



## People First of Missouri

[www.missouripeoplefirst.org](http://www.missouripeoplefirst.org)

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.

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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.



## 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