



Alison has worked as a DSP for the JOBS, ETC. program at the Nashua Center since August 1, 2011. From the first day, Alison hit the ground running with an incomparable energy. The two individuals with whom she works pose very different wants, needs, and struggles. Alison found a wonderful rhythm in providing each individual with the specialized attention they deserve.

One individual Alison works with started a vending machine business in July of 2009. Since Alison has worked with him, his business and his involvement have both benefited. She helped him clean and reorganize his stocking cabinet to make it more accessible for him to see items that need replenishing. She helped him identify low selling items and they created a discount table to purge the snacks. She assisted him with taking consumer surveys of popular snacks and specialty items for sale. She helped him develop a regular schedule of stocking and shopping. This work has increased his business reputation and sales. Ultimately, it will lead to the individual obtaining a vending machine in a new location and expanding his business.

In addition, Alison has assisted this same individual with other areas of his day. The individual uses a communication device which she has assisted him in making it more specialized and useful. He can now play his favorite music whenever he chooses and identify the snacks he would like to purchase. She has assisted him in creating a more functional community schedule to include his regular shopping trips as well as going to the library on a weekly basis where he chooses movies to bring home for the weekends.

The other individual Alison supports has had some behavioral struggles in the past which had made it difficult to find the right person to work consistently with him. Alison took on this challenge with a smile. She spent time learning about his interests and helped him create a unique schedule which uses these interests in functional ways. Alison has assisted him in creating a paid recycling position in which he connected to several businesses in the area that keep recycling containers for his pick up. Along with this position, she assisted him in obtaining an ID so he can cash his own checks and he has purchased a new winter jacket for himself along with other needs and wants.

Alison has assisted this individual with creating a schedule which promotes his walking both inside the building and out in the community. He attends WOW gym with her and enjoys exercising in the community. This consistent work, attention, and increase in activity have greatly diminished the incidents of behavioral issues for this gentleman. In turn, the decreased incidents have increased others' level of comfort around him which adds to his social interactions.

Alison not only goes above and beyond during the day, but she also has provided support to the Nashua Center's Residential Program in the evenings and on the weekends. She brings the same energy and enthusiasm as she does during the day to the individuals at the group homes. Her willingness to help has been an immeasurable benefit to the clients and her co-workers.

In addition to her paid work, Alison had taken it upon herself to use her off-hours to spend time with a client and her mother. In creating this relationship, Alison helped to advocate for the client when she noticed she was exhibiting pain. She continues to check in on her at the local rehab where she has spent a considerable amount of time recovering. Alison not only visits the client, but she has offered transportation and continued support to the client's mother.

Although Alison has only been with the Nashua for a few months, the work she has done will no doubt be remembered by these individuals for a lifetime. We are proud to nominate Alison Wright for the Monthly Service Award.

*~JOBS ETC. Program Coordinators*