



**Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled
Intellectual and Developmentally Disabled
Resource Information**

**Lawrence County Board for the
Board for the Developmentally Disabled**

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INTRODUCTION:

The following booklet is designed to provide resource information to assist the Intellectual and Developmentally Disabled (ID/DD) population in the Lawrence County area. This population is a great group of individuals with fantastic personalities that often face great challenges and can be considered vulnerable and easily taken advantage of. The goal of the Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled and the Lawrence County Case Management is to help locate and help connect this population with resources that can help them live their best lives in their own homes.

The information in this booklet is by no means comprehensive, but it will give basic information about this population and contacts to help them get the help they need to make it through crisis moments and to obtain information to help them thrive in their daily lives.

INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY DEFINED:

The Oxford Languages Dictionary defines *Intellectual Disability* as “a disability that affects the acquisition of knowledge and skills, in particular any of various neurodevelopmental conditions affecting intellectual processes, educational attainment, and the acquisition of skills needed for independent living and social functioning”.

The Oxford Languages Dictionary defines *Developmental Disability* as “a severe, long-term impairment that begins during a person’s developmental period and can affect their day-to-day life”.

FEDERAL DEFINITION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: (This information was obtained from ThinkWork! Institute for Community Inclusion, UMass Boston)

According to the Developmental Disabilities Act, section 102(8), “the term ‘developmental disability’ means a severe, chronic disability of an individual 5 years of age or older that:

1. Is attributed to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;
2. Is manifested before the individual attains age 22;
3. Is likely to continue indefinitely;
4. Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity: Self-Care, Learning, Self-Direction, Independent Living, Mobility, and Expressive/Receptive Language.
5. Reflects the individual’s need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, supports, or other assistance that is of lifelong or extended duration and is individually planned and coordinated, except that such term, when applied to infants and young children means individuals from birth to age 5, inclusive, who have substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired conditions with a high probability of resulting in developmental disabilities if services are not provided.”

Examples of Intellectual Disorders: (Information obtained from charliehealth.com)

(This list is by no means comprehensive)

- Mild, Moderate, or Severe Intellectual Disability
- Developmental Delay
- Learning Disability
- Down's Syndrome
- Fragile X Syndrome

Examples of Developmental Disorder: (Information obtained from charliehealth.com)

- Autism
- Cerebral Palsy
- Down's Syndrome
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- Prader-Willi Syndrome
- Hearing Loss

“Developmental disabilities are a set of conditions that occur in early childhood and affect a person’s mental and physical growth. These disabilities can affect an individual’s ability to learn, communicate, and perform daily tasks.

Developmental disabilities and intellectual disabilities are two distinct, both often overlapping categories of conditions that can affect individuals throughout their lives.

Developmental disabilities refer to a group of conditions that are usually present at birth or emerge during early childhood and can impact a child’s physical, cognitive, or behavioral abilities. The main types of developmental disabilities include autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, Down Syndrome, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

Intellectual disabilities specifically affect an individual’s intellectual or cognitive abilities and are usually characterized by significant limitations in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. These limitations can affect an individual’s ability to learn, communicate, and perform daily activities, and typically become apparent during childhood.

Not everyone with a developmental disability will have an intellectual disability, and not all individuals with an intellectual disability will have a developmental disability. However, there can be significant overlap between the two.”

WHO ARE WE?

We are the Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled (LCBDD) and Lawrence County Case Management (LCCM). The Lawrence County Board is a Senate Bill 40 Board (SB40), which basically means we receive tax levy money from Lawrence County property taxes to assist the Intellectually Disabled (ID) and the Developmentally Disabled (DD) population in Lawrence County. These funds are utilized in the form of grants, related services funds, and support for the community center for the ID/DD population at the board office in Aurora.

Lawrence County Board: Executive Director – Kerri Watson – 417-229-6774

County taxpayers voted on a levy that would provide funds for services to county residents with developmental disabilities. The funds are given to the Lawrence County Board for management. The board is comprised of nine voluntary members who reside in Lawrence County that are appointed by the county commissioners for a three-year term. These individuals meet throughout the year, and their meetings are open to the public. These funds are utilized in the form of grants to the local sheltered workshop, music, art and dance therapy, Champion Athletes OATS transportation, and the Barry Lawrence County Developmental Center, to name a few. They have also been instrumental in providing funding for handicap accessible playground equipment for a couple of city parks in Lawrence County. The board also has a community center for this population located at the board office at 403 E. Elm Street in Aurora. The hours for the center are Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. They do a variety of activities there for the individuals to enjoy themselves every day. The community point of contact for the board is usually the executive director, however anyone can also request contact information for any of the board members as well. If you or someone you know might be interested in becoming a member of the board, please contact Kerri.

Targeted Case Management: TCM Supervisor – Suzanne DePriest – 417-678-7695

In 2015, the board chose to obtain the contract with the Department of Mental Health for case management services for Lawrence County. Before that, Community Support Services were being used for case management services. The case management office is located at 22768 State Highway 39, Suite D in Aurora. The case management positions require a 4-year degree from an accredited university/college. The case managers are responsible for referring individuals to resources that educate, advocate, and empower our consumers to be able to live their best lives possible. If an individual qualifies, there are Medicaid waivers that can be requested to assist in paying for some services, including but not limited to, the following:

- **Personal Care Assistant:** A personal care assistant can come in and help an individual with daily living needs such as helping with bathing/personal hygiene, helping the individual cook/prepare meals, helping an individual with grocery shopping or assisting at a doctor appointment, budgeting, and even getting out into the community for fun activities like going to Bass Pro, Silver Dollar City restaurants, etc. A personal care assistant can “assist” an individual with tasks but does not complete tasks for the individual. If the individual cannot at least assist in the task, be directed or prompted on how to complete a task, then home health services would need to be explored as they complete daily living tasks for the individual. The goal is to have the individual remain as independent as mentally/physically possible.
- **Employment Services:** Employment services go through agencies like Firefly and Arc of the Ozarks. An individual can get signed up to learn skills needed to obtain and maintain integrated employment, which is employment outside of the sheltered workshop. Often Vocational Rehabilitation is utilized first, and when they get to a certain point with Vocational Rehab, then they can progress to employment services through a waiver, if they qualify for waived services.
- **Day Habilitation/Day Program:** Individuals can, if they qualify for a waiver, request day program services through Arc of the Ozarks. They have a day program at their office on Old Airport Road behind Price Cutter. They are open Monday – Friday and do a variety of activities with the individuals they service from community outings, holiday parties at the office, and even delivering Meals on Wheels weekly.

- **Transportation (OATS):** Transportation services can be requested on a waiver, if the individual qualifies for a waiver, to assist with transportation to and from work at the workshop, a job within the community outside of the workshop, or to and from the day program in Monett. For Lawrence County, this is requested through OATS transportation. Anyone that is a consumer through LCCM can utilize OATS free thanks to a grant from the Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled.
- **Home or vehicle modification:** If an individual owns their own home or vehicle, adaptive modifications can possibly be requested on a waiver, if the individual qualifies for a waiver. This is a lengthy process, but it can help an individual get adaptive equipment for their home such as walk-in showers, handrails/grab bars, ramps, etc. It can also be used to request wheelchair lifts for vehicles. There are monetary limits to these services that must be considered when requesting.
- **Medical Supplies:** Various medical supplies can be requested, if they are not covered by traditional Medicaid. This can vary from adult briefs, wipes, gloves, under pads, wound care supplies, colostomy care supplies, etc.
- **Self-Directed Services:** Self-Directed Services is basically where the consumer, or a designated representative, can choose who to hire as a personal care assistant. It is a consumer driven service. Family members can serve as staff, if they are not the guardian. Staff must also have a high school diploma or GED to serve as staff. Some exceptions are made if the staff person has real work experience with the individual but does not have a high school diploma or GED yet. They must show documentation that they will receive their diploma or GED within one year of being hired to be eligible for the exception.
- **Individualized Supported Living (ISL):** This service is where an individual lives in a home or apartment with a roommate and has staff, usually 24/7 but not in all cases, in the home to meet their care needs. There are some exceptions where they can have ISL services and do not need staff support in the overnight hours outside of remote monitoring options. Staff for these services assist with daily hygiene, cooking, cleaning, transporting to appointments, dressing and undressing, etc. This service is for individuals that need more hands-on care and would be in a nursing home or residential care without someone to assist them in staying in their own home. The goal with this service is to still have the individual be as independent as possible and for them to do as much as possible with assistance and prompting versus having staff do the task for them.

To qualify for a Medicaid waiver, an individual must have active Medicaid, a qualifying diagnosis, and have a substantial functional limitation on at least three of six areas of major living listed previously on page 2. The limitations are evaluated in the Missouri Adaptive Ability Scale (MAAS) Assessment. This assessment is administered virtually through the Department of Mental Health.

How to apply for Case Management Services:

To receive case management services, an individual must go through an intake process with the Joplin Regional Office (DMH). The Regional Office serves as a Point of Entry to DD services. To be eligible for Case Management Services the individual must meet the following requirements:

- Intellectual Disability diagnosed prior to age 18
- Any other Developmental Disability occurred prior to age 22
- Likely to continue indefinitely (lifelong/extended duration)

- 2 or more Substantial Functional Limitations in the following categories:
 - a. Self-Care
 - b. Learning
 - c. Self-Direction
 - d. Independent Living
 - e. Mobility
 - f. Expressive/Receptive Language

Steps to access Case Management Services for Barry and Lawrence Counties:

1. Contact the Joplin Regional Office at 417-629-3020 and ask for intake.
2. An Intake Specialist will ask for some basic information.
3. An Intake Packet will be prepared and mailed to family for signatures.
4. Supporting documentation will be requested from diagnosing agencies.
5. The Intake Specialist will review records, and an assessment may be scheduled.
6. Eligibility determination is made
7. Upon being approved for case management services, the Regional Office will contact the case management office to notify of a new consumer. The case management office will then contact the individual or the individual's guardian to initiate case management services.
8. A Support Coordinator (SC) will be assigned to assist with building a support team and develop an Individual Support Plan (ISP).
9. The SC will provide ongoing advocacy services, information and referrals.
10. Any unmet support needs that the individual might have will be identified in the planning process.
11. The SC will connect the family to possible Direct Care Providers and arrange Choice of Provider Meetings.
12. The SC will submit a request for any needed paid supports to the Regional Office for review and/or approval.

More information can be found on the Department of Mental Health website at www.dmh.mo.gov

For questions or local information, feel free to contact Kerri Watson, Executive Director for the Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled at 417-229-6774. Barry County individuals can also contact Kerri, and she can help get them connected with the Barry County case management office for more specific Barry County resources.