



2009 Fairfax County Direct Support Professional Recognition Events

Supervisor	Event Host	Date	Host Profile
Chairman Sharon Bulova	LIFE Program, a college program for people with disabilities on the campus of George Mason University	9/10/2009	The Mason LIFE Program is an innovative post-secondary program for young adults, ages 18-23, with intellectual and developmental disabilities who desire a university experience. The program mission is to provide a supportive academic environment for students and to present an apprenticeship for George Mason University students to work as instructors, resident advisors, job coach, internship, practicum, licensure, independent study, field work, mentor, Best Buddy, and volunteers to gain important experience to work successfully with students who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. The direct support professionals in the LIFE program are instructors, resident advisors, and job coaches/assistants. The instructors teach academic classes, life and independent living skills, and employment training. Resident advisors live with students and support them to practice the skills they learned in the academic program. The job coach and assistants go to work with students to ensure success in transition from classroom learning to application of learned skills in the work environment.
Vice Chairman Penny Gross	Wilburdale Group Home, a residence for adults with intellectual disabilities	9/24/2009	The DSPs at Wilburdale complete many tasks 24/7 including assisting Individuals with: personal and oral hygiene; eating; community activities; medical appointments; transporting to and from work place; budgeting; maintaining their medical records; enhancing their daily living skills; monitoring health and safety; providing a safe environment; ensuring their rights; and overnight supervision for health and safety.
John Cook	Braddock Glen, an Adult Day Health Care program	9/23/2009	Program Assistants are the heart and soul of the program. They are responsible for implementing the therapeutic recreation program developed by the Recreation Therapist according to the needs of each individual participant. The activities range from morning exercise and strength training, to a variety of games, arts and crafts, educational updates, musical programs that are geared toward maintaining cognitive and/or physical abilities. The Program Assistants are the eyes and ears of the nurse, as they assist with meal set up, cutting meats, serving, toileting, incontinence care, ambulation, etc. They are quick to alert the nurse if they observe any physical or cognitive changes in a participant. They truly are the heart and soul of the program.



2009 Fairfax County Direct Support Professional Recognition Events

Supervisor	Event Host	Date	Host Profile
John Foust	Chesterbrook Residences, an affordable Assisted Living Facility	9/17/2009	Residents at Chesterbrook Residences nominated their home and won the 2009 Best Practice Award in the area of Housing, given by the Virginia Commonwealth Council on Aging. The staff and volunteers at Chesterbrook "take the Assisted" out of Assisted Living and have created a home where people "Live to his/her fullest!" The home is nestled in a wooded setting in Fairfax County, is beautiful and brags about its great cuisine.
Michael Frey	Direct Support Professional in a van to MVLE	9/17/2009	Without transportation, it would not matter where you worked during the day...a person would not be able to get there...For many people public fixed route or para-transit services are the key to their ability to be independent in the community. Physically accessible vehicles and routes are important, but the role of the Direct Support Professional in the transportation world is one that is often overlooked. DSP's often provide the ears, voice and problem solving support necessary to ensure a person is able to get from home to anywhere he/she wants in the community safely.
Pat Herryty	Direct Support Professional in a private home	9/3/2009	Tasha helps Bailey with many activities of daily living. She helps with therapy, positioning, using her communication device, and eating, She also helps her swim and play with sibs and peers
Cathy Hudgins	SPecially Adapted Resource Club (SPARC) for individuals with developmental disabilities	9/18/2009	SPARC demonstrates success as a unique "team building" model. Their approach is to provide a platform where young adults with life-long disAbilities have an interesting day full of friends and opportunities to give back to their community through various entrepreneurial and service projects. An active day starts early morning as participants arrive on public transportation with their DSPs and move through a dynamic day with SPARC's guided lessons in a community center. Everyone learns from each other! DSPs are valued by their clients and these "teams" grow into special relationships. DSPs and their clients have an interesting day filled with friends, fun, learning, and are fully integrated into their neighborhood. SPARC demonstrates the vital role DSPs provide as facilitators of "A Life Like Yours"!



2009 Fairfax County Direct Support Professional Recognition Events

Supervisor	Event Host	Date	Host Profile
Gerry Hyland	Brain Injury Services Club House, a membership driven club		ADAPT is a day support program that offers a work-ordered environment for persons with brain injuries utilizing innovative community and psychosocial supports that can increase the member's success in accessing employment and other integrated activities in their communities. The basic design is that of an intentional community designed to create an environment for individuals to achieve or regain their confidence and skills necessary to lead vocationally productive and socially satisfying lives. Members work side by side with staff in developing and meeting individual goals.
Jeff McKay	PRS Bath Street Group Home, a residence for women with mental illness in recovery	9/9/2009	Residents in the Bath St. project are learning how to improve independent living skills, interpersonal skills and receive skill teaching and support services to effectively manage mental illnesses and co-occurring disorders. Services are designed to promote recovery and to assist persons served with successful community integration. This is a joint project with Robert Pierre Johnson (RPJ) serving as the lease holder with oversight of the property management. PRS, Inc. is providing mental health support services for residents. The direct support professionals at PRS, Inc. include community support specialists, employment specialists/job coaches and rehabilitation coordinators.
Linda Smyth	Korean Personal Care Assistant training program	9/18/2009	The Korean PCA program is designed to train and certify individuals as personal care assistants who are equipped with linguistic and cultural competence skills to provide care to ethnic frail elderly persons. The Korean PCA program is proud to share that it has already certified over 350 PCAs and that half of them are working in the aging field.