



People First of Missouri

www.missouripeoplefirst.org

5030 Cherry St • Kansas City MO 64110 • (800) 558-8652

People First of Missouri is a self-advocacy organization that was formed by, is run by, and exists for people with developmental disabilities in the state of Missouri.

Membership consists of local affiliated chapters. People First of Missouri is a nonprofit organization that promotes equality for people with disabilities so they can live the life they want in the community.

People First of Missouri promotes equality for people with disabilities so they can live the life they want in the community. People First members:

- Teach and empower people to understand their rights and responsibilities and to speak up for themselves (**self-advocacy**);
- Stand up for one another to help people live the life they want with the supports they need (**advocacy for one another**);
- Advocate for community services that allow people to have choices and control over their supports and lives (**advocacy at the systems level**);
- Create change in communities to ensure opportunity and full, meaningful participation for all people (**advocacy within the community**).

People First of Missouri Core Values:

Pride: All people are allowed to feel good about themselves and their abilities.

Equality: All people have equal rights.

Opportunity: All people deserve opportunities to live productive and happy lives.

Power to Choose: All people should have choices about their services/supports.

Leadership: People with disabilities can be leaders for change.

Educate: People with disabilities can educate others about their ability and right to belong.

Freedom: All people are entitled to freedom.

Inclusive Communities: All people have the right to be part of their communities.

Respect: All people deserve respect.

Self-determination: All people deserve to live their own lives.

Taking Responsibility: All people should be responsible for their own actions.

People First Priorities

Priority Area	Topics
Transportation	Having accessible transportation in your community
	Learning to use public transportation
	Ride Sharing
Housing	Living in a community that you choose.
	Owning your own home
	Partnering with Habitat for Humanity
Financial Wellness (Gaining Wealth, Managing Money and Understanding Benefits)	Getting or keeping a job or small business
	Managing your own money
	Marriage Equity (Not being able to get married because of loss of benefits)
	Understanding benefits
Self-Determination	Knowing yourself & what you want
	Knowing your rights & responsibilities
	Change in your personal Life
	Change in the Community and System
Guardianship and Supported Decision Making	Removing the pipeline to guardianship in Missouri
	Knowing your rights under guardianship
	Restoring people's rights



**University of Missouri Kansas City- Institute for Human Development
(UMKC-IHD)**

UMKC-IHD Supports People First of Missouri by:

- Serving as advisory & provide technical assistance
- Coordinating Officer meetings
- Coordinating quarterly Steering Committee meetings
- Assisting in the writing and reporting of grants
- Maintaining website & Facebook Page
- Assist with the starting of new Local Chapters
- Maintains 501(c) (3) status