



Training in Interdisciplinary
Partnerships and Services for Kids



TIPS for Kids Newsletter

Fall 2025

Current Trainees

Occupational Therapy

- Maya Broshears
- Bailey McCuddin
- Lucy O'Connor

Psychology

- Nick Blackwell
- Nick Kanne

Physical Therapy

- Ellie Moloney
- Ali Safris
- Becca Waligurski

Speech Language Pathology

- Maddy McCully
- Angela Lopez
- Anna Schepeler

Social Work

- Katie Hough

Dentistry

- Michelle Stegmann

Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics

- Tandy Korte

Self Advocate

- Jackson Wiley

Family Advocate

- Paula Sims

Current Faculty

Program Director

- Rosie Kaemmerer

Clinical Director & Speech Language Pathology

- Ashleigh Boyd

Occupational Therapy

- Lea Ann Lowery

Psychology

- Andy Knoop

Physical Therapy

- Abbey Twehous

Social Work

- Krista Rodgers

Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics

- July K. Jean Cuevas

Policy & Advocacy Postdoctoral Fellow

- Nathan Dare

Self Advocate

- Anand Prahlad

Family Advocate

- Gretchen Roberts



Thompson Center for
Autism & Neurodevelopment



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TIPS Carnival

TIPS hosted their 3rd annual Family Shadowing Carnival in September, complete with snacks and games! TIPS alums know that the Family Shadowing program is a cornerstone of the TIPS training program! During this experience trainees get a glimpse inside families lives outside of the clinical setting by visiting with their partnered family at least 3 times over the Fall semester. This program helps trainees understand the importance of providing family-centered care! The Family Shadowing Carnival kicks off this experience and helps trainees and families meet while enjoying a fun event together! If you or a family you know (in the Columbia/Jefferson City area) is interested in partnering with TIPS for this experience next year, contact Gretchen Roberts (robertsg@health.missouri.edu).



MO-LEND Foundations

While our full TIPS training program is only available to a limited number of trainees, this year, we launched MO-LEND Foundations to expand the reach of our training! During this pilot year, 31 trainees signed up to participate in MO-LEND sponsored activities online, including TIPS didactics, webinars offered through the Thompson Center, and other activities that highlight experiences of individuals with lived experience of disability, information about Autism and neurodevelopment, policy and advocacy, and interprofessional collaboration and practice. In other words, MO-LEND Foundations provides knowledge in the core components covered by the full TIPS for Kids training program, but with less time commitment. To complete this program, trainees must participate in at least 40 hours of training experiences with TIPS.

Leadership Projects

TIPS for Kids trainees partner with four local community agencies whose mission aligns with that of MO-LEND. This year, TIPS trainees are consulting with:

- Boone County Family Resources (Boone County Family Resources),
- the Thompson Center's Caregiver Connections,
- Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services (MACDDS), and
- community stakeholders who are interested in supporting neurodiverse individuals entering adulthood

These collaborative projects will be completed this spring and presented during the annual TIPS for Kids Poster Session on May 1

The Thompson Center is Moving!

If you haven't heard yet, the Thompson Center is getting a new building in March 2026! This means the 2025-2026 TIPS trainees will be the first cohort to enjoy this beautiful new building! In anticipation of moving next semester, TIPS trainees got to tour the new building with the Thompson Center's Executive Director, Dr. Connie Brooks.



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Join us for the TIPS Poster Session
May 1, 2026, 11:00-1:00