

Community Engagement Report for September 2019
Total Recorded Visitors: 303
Total Recorded Volunteer Hours: 3

Many hours in September were dedicated to planning the Community Engagement Conference. The venue, catering, workshops, and attendees are all confirmed, and the event should be successful! The committee worked very hard to put together a unique event that should promote accessibility and inclusion of all people in northeast Missouri. Our conference workshops are about personality styles, setting goals for inclusion, and identifying personal values, and the day also includes the keynote presentation, a vendor fair and Tech Fest, planetarium show, and brunch and snacks. We are expecting about 150 attendees at the conference.

Melissa has been working with the Supported Decision Making Consortium's Outreach/Awareness Committee. The group met via Zoom.us on September 13th and 26th. The committee has been working on a logo for the full Consortium to give feedback on. We have also begun gather information for a statewide outreach contacts list, as well as a potential hashtag to use when the Consortium is ready. There will be another committee meeting on October 1st before the full consortium meets in Columbia, Missouri on October 22nd.

In addition to preparing for the conference, we also prepared to begin our fall classes. We are offering three different classes starting in October- Project STIR, Circles, and Cents and Sensibility. All three of these classes use curriculum specifically designed for people with developmental disabilities, and we've had success with these programs in the past.

Our other community engagement initiatives include partnering with Best Buddies at Truman, supporting Cub Scouts to earn their disability awareness merit badge, and providing service learning opportunities to Truman Disability Studies students.