

Realistic Job Preview

This is the real story about working with me. I hope it will help you decide if this is the right job for you or not. I am going to tell you about both the fun and hard parts of the job, including what the job is like, what I want and need help with, why direct service workers like working with me and what you need to know before you decide if you want to work with me.



Here is what you need to know about me

- My family is very important to me.
- I go to church every Sunday. My faith community is a big part of my life.
- I was a librarian before I retired. I love books and love to read.
- I enjoy playing cards at the Senior Center. I usually win!
- I keep my house very tidy. I expect that DSWs will help keep things neat.

Meet my family and friends who help me

- My daughter Natasha helps me with my supports and talks to my service coordinator. She comes by to make sure things are going ok.
- My son Andre helps me with chores around the house. He also gives me rides to places I need to go. He also helps me pay my bills.



Other DSWs who work with me

- Georgia is a friend from church. She has been working as my DSW for a few months. I like working with her because she has a great sense of humor. She is also very calm.



People and places I like

- I love my grandchildren to visit. They come over a lot and may be here when you are working.
- I like to go to the art museum.
- I enjoy eating out. I like to try new foods, but my favorite place to eat has St. Louis style BBQ.

What I want and need my DSWs to do

- I need help with household chores and laundry.
- I need rides to the store and other places I need or want to go.
- I need help with grocery shopping and preparing simple meals.
- Some parts of getting dressed are hard because of my stroke. I need assistance with my socks and shoes and with small buttons.
- I can shower by myself, but I need someone around in case I fall.
- I need someone to remind me to take my pills every day.



- I want someone who will enjoy talking about books, playing cards, and going places like museums.
- I want someone who is patient with my grandchildren when they are visiting.



Things I need help with but don't like to do

- My doctors want me to exercise every day. I need help to do it, but I don't enjoy it. Sometimes it makes me crabby.
- My doctors also want me to follow a low-sodium diet. When we cook together, it would be good if we tried low-sodium meals.



What my DSWs like about working with me

- I am easy-going and flexible most of the time.
- I am thoughtful and care about my DSWs.
- I have a good sense of humor.

Helpful things that my DSWs want to tell you about working with me



- Sometimes I am forgetful. I can forget to do things or forget things I said. This makes me frustrated.
- I get tired easily. Sometimes I want to do too much in a day.
- I am not always good about telling DSWs if they do something I don't like.
- Sometimes I am feeling sad and miss my husband, but I don't like to talk about it. DSWs should give me space.

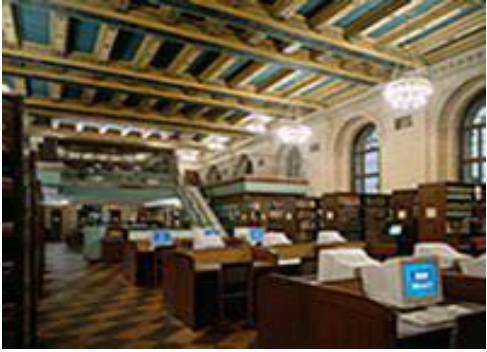
You need to be able to do the following things in order to work well with me

- I need DSWs who know how to drive.
- I need DSWs who are willing to help with cooking, cleaning, and laundry.
- I want DSWs who are respectful of my home and help keep it clean.
- I need DSWs who come to work on time.
- I want DSWs who check in about what needs to be done each day when they come to work.



Here are some favorite moments I want to share

This is the library where I used to work.



My husband and I were married for 57 years before he passed.



I grew up in Rochester, New York.



My husband and I went on a trip to South Africa. We loved to travel.



Make your decision

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about me. You need to decide if working with me is a good fit for you. I want DSWs who will take a personal interest in me and who will remain committed to me. I also want DSWs who will learn about the supports I need and provide these to me. It is very disruptive and hurtful to me when DSWs come and go. Think about what you have learned about me and working with me, sleep on it and then make your decision. I look forward to hearing from you!

<http://ildSPinitiative.com/docs/ToolkitforPeoplewithDisabilites.pdf>