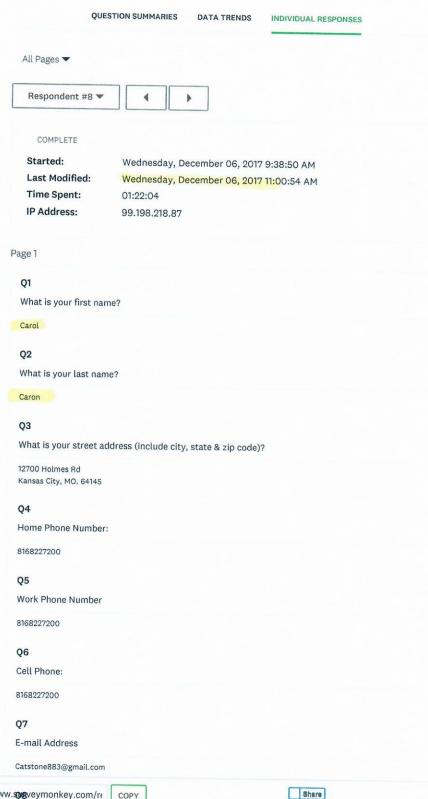


# Developmental Disability Services (EITAS) **Board Application**





Briefly describe your current employment:

I currently work from home as a parent advocate for my young child who happens to have a developmental disability. I recently graduated from Missouri Partners in Policymaking which is an eight month leadership program offered by the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council. Through the knowledge I gained in this program along with my own personal beliefs of what a 'high quality life' should be for every person, especially those with disabilities I am currently seeking an opportunity to further serve in my community where I can help facilitate system changes for those with disabilities so they may maintain as much independence and choices within their communities as possible.

# Q9

Are you currently a resident of Jackson County?

Are you paid current on all taxes, including Jackson County property taxes?

Yes

### 011

Do you currently have any business dealings with Jackson County, its officers or employees, or are you likely to in the future?

No

# Q12

Are you related to a person with developmental disabilities?

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# Q13

Briefly describe the nature of the relationship:

My youngest daughter who happens to have Down Syndrome.

# Q14

Why are you interested? Please provide a brief statement below that sets forth your education, training, experience and other qualifications and traits which you feel would serve you well as a member of the Board of Developmental Disability of Jackson County (EITAS):

I am interested because my beliefs mirror the mission of Eitas to foster support and inclusion for the individuals and families of those with developmental disabilities. To help provide services that will lead to increased independence, choices and opportunities in the community.

My history and ability to work in professional settings while interacting with people from very diverse walks of life as well as my optimistic open mindedness makes me ideal for this position. As a parent of a child with disability I can relate first hand to the desire to have the same quality life and choices you expect for your other children or yourself to also be available for your loved one with a disability.

I can't say enough great things about the Partners in Policymaking Leadership Program. This program was comprised of parent advocates as well as self advocates, some of the best insight I gained was from the adults with disabilities who were sitting along side me in the monthly sessions. These individuals taught me so much about how much we (society) should expect from them, about how much they desire the same things in life that we do and how much they deserve and strive to be a valued part of their communities. Nationally recognized speakers were brought in for the monthly sessions to cover topics such as the history of disability movements, quality education, housing and community based services, legislative process, employment, community supports and guardianship options. These speakers opened our minds to cutting edge best practices and supports to make all these services work for the disabled community.