

CENTER POST NEWSLETTER

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MEET KORY
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Family and Child Highlights

NEWS Center for Human Services Family and Child Development team gets creative.

The Family & Child Development team is always looking for unique ways to provide Head Start and Early Head Start with resources needed to create valuable learning opportunities, such as fire and personal safety.



Vernon Co. Fire Department teaches fire safety



Vernon Co. Sheriff's Office shares awareness

Supporters in Action

Nearly 50 volunteers from across Missouri spent their Thanksgiving morning at the 14th Annual CHS Turkey Trot. This event would not be possible without these amazing individuals who guided the nearly 600 walkers and runners. This event raised over \$13,000 to support children, families, and individuals in our services.

Learn how you can support the CHS mission, "Life Beyond Limitations."

BECOME A SUPPORTER
chs-mo.org/ways-to-give

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Like-Minded Organization, Chariton Valley Association, Merges with CHS



CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES
Life Beyond Limitations

Proud Partner of Center for Human Services

Chariton Valley Association (CVA) is now a Proud Partner of Center for Human Services. The humble beginnings and missions of both organizations, closely align by striving to make an impact in the lives of people with intellectual or developmental disabilities. This important decision by each organization's Board of Directors is a culmination of months of discussion and negotiation to ensure that this merger is the best fit for both organizations, the people in services, our employees, and our contractors.

David Kramer, CHS CEO states, "We are confident that the future is bright for our combined organization with even greater opportunities to grow and share our mission." Like CHS, CVA focuses on person-centered supports that move individuals toward independence.

CHS will remain as a parent company, and CVA will retain its name, but will operate under CHS. The merger between the two companies took effect January 1, 2023.



Social Media Update

Follow us at Center for Human Services - Missouri



In an effort to streamline communication with our families and stakeholders, CHS will merge all Facebook pages under **Center for Human Services - Missouri** page. The following pages will be inactive after February 1, 2023.

- CHS-Missouri KC Metro
- CHS-Garlich Activity Center
- CHS-Service Coordination
- CHS-Missouri
- CHS-Careers
- CHS-Employment Services
- CHS-Saline County
- CHS-Family and Child Development

This new transition will maintain the core values of CHS, from its individuals and their families to employees and volunteers. Our top priority with this change is to provide meaningful content from all service areas and counties for our supporters in 2023. Follow **Center for Human Services - Missouri** on Facebook to stay in the know on all the exciting things we are doing in your community and across Missouri.



The History of CVA

Chariton Valley Association has a proud history of supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

CVA is a non-profit organization that was established in Kirksville, Missouri by a collective group of parents of children with developmental disabilities, who recognized the need for local services to support their children. Since their establishment, CVA continues to serve over 100 people in the Northeast Missouri area, primarily in Adair County, in which they provide Employment and Residential Services such as Host Homes, Independent Living, and Skills Development.

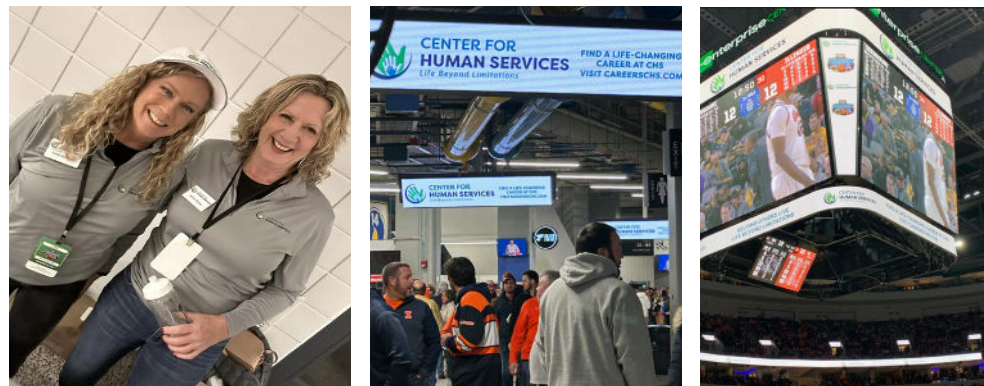
While CVA focuses on primarily Residential and Employment Services, CHS provides services to nearly 10,000 income eligible children and families, and adults in 47 counties across the state of Missouri. CHS provides support through Missouri First Steps, Early Head Start, Head Start, Aquatics, Behavioral Therapy, Employment Services, Residential Services, Service Coordination, and Community Support Services.

The partnership will strengthen the resources of the organization, allowing both CHS and CVA to enhance the services that make a meaningful difference in the lives of recipients and families across Missouri.

Service Coordination Expands into St. Louis

CHS to provide Service Coordination services to individuals and families in St. Louis County.

The CHS Service Coordination team proudly serves more than 4,700 individuals and families throughout Missouri. CHS recently announced its expansion into St. Louis County and is seeking individuals to fill a variety of Service Coordination positions based in the area. To support these efforts, a few Service Coordination team members attended the St. Louis Mizzou vs. Illinois – Braggin’ Rights game at the Enterprise Center in St. Louis to recruit individuals interested in a life-changing career with CHS.



Linda and Robyn representing CHS at the Braggin’ Rights game.

A SERVICE COORDINATION STORY

Meet Kory

Kory’s story began with CHS’s Southern Missouri Service Coordination team.

Kory’s Service Coordinator, Lisa Hagness, made it her goal to assist Kory with finding supported housing and advancing his communication skills.

After identifying an environment where Kory would best thrive, Lisa was able to help him move into a new Individualized Supported Living (ISL) home. The ISL staff and his speech therapist set out to work with him regularly on building his various forms of communication and social skills. Through these supports, Kory has grown rapidly. He has gone from being completely nonverbal, to now saying a few words, and letting you know when he wants your attention.

He learned to say staff members’ names, and when Lisa comes into the home, he recognizes her voice and immediately becomes very vocal. Not only has he advanced his communication skills, but his personality is blossoming, as well. Thanks to his dedicated team, Kory lights up when he is spending time with others and communicating, which now includes talking. Along the way, Lisa was able to get a wheelchair accessible swing approved and installed in his home. Kory is currently attending public school and working on his next big goal of graduating high school. Kory’s story attests to how the Center for Human Services, Service Coordination team can make a positive difference in the lives of others by providing the critical supports to meet their goals.



A caretaker at the Individualized Supported Living home states: “Kory absolutely loves his Service Coordinator, Lisa Hagness. CHS has been a true blessing for Kory, and we can’t wait to see what the future holds for him with CHS.”

CHS Food Drive

INITIATIVE SEEN ACROSS MO

In November of 2022, CHS launched its inaugural food drive. Food donation bins were placed at all CHS locations to collect non-perishable food items for their local community food pantries.

A total of 698 cans were collected by efforts at the Fulton office, the Saline County Activity Center, the Family and Child Development Department, the Ewing Center, the Garlich Center, and the 2022 Turkey Trot.

CHS plans to make the food drive an annual event that will continue to evolve to make a larger impact in the lives of many.

