

The mission of **MARF** is to enhance the lives of Missourians with disabilities as a statewide coalition of community providers through leadership which influences public policy.

The Missouri Association of Rehabilitation Facilities is the trade association for organizations serving people with disabilities and others who need community support. MARF focuses on two important areas: Community Living and Employment.

The **Community Living Division** is dedicated to keeping people with disabilities out of the institutional setting and in the community through access to group homes, semi-independent apartment programs, individualized supported living, respite and community integration.

The **Employment Division** consists of Community Rehabilitation Providers throughout the state of Missouri that offer a variety of vocational services to persons with disabilities. These services include skills training, job development, supported employment, sheltered employment, and job maintenance support needed to go to work and improve their independence.

MARF professional associate members are available for questions or consultation to assist in related legislative issues. MARF members can be contacted through:

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Missouri Association of Rehabilitation Facilities
Enhancing the Lives of Missourians with Disabilities



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of Missourians with Disabilities*

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www.marf.cc



**2011 Legislative
Priorities**

Community Living

- 1. Preserve community services for people with developmental disabilities.**
 - Community providers serve approximately 6,000 Missourians through residential services each year at an average daily cost of \$219.00 per day, while the state agencies serve approximately 650 individuals at an average cost of \$481.72.
 - Community services are subsidized 60% by Federal Medicaid match, which maximizes the impact of general revenue.
 - According to the 2009 Senate Select Committee on MO HealthNet Provider Rate Equalization Report, community providers are currently *underfunded* by 23% to 29%—up to \$122 million.
 - Additionally, community providers sustained a 2% rate decrease in FY 2011.
- 2. Create efficiencies in the Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities by:**
 - Transitioning individuals with developmental disabilities from state operated facilities into the community. Transitioning 150 adults will save at least \$4.1 million.
 - Continuing the transition of case management services to county and non-profit providers.
- 3. Support legislation to restrict the State of Missouri from opting out of any portion of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which provides Early Childhood Special Education Services.**

Community living services are **critical** to the **safety** and the **wellbeing** of people with disabilities.

For more information on our priorities, our work, and our clients visit www.marf.cc.



Employment

- 1. Support continued appropriation of necessary General Revenue to bring in available federal match to Missouri for Vocational Rehabilitation Services.**
- 2. Redesign the Department of Health and Senior Services' waiting list procedures for services pertaining to employment in the Adult Head Injury Program.**
- 3. Support provision of employment services for veterans on a state and local level.**
- 4. Support legislation that will increase contributions to the Head Injury Fund.**
- 5. Advocate for DMH to utilize funds for pre-employment support of individuals with mental illness and developmental disabilities.**

Employment providers offer vocational services to Missourians with disabilities so that they are able to **go to work** and **improve their independence.**