

People First-St. Charles County Kicks Off Annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

People First-St. Charles County are once again partnering with the Developmental Disabilities Resource Board of St. Charles County (DDRB) to lead the 2013 Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month campaign in March.

Their advocacy efforts throughout the year helped them identify and develop the priority message of this year's campaign to remind all of us that words can be a taunt, a slur and an insult. Even when well-meaning people use the word as slang, it's meaning is demeaning and exclusionary. For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities it emphasizes how they continue to be viewed as less than others while at the same time they will tell you they don't want pity; they want change.



To help reach that goal in schools, People First members are expanding their outreach efforts to include Lindenwood University students who are pursuing degrees in education to emphasize the importance of People First Language in their lives as well as in their future careers.

Another priority area People First members identified is the recent local attention to residency restrictions of individuals with developmental disabilities and the action by some cities that have revised their local ordinances to remove those restrictions. People First members will present to the council members where they reside to express their appreciation to those cities where recent changes have been made and to impress upon all council members that they are active contributing citizens who have similar goals and desires as that of their neighbors and community as a whole.

A tentative schedule of People First presentations follows and anyone interested in showing their support is invited to attend these public meetings. Please contact People First-St. Charles County Advisor Susan Newton at 636-949-2425, extension 232 to confirm scheduled presentations.

Promotional items are available to those interested in participating in this outreach effort. Feel free to contact DDRB Community Resource Specialist Karen Craven at 636-939-3351, extension 3106 or by email at kcraven@ddrb.org.

REVISED April 1, 2013

**People First St. Charles County
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Presentation Schedule**

April 1, 2013 Monday	7:00 PM-8:00 PM	City of Lake Saint Louis Board of Alderman Meeting 200 Civic Center Drive, Lake Saint Louis, MO 63367
April 4, 2013 Thursday	7:00 PM—8:00 PM	Francis Howell School District Board of Education Meeting 4545 Central School Road St. Charles, MO 63304
April 9, 2013 Tuesday	7:30 PM-8:30 PM	City of Weldon Spring Board of Alderman Meeting 5401 Independence Road Weldon Spring, MO 63304
April 11, 2013 Thursday	7:00 PM—8:00 PM	City of St. Peters Board of Alderman Meeting 1020 Grand Teton, St. Peters, MO 63376
	7:30 PM-8:30 PM	St. Charles School District Board of Education Meeting 400 North 6th Street, Administrative Center, St. Charles, MO 63301
April 15, 2013	7:00 PM—8:00 PM	Fort Zumwalt School District Board of Education Meeting 110 Virgil St. O'Fallon, MO 63366
April 18, 2013 Thursday	7:00 PM—8:00 PM	DDRB Board Meeting 427 Spencer Road, Community Commons Building St. Peters, MO 63376
	7:00 PM—8:00 PM	City of Cottleville Board of Alderman Meeting 5490 Fifth Street, Cottleville, MO 63304
	7:00 PM—8:00 PM	Wentzville School District Board of Education Meeting One Campus Drive, Wentzville, MO 63385