

MoSPIN

PARENT TRAINING

Providing a **free** home-based program for families of children, birth through five years of age, who are visually impaired, including those with multiple disabilities and combined vision and hearing challenges.



MISSOURI STATEWIDE PARENT INVOLVEMENT NETWORK

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Missouri School for the Blind



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MoSPIN

Parent Training for Families of Children who are Visually Impaired, Birth through Five

What is MoSPIN?

MoSPIN is the Missouri State-wide Parent Involvement Network.

Since 1987, Missouri School for the Blind has been providing MoSPIN, a statewide home-based program, to assist Missouri families with young children who are visually impaired.

MoSPIN provides direct, in-home parent education across the state through specially trained “parent advisors.” The program is designed for parents of children who are visually impaired and who may also have other disabilities (cognitive impairment, hard of hearing, motor impairment, etc.).

What makes MoSPIN unique is its focus on the family rather than direct service to the child. Parents choose to be active learners in this home-based program.

Eligibility is based on a visual diagnosis by an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

How do MoSPIN services work?

MoSPIN includes the following components:

- Home visits by parent advisors: parents select one- or two-hour visits, not to exceed four hours per month
- Focus on parents as their child’s first and most important teacher
- Information to help parents understand their child’s visual diagnosis and learning characteristics
- Parent lessons on vision, communication, motor, hearing or cognition from the national INSITE curriculum
- Ongoing support and provision of resources to families



What do parents say about the program?

“MoSPIN has been an amazing program for us. We received emotional support, knowledge to use for our son and skills to help him in being a happy, healthy, independent child. “

“MoSPIN gave us confidence and knowledge to move forward as a family.”

“I was scared and in shock when my daughter was diagnosed. My parent advisor was really there for me... she not only provided education but empowered me and gave me courage to be the parent my daughter needs me to be for her to develop and learn.”

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<http://msb.dese.mo.gov/outreach-services/mospin.html>