

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF

FROM: REGINALD E. MCELHANNON, INTERIM DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING RESOURCES

## DISCUSSION:

The Missouri Department of Social Services sponsors Workforce Development programs to help low-income Missourians – youth and adult – achieve long-term employment success and reduce the need for public benefits (i.e. SNAP, Child Care Subsidy, Mo HealthNet, etc.). The Workforce Development Unit (WDU) is sharing this information as economic difficulties within households can increase stress which studies show increases the likelihood of neglect or abuse. Older youth in foster care custody, youth involved with Children's Division (CD) and the parents of the youth experience instability without financial security. This memo provides CD employees with resources they can share to help parents and youth connect with resources.

Programs are free to participants and offer case management/job coaching services, employability plans and assistance with other work and training costs.

**DSS YOUTH PROGRAMS****Jobs League**

- Helps interested 14- to 24-year-olds learn job skills, identify career goals and training needs, and provides paid employment with local businesses.
- It can be the first connection to a job and potentially a first paycheck.
- For more information: <https://jobs.mo.gov/summerjobs>

**Jobs for America's Graduates – Missouri (JAG-Missouri)**

- Currently, 82 middle school, high school, and alternative school programs participate in JAG which provides extra guidance, help for classroom success, and work-based learning. This program will continue to rapidly expand to new schools.
- Helps participating youth overcome challenges to graduate high school and transition into employment or training.
- For more information: <https://jag-missouri.org>

- There are contact links available at the Internet site, or parents can contact school counselors regarding program availability and participation.
- Note: DSS only provides a portion of the funding for JAG.

## **DSS YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS**

### **Healthcare Industry Training and Education**

- Helps qualified persons 18 and older train in one of 19 high-demand health industry career fields.
- Available in the Kansas City or St. Louis metro areas, or in Central Missouri.
- For more information: <https://mydss.mo.gov/hpog-hite>

### **SkillUP**

- Food Stamp (SNAP) recipients 16 years of age and older work with coaches to find career paths, create resumes, learn interviewing and interpersonal skills and, in many cases, participate in paid training.
- Can receive help with transportation, work and child care expenses.
- For more information: <on.mo.gov/SkillUp>

### **Missouri Work Assistance**

- Available to families receiving Temporary Assistance and the majority of parents are required to participate.
- Offers paid training, coaching, life skills and help with transportation and work costs.
- For more information: <https://mydss.mo.gov/missouri-work-assistance>.

## **OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS**

### **Job Centers**

- Offers services at 37 Missouri Job Centers.
- Helps Missourians of all ages and abilities find training and gain employability skills that meet critical local employment needs.
- For more information: <https://jobs.mo.gov/community/mo-workforce-system>.

## **DSS AVAILABLE TRAINING**

CD staff interested in obtaining more information can visit the DSS Learning Center and take the following course selections:

- FS000473 – Workforce Development Unit Overview: HITE program
- FS000472 – Workforce Development Unit: MWA
- FS000471 – Workforce Development Unit: SkillUP

To access these selections

- 1.) Go to: <https://pathlore.state.mo.us/stc/student1/psciis.dll?mainmenu=STUDENT1>

2.) Choose Family Support Division and Enter the Course Title into the “Search For”

Missouri Department of Social Services  
Employee Learning Center

[Home](#)

**Course Catalog**

Select the division from the list below. To further refine your search, type a keyword and click the “GO!” button below.

**Search**

Search For:   [Past Searches ▾](#)

**Additional Search Options**

Category:  ▾

Limit scheduled training to the following date range

From (today or later)  To

### **TRAINING AVAILABLE ON THE SKILLUP PORTAL**

Some trainings on the SkillUP portal (<https://dss.mo.gov/skillup-provider-portal/>) CD staff may find useful include:

- Below the Line – Understanding Poverty.
- Dealing with Mental Anxiety
- Domestic Violence Training
- Executive Function
- Executive Function Skills and Stress
- Introduction to Mental Health First Aid
- Overcoming Barriers

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Children’s Division personnel may explore these resources further by calling the DSS Workforce Development Unit at (573) 751-6975 to request additional information or discuss possible referrals to specific programs. There may be limitations in service delivery due to COVID-19 as well as potential budget cuts.

<p><b>NECESSARY ACTION</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff.</li> <li>2. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:</li> </ol>	
<p><b>PDS CONTACT</b>  Sally A. Gaines  Program Development Specialist  Older Youth Program  (660)882-5312 ext. 230  <a href="mailto:Sally.A.Gaines@dss.mo.gov">Sally.A.Gaines@dss.mo.gov</a></p>	<p><b>MANAGER CONTACT</b>  Justin Logan  Cross-Functional Division Manager  Workforce Development Unit  (573)526-3607  <a href="mailto:Justin.C.Logan@dss.mo.gov">Justin.C.Logan@dss.mo.gov</a></p>
<p><b>CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS</b>  N/A</p>	
<p><b>FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b>  N/A</p>	
<p><b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES</b>  N/A</p>	
<p><b>RELATED STATUTE</b>  N/A</p>	