

LIFT MO | FACT SHEET

(The Learning Independence so Families Thrive Program)

DSS data shows that families accessing TANF prior to involvement with the child welfare system are twice as likely as the general Missouri population to be the subject of a Child Abuse and Neglect Investigation and twice as likely to have their children placed in foster care within 60 days of the hotline call. Families enter through the TANF “door” based on economic needs.

The goal of LIFT MO is to decrease the number of families on TANF with subsequent child welfare involvement by helping them connect to resources and build strong support systems. Additionally, the desire is to better understand resource gaps and lack of supports that lead families on TANF into the child welfare system more often. The pilot project will help determine how to build prevention systems further upstream that connect resources in a meaningful, usable way for families in crisis.

Why LIFT MO?

- One of Missouri’s top priorities is helping families/caregivers find resources and information they need to keep kids safe.
- Stable & nurturing families increase positive outcomes for children.
- Using the protective factors strengthens families, and promotes child well-being.
- In SFY22, Missouri had 58,242 child abuse and neglect reports involving 80,529 children.
- In SFY22, approximately 61% of those reports had assessments.

There are many ways to get connected:

Contact Vision for Children at Risk: ywest@visionforchildren.org Contact New Madrid County Family Resource Center: tonya@nmcfamilyresourcecenter.com

Contact at the state level DSS.LIFTMO@DSS.mo.gov or call (573)415-8337.

