



# Missouri Parents Act

## WHAT IS MPACT?

- Missouri Parents Act (MPACT) is a state-wide, non-profit, Parent Training and Information Center (PTI).
- MPACT's goal is to empower families to advocate for themselves so that their sons and daughters with disabilities can reach their full potential in education and life through support, training, and education.

## WHO IS MPACT?

- MPACT's staff and volunteers consist mostly of parents and family members of children with disabilities who have personal experience advocating for their own children through the special education process.
- In addition to personal experience, our staff and volunteers are trained in the special education process, IEP process, disagreement resolution, and effective advocacy.



# Missouri Parents Act

## SERVICES WE OFFER:

- FREE Services for Parents
- Direct support to parents throughout the special education process
- Information on how to work with schools and communities
- Over 30 in-person and online trainings for parents, school staff, and other professionals. FREE for parents!
- Disability related E-Newsletter and Facebook page
- Over 150 Fact Sheets, Sample Forms, and Sample Letters

## MPACT PARENT MENTORS

- MPACT offers parents the opportunities to become leaders in their community. Through our mentor program, parents are trained to help other parents successfully navigate the special education journey.
- Our mentor program not only offers the opportunity to help others but provides experiences that help our mentors feel more confident as they advocate for their own children.



# STELLAR Project

Supporting Transition to Engaged Lives by Linking Agency Resource

## OUR GOAL

- The goal of STELLAR project is to provide information and training to assist transition age youth (14-26) with disabilities, their parents, family members, guardians, advocates, or other authorized representatives of the individual to participate more effectively with professionals in meeting the vocational, independent living, and rehabilitation needs of individuals with disabilities.

## HOW WE REACH OUR GOALS

- 12 Regional Transition Networks (RTN) State Wide
  - Key Network Partners
  - Strategic Action Plans
- 36 Transition Mentors
  - Support in the facilitation of the RTNs
  - Provide direct support and resource to families and transition aged youth and young adults with disabilities

# Regional Transition Networks (RTN)

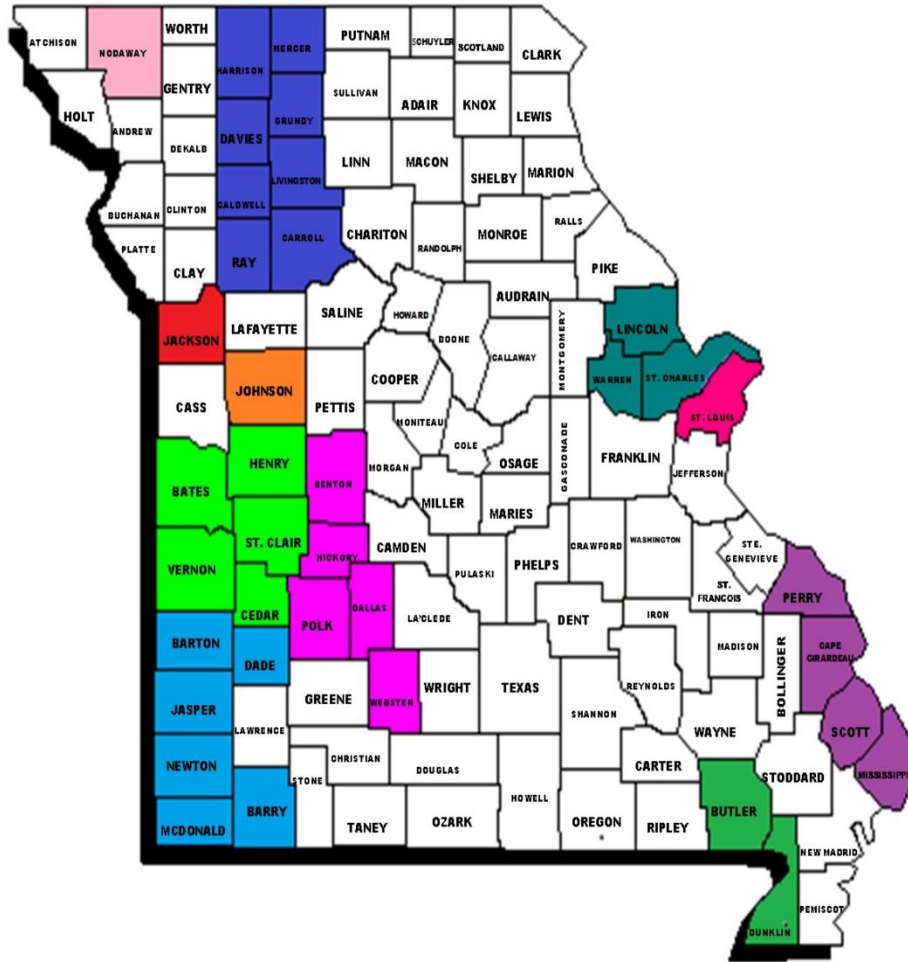
## WHAT IS AN RTN?

- Each RTN is made up of community stakeholders in the areas of employment, independent living and education.
- The purpose of an RTN is to develop a local and sustainable group focused on employment and independent living for youth with disabilities.
- Each RTN will create partnerships in the community that improve employment and independent living options for youth with disabilities.

## WHAT DO RTNS' DO?

- Identify current effective practices and community resources and services for transitioning youth.
- Identify barriers and gaps in services related to employment for people with disabilities.
- Create action plans for addressing the barriers and gaps.
- Work toward alleviating barriers and gaps in services through information, resources and training.
- Disseminate information about employment options and best practices in the region to families, youth with disabilities, and agencies.

# Regional Transition Network MAP



# Thank you!

Please take time to check out our website  
**<http://missouriparentsact.org>**

For any other questions, comments or concerns  
email us at **[info@ptimpact.org](mailto:info@ptimpact.org)**  
or call us toll free at 1-800-743-7634.