SPOE 8. In her current role, she oversees The Next Step Targeted Case Management program, First Steps, Abilities First Employment Services, and Art Inspired Academy. She has been a CARF Program Surveyor for 4 years.

CARRIE SCHERR

Carrie is the Community Organizer and Advocacy Specialist at Paraquad, Inc. in St. Louis. A life-long devotee of social justice, disability became the central focus last year. Previously, they worked in a Women's History and Social Movements archive and taught English in Northern Thailand. Carrie is particularly passionate about advocacy surrounding the intersectionality of disability and other social identities.

BRI CONLEY

Briana is Paraquad's Public Policy & Youth Services Manager. She holds a BA in Political Science and a BS in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Missouri – St. Louis. She has also completed the coursework and is finishing her thesis for her MA in Political Science from the same university. Briana has 8 years of experience in public policy, government relations, advocacy, and organizing, and has delivered individual and systems advocacy workshops to a wide variety of audiences. Prior to joining Paraquad, most of her policy experience centered on labor regulations and workforce development.

CHRISTINA RYDER

Christina is the CEO of The Grantwell and an expert in federal and foundation funding requests, program development, and social science evaluation research. As a sociologist she has participated in various federal grant evaluations including program evaluations on behalf of the USDA, SAMHSA, HHS, and the DOJ. As a Certified Sociology Practitioner (CSP) and federally recognized statistician, she has participated in, or authored, over 40 various social science research studies endeavors, journal articles, and community based reports.

MALLORY ARNOLD

Mallory has worked with the Family Support Division for 11 years and currently supervises a processing center in Jefferson City whose sole focus is on providers, their cases and an out based unit who has staff based in hospitals and clinics across Missouri. Mallory was involved in implementing the provider partnership between the Family Support Division and providers starting in 2014. This program has expanded through the years with our largest addition in providers happening in the Fall and Winter of 2021/2022. Mallory lives in the rural community of Tipton, with her husband and 4 children.

LANE LAKEY

Lane has worked with the Family Support Division for 30 years, working as Case Worker, Eligibility Supervisor, County Director and in Administration the past few years. Lane has also worked with the Children's Division, working with families and advocates that intersected with state services. Lane has extensive knowledge of the Medicaid (MO HealthNet) Program, having implemented the centralized Nursing Home (vendor) offices for FSD, centralizing processing of skilled and residential care in MO in 2010. He also currently supervises many of the FSD Processing Centers which process most of the MO HealthNet applications for Family Support. journal articles, and community based reports.

FRANCINE PRATT

Francine serves as the Prosper Springfield Director for Springfield, MO - a community collective impact model charged with oversight of community goals to reduce the poverty rate and increase postsecondary educational attainment. She is president of Pratt Consultants, LLC with a focus on community engagement, business infrastructure development, conflict resolution, strategic planning, and diversity training. She is also a creative partner for the Queen City Soul Kitchen restaurant.

AMANDA WEST

Amanda is the Assistive Technology Coordinator at Empower: abilities in Springfield, Missouri. She has been with the company for over 6 years and before moving into the technology field, she was a home mods specialist, and became an Americans With Disabilities Act Coordinator. As a gerontologist, Amanda has focused on successful aging and aging in place through technology and home modifications.

BETHANY HORNBECK

Bethany is a Missouri State University graduate with a focus in Deaf education and Psychology. She has been working in the field of disability support for over 10 years in various roles. Bethany has bilateral mixed hearing loss and uses spoken English and American Sign Language for communication. Bethany is the Assistive Technology Specialist with Empower: Abilities and specializes in hearing loss and pediatrics. She lives in southwest Missouri with her husband and daughter. For the past 3 years, Bethany has worked advocating to make local schools accessible for children who use wheelchairs like her daughter. She is passionate about using technology to make the world more accessible for all abilities.

JESSICA VENEGONI

Jessica is a graduate researcher from Missouri State University and is partnered with Empower: Abilities, a Center for Independent Living in Springfield Missouri. She earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Missouri State University in 2021, while simultaneously completing a master's degree in behavior analysis at Missouri State University as an accelerated student. At Empower: Abilities, she works alongside disability advocates and consumers. Here, she has the opportunity to explore her passion for organizational behavior, human resources, and client services while practicing compassionate and mindfulness-based training systems. Jessica's current line of research incorporates self-compassion, gender, mindfulness, and other techniques such as staff training. She is looking forward to seeing the field of disability advocacy grow and evolve over the next several decades.

MAGGIE ADLER

Maggie is a first year Graduate Student at Missouri State University. She is currently studying Applied Behavior Analysis. Maggie really enjoys working with Acceptance and Commitment Therapy! She is debating on going straight into the workforce to work with ACT, or going somewhere to get her PHD, after school.

BRIAN HOOVER

Brian Hoover is a certified Professional Life Coach who specializes in helping clients to connect with who they are at their core essence in order to understand, live and experience the greater fulfillment and freedom we all know is possible, moment to moment. He is trained and certified in Intuitive Psi Counseling and serves on the National Board of Directors of the School of Metaphysics and as an Area Director of school branches in Missouri and Oklahoma.

Discovering the Soul offers individual and couples counseling, life coaching, mindfulness classes, and self-transformation retreats.

KYLA MUNDWILLER

Kyla Mundwiller is the Director of Individual Advocacy at the Institute of Human Development at the University of Missouri Kansas City (IHD-UMKC). Where she is responsible for promoting advocacy and self-determination for individuals with developmental disabilities. Kyla joined the IHD-UMKC team in November of 2020, after serving 12 years as the Director of Self-Determination for the Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities. There she was responsible for the implementation of the self-directed supports program, self-advocacy, and other self-determination efforts. During her tenure number of

TROY BALTHAZOR

Troy , M.Ed., ACTCP, has worked in the disability field for 30 years. He has spent much of his career promoting the utilization of Universal Design in the built environment, the workplace, and the marketplace, his primary goal being the inclusion of all members of our diverse communities in the activities and environments everyone enjoys. Troy currently serves as Universal Design and ADA Consultant for the Great Plains ADA Center providing a variety of Americans with Disabilities Act compliance services for a variety of audiences. Through his consulting business (TPB Enterprises, LLC) Troy has provided comprehensive services to multinational corporations in the oil, financial, and pharmaceutical sectors.

MATT RICHARDSON

Matt is a business consultant with more than a decade developing teams and leaders, is a wellness practitioner, trained HealthRHYTHMS Facilitator and is invested in wellness! He is the founder of Resonate Empowerment, a company dedicated to helping individuals live their best life and connect to their communities. As a passionate percussionist for over 30 years, Matt has studied contemporary drumming and indigenous drumming traditions from West Africa, Haiti and Latin America. He has taught, performed and recorded in the world of music, and has combined his skills for personal empowerment, professional development, community building and wellness.

JUSTIN CLARKE

Justin's interest in disability inclusion began after an amputation in 2017. Justin was a charter member of a disability committee in a national Fortune 500 corporation and an advocate for accessibility in the workplace. His dedication to advocating for disability inclusion has led him to The Whole Person where he works as Quality Assurance and Compliance Manager to provide his years of experience in quality assurance, training and project management to help serve the consumers in Kansas City.

MIKE PARKER

Mike is the Strategic Program Coordinator at Paraquad where he has worked for over 15 years. He is currently the Chair of MOSILC and the chair of the SPIL committee. He has over 20 years of experience in data management. He graduated from Rockhurst University with a degree in Political Science and Labor Relations and a Master of Labor Relations and Human Resources from Michigan State.

AILEEN DRESSLER

Aileen is moved to advocate for Universally Designed Housing by her experience as an architect, and as the parent of a child with global physical and developmental attributes. Her formative architectural school years were spent at Washington University in St. Louis. As an architect in Chicago, Aileen guided a wide range of projects, including the iconic towers at One Museum Park East and One Museum Park West. During this time her daughter, Claudia, was born, and the family decided to move back home to Springfield, Missouri.

Aileen believes that by sharing her breadth of knowledge, she can provide accessible, real-world solutions. Aileen is a proud member of the Southwest Missouri HOME Team (Housing Options Must Expand), whose mission is to support the development of quality, affordable, and universally designed housing through advocacy and education.

LEIGH ANNE HAUN

Leigh Anne, Project Coordinator, has a degree in Communication and master's degree in Non-Profit Management from the University of Missouri. Leigh Anne has worked in non-profit leadership for the past 10 years focusing on fund development and outreach. Most recently, serving on the leadership team for a non-profit provider of residential services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Leigh Anne's work on the council focuses on voting, public policy, victimization and grassroots advocacy.

MICHELLE REINMILLER

Michelle, LCSW, is the Senior Health Care for Homeless Veterans Social Worker at the Springfield Community Based Outpatient Clinic. Michelle has worked within the homeless program at Veterans Affairs for 14 years in Southwest Missouri. She is the steward of a Little Free Library and loves all things autumn, particularly Halloween decorations.

JOANN MORRISON

JoAnn, LCSW, has been a Suicide Prevention Coordinator at VHSO (Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks) for the past four years. She lives in Nixa and is an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan and has an uncle who is in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY.

RONALD BAUDER

Ron, LCSW, VA Medical Foster Home Coordinator. Ron served in and retired from the United States Air Force in 2003 after 20 years of service. He then worked with the Missouri Children's Division and Springfield Partners providing supervision and case management to adults and children involved in the foster care system for the next ten years. Ron joined the VA in 2014 to establish a VA Medical Foster Home program in Southwest Missouri and has been in this field ever since.

MARY TURNER

Mary, Director of Missouri Family to Family (MOF2F) is a mom of an adult daughter with Special Health Care Needs, and holds a Master's Degree in social work, her Clinical License, is a Certified Co-Occurring Disorder Diplomat and a Certified Family and Civil Mediator. She is a Charting the LifeCourse™ (CtLC) Ambassador and has received her Charting the LifeCourse™ (CtLC) Foundation Presenter's Badge. Prior to this as a Director of a non profit, Mary acquired extensive training on the effects trauma has on individuals and working with clients leading to skills related to helping clients develop their own voice and Good Life Plan. Mary has taught at the university level and has trained front line workers for over 20 years.

JENNY GANO

Jenny Gano, LCSW has been employed at VHSO (Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks) for 11 years. She enjoys spending time with her husband, 4 year old son and their two dogs.

DAVID FORBES

David lives in Springfield, Missouri. He started his career as an Advocacy Specialist for Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities. He is a member of People First of Springfield. David is a Charting the LifeCourse™ (CtLC) "No Wrong Door" and "Person-Centered Planning" ambassador. He has also received this Charting the LifeCourse™ (CtLC) Foundation Presenter's Badge. David currently works as a consultant with the LifeCourse Nexus and Individual and Family Supports at UMKC-IHD, UCEDD.

TRAVIS RASH

Travis is the Real Estate Consultant and Housing Policy Specialist for The Whole Person, Kansas City's Center for Independent Living. Rash is also a licensed real estate professional in the States of Missouri and Kansas and holds his license with Kansas City Realty Services. Rash is also a member of the SPIRIT of KC Team, whose members have more than a decade of combined experience in the real estate industry. Rash, and his Team, are Realtors with a Social Purpose. Rash has started several housing services and programs to address the housing needs of The Whole Person's Consumers in Kansas City. These programs and partnerships include a partnership with the Housing Authority to allocate housing choice vouchers, a partnership with Habitat for Humanity to develop accessible and affordable single-family housing, and a partnership with Kansas City Realty Services to promote homeownership opportunities for consumers and their families.

WAYNE CRAWFORD

Wayne is the Executive Director of Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation. MoHousing is a not-for-profit organization that assists citizens with disabilities, as well as the agencies and individuals who support them, in the search for affordable, quality, safe, universally designed housing. MoHousing assists developers and builders as they design and construct quality, universally designed, affordable homes. Wayne was the recipient of the Missouri Governor's Council on Disability 23rd Annual Inclusion Award for his work to champion the need for quality, affordable, universally designed housing throughout Missouri.

AMANDA LINE

Amanda began her career of working for people with disabilities in 2005 at the Laclede Developmental Training Center in Lebanon Missouri. In 2008, Amanda joined the Employment Solutions department at The ARC of the Ozarks in Springfield Missouri where she worked until August 2021. Over the years, Amanda has been a Certified Employment Specialist, Benefits Specialist, Certified Peer Support Specialist and past President of the Missouri Rehabilitation Association-SW Chapter. Amanda is currently a Board Member and Membership Committee Chair for the Missouri Association of People Supporting Employment First (MO APSE). Amanda is a staunch supporter for Employment First, advancing equity for people with disabilities and uses her passion and experience to be a strong advocate for individuals with disabilities.

RACHEL RACKERS

Rachel is a Senior Program Specialist with the Governor's Council on Disability (GCD). She is the coordinator for the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and Virtual Leadership Summit. Before joining GCD, she was an employee of the Jefferson City Public Schools and an instructor for Project SEARCH. Her passion for serving individuals with disabilities comes from having a brother who has cerebral palsy.

BROOKE KENDRICK

Brooke has been an advocate for the disability community for twenty years. She began her employment at NEILS in 2002 as a summer job which turned into a passion and career. Brooke has held numerous positions at NEILS including Office Support, PAS/CDS Specialist, Data Manager, Outreach Coordinator, and has been Executive Director for the past 12 years. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services from Columbia College. Brooke is married to her husband, Lee, and has two sons and one daughter: Kaelin (21), Emery (11), and Hayes (3). She and her husband also own a small business of which Brooke manages all the financial aspects of the business when she's not potty-training a 3 year old, helping with homework and transporting her daughter to sports practices and games, or ensuring the 21 year old wakes up for college classes on time.

SHELBY BUTLER

Shelby has been in the not for profit world for the past 25 years in Southwest MO. She is currently the Community Outreach Coordinator for Empower: Abilities and a Certified ADA Coordinator through Great Plains ADA Center's ACTCP program. She works mostly in the areas of housing, community access, universal design, policy and civic engagement. Her experience and work the last 20 years involves educating the community and elected officials on policy priorities, promoting inclusive design, engaging those living with disabilities and ensuring the disability voice is at the table. She is a Missouri State University Alumni with a BS degree in Sociology and Gender Studies.

DAWNE GARDNER

Dawne is the Transportation Planner and ADA Coordinator for the City of Springfield, Missouri. She developed a passion for advocating for people with disabilities while working for MODOT for 19 years as the Transportation Planning Coordinator in the Springfield District Office. She began working at the City in 2012 and soon began the process of developing the City's first ADA Transition Plan. Dawne holds a B.S and Master's Degree in Public Administration from Missouri State University, is a Certified Planner through the American Planning Association and is a Certified ADA Coordinator through the University of Missouri – Columbia and the Great Plains ADA Center.

CAROLYN MCGEE

Carolyn is the former president of the National Federation of the Blind of Missouri Springfield chapter, as well as a member of SpringBike, a local cycling organization. As an example, Carolyn has shown that blind people are capable of more than people realize. Whether that's work-related, civic engagement, leisure activities, or any other aspect of American life.

STEPHANIE BRADY

Stephanie is the Executive Director at the Community Clinic of Southwest Missouri in Joplin. The Community Clinic is a nonprofit organization that serves the uninsured residents of southwest Missouri. During COVID, Stephanie's clinic was awarded the Missouri Rural Health Excellence Award for their outreach and services connected to the COVID response. Previously, Stephanie was the Assistant Executive Director at The Independent Living Center where she was employed for 15 years.

KAREN BENSON

Karen has a 45+ year career involving clinical services to persons confronted with a variety of needs including disability and aging and loss due to natural disaster. Over her 10 years at Convoy of Hope were devoted to disaster services, primarily in preparedness and long-term recovery services. She served as the private sector Co-Chair of the Governor's Faith-based and Community Service Partnership for Disaster Recovery for more than fifteen years and remains a member of the Executive Committee as Immediate Past Chair. She has been active in local and regional Long Term Recovery Committees in her area, and assisting communities across the state in developing collaborative disaster recovery organizations.

DR. KATHY NORDYKE

Katherine has a PhD in Education from North Central University with an MS in Organizational Leadership. She is the Director of Academic Service-Learning for Missouri State University and serves as Adjunct Faculty in the College of Education. Dr. Nordyke is an author, speaker, and works with faculty, students, and the community, in the areas of leadership, civic engagement and service-learning. She has several publications and was nominated for the Patricia K Cross Award for Outstanding Leadership, Association of American Colleges and Universities, 2012, and received the Public Affairs Award for Ethical Leadership and Commitment to Campus and Community in 2013. Dr. Nordyke was recently honored for her leadership and mentorship by the University's Athletic Department as a professor who had made the most impact on a student's life.

STEVE WRIGHT

Steve is currently Transitions Manager at Empower: Abilities and has been with the transitions program for five of his seven years there. He became familiar with Empower: Abilities and CILS in general in 2009, when Empower: Abilities transitioned him from a nursing facility back into community based living through the MFP program. He formerly worked in nursing facilities and then later became a patient in one as well. Having experienced nursing homes from different perspectives is what creates the passion he has for what he does.

ALEX COBB

Alex serves as the Chief Resource Officer for Senior Age – southwest Missouri's Area Agency on Aging – and as the Director of the Leadership Collaborative at Drury University where he also teaches. Alex possesses degrees in Communication and Philosophy/Religion), a Master's in Divinity, a Master's in Business Administration, and a Doctorate in Ministry with an emphasis in Organizational Leadership. Alex serves on the Board of the local branch of the Society of Human Resource Management as its Chair of the Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Alex also serves on the Board of Generations Village, on the executive board for the Volunteer Leaders of the Ozarks, and on the leadership team of the Senior Market Professionals Network.

ASHLEY CORSOLINI

Ashley Corsolini, MNCL, is the Director of Community Collaboratives at Community Partnership of the Ozarks. Her career in the nonprofit field has spanned from direct case management to high level planning and community engagement. A recent graduate of Drury University's Master's of Nonprofit and Civic Leadership program, Ashley's current focus is working with stakeholder groups to address large-scale community issues.

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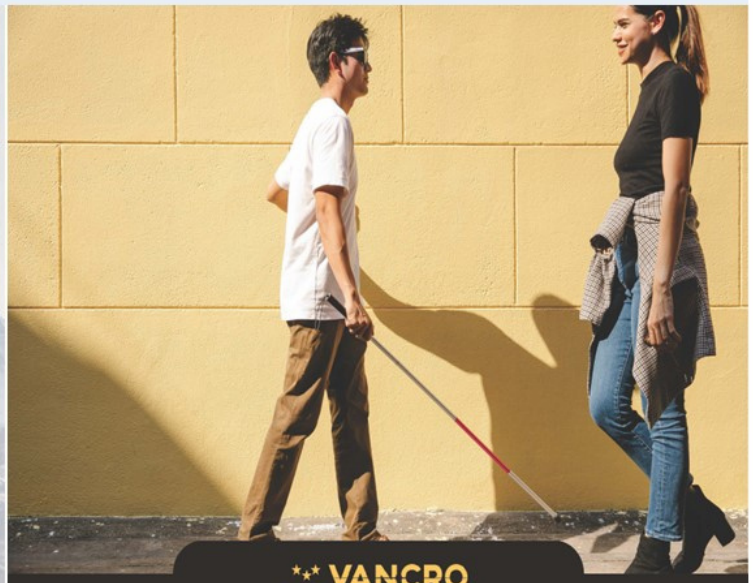

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