



Improving lives THROUGH
supports and services
THAT FOSTER self-determination.

MO DDD & You: Governor's Council on Disability MO Youth Leadership Forum

Information for Individuals & Families

Presented by:

Lisa Nothaus, Supporting Families Lead, Division of DD
Rachel Rackers, GCD, Sr. Program Specialist, MO-YLF Coordinator



March 28, 2023
12:30pm-1:00pm



Webinar Agenda



- Introductions
- Governor's Council on Disability Youth Programs
 - MO Youth Leadership Forum Overview
 - Virtual Leadership Summit
- Expectations
- How to Apply

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Supporting Families Lead

Rachel Rackers
Governor's Council on Disability
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Youth Programs



MISSOURI **YOUTH**
LEADERSHIP
FORUM

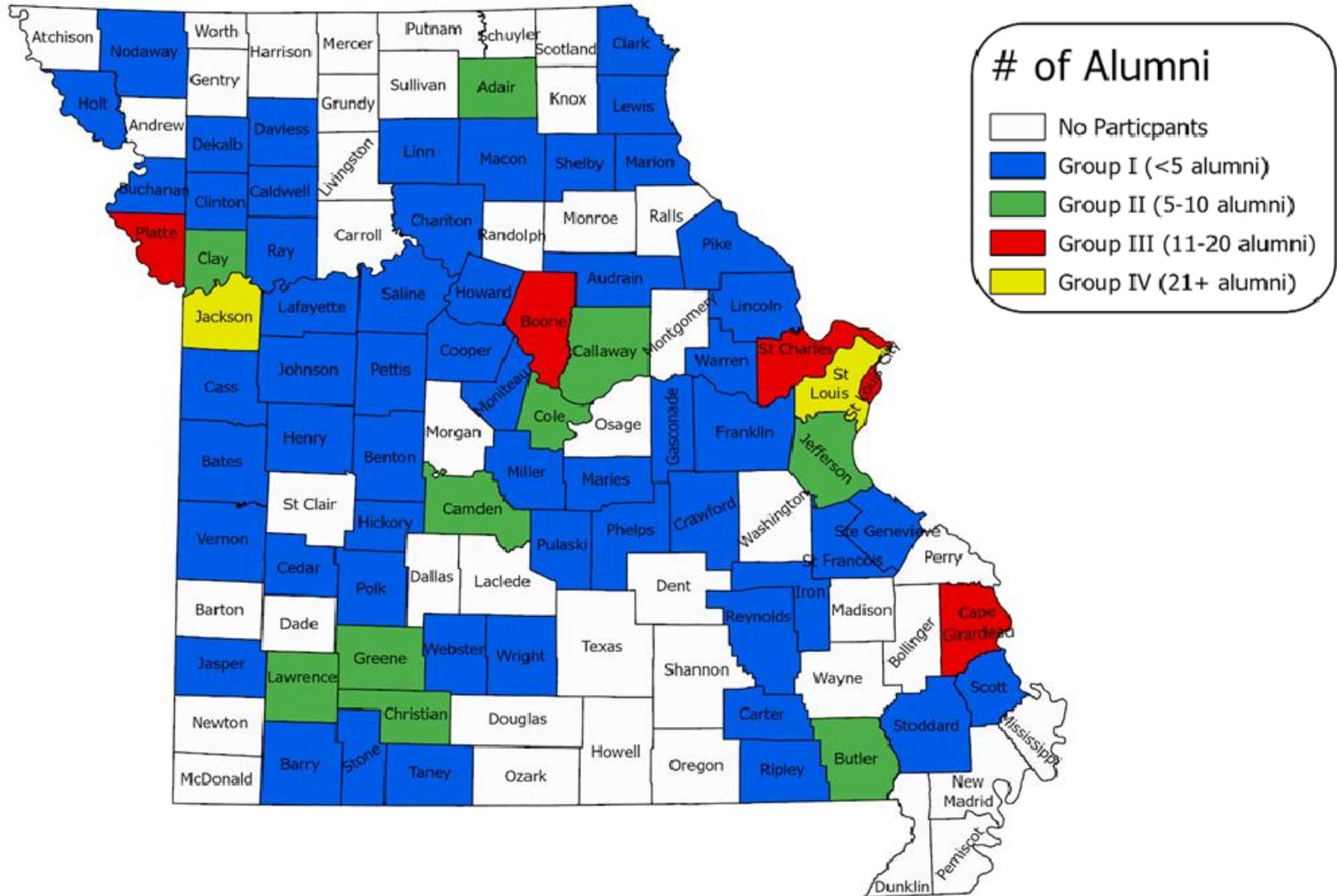
What is the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum?



- A 5-day career leadership training program for individuals who have disabilities ages 16 -21.
- The Forum is held at the University of Missouri in Columbia.
- The program was first developed by the California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities 1992.
- Missouri held its first Forum in 2001, since then 362 delegates have graduated from the program.
- The 19th Annual Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MO-YLF) dates are July 18-22, 2023.



Which counties have been represented?



Day 1: Building Community: Getting to Know You



Day 2: Disability History, Culture & Community



Day 3: Importance of Advocacy – Legislative Day



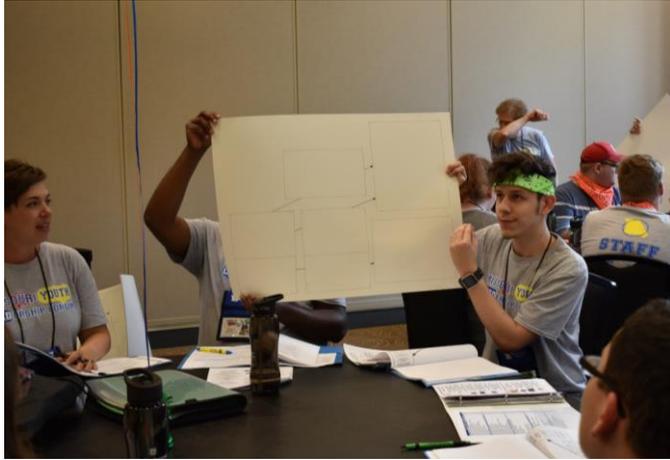
Day 4: Looking to the Future – Career Development



Day 5: Resource Fair and Graduation



Leadership Posters



What does it cost?



There is **NO COST** for delegates to attend the
Forum!!!!

The entire Forum is funded from donations made by public and private organizations, agencies, and citizens.

Who Can Apply?



- Students who are ages 16 – 21
- Live in Missouri
- Demonstrate Potential Leadership Skills
- Disclose a disability

Steps to Apply



- Visit <http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/ylf.htm>
- Complete the MO-YLF application.
- **Applications must be submitted before April 15th**
- Be sure to follow all directions. You must submit the application, a resume, and answer the essay questions.

MYLIFE Alumni Association



Common Questions



- What if you have never been away from home?
- What if you need a personal care attendant?
- What if you need specific accommodations?
- What are the sleeping arrangements?
- How many students do you accept each year?

Virtual Leadership Summit

MISSOURI DIVISION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES



Virtual Leadership Summit

- One-day leadership training similar to MO-YLF
- Same topics as MO-YLF, in a condensed version
- Opens up opportunity for more students throughout Missouri
- Meet with leaders in the disability community, keynote speaker, alumni, mentors and employers

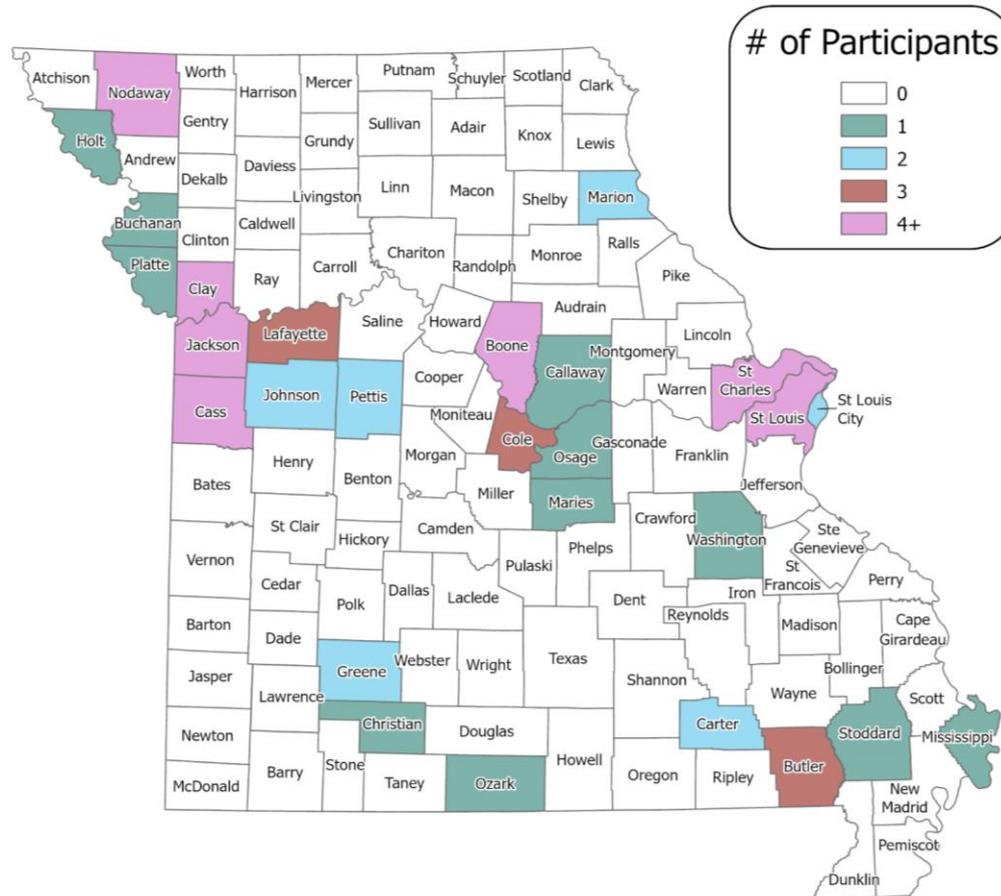
Virtual Leadership Summit

- Opportunity to get a glimpse into the 5-day MO-YLF at MU Campus
- Participants may be eligible to also participate in MO-YLF (depending on age/graduation status, number of applicants)
- VLS 2023 was March 4th
- Dates for 2024 are TBD
- Applications and details will be available this Fall

<https://disability.mo.gov/gcd/vls.htm>

Virtual Leadership Summit

- 77 participants that have gone through the program since 2021



How You Can Help?

- Recruit high school students (16-21) who have disabilities and demonstrate leadership potential to join us! Applications are available for each program at: <http://disability.mo.gov/gcd>
- Make a tax-deductible donation to help youth attend any of our programs free of cost to them. For more info on donations, please email our office at: gcd@oa.mo.gov
- Apply to be a volunteer, applications are available online or contact Rachel at rachel.rackers@oa.mo.gov

Questions



Thank you!

Contact the Governor's Council on Disability for additional information, questions or assistance with the application.

E-mail: gcd@oa.mo.gov

Phone: 573-751-2600 / 1-800-877-8249

Rachel Rackers: rachel.rackers@oa.mo.gov

MO Youth Leadership Forum:

<https://disability.mo.gov/gcd/ylf.htm>

Virtual Leadership Summit:

<https://disability.mo.gov/gcd/vls.htm>



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Next MO DDD & You Webinar



Mark your calendar now!

The next “MO DDD & You” webinar is
scheduled for

April 25, 2023
12:30pm-1:00pm



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Thank You