

Dungarvin

2014 ANCOR Direct Support Professional of the Year Nomination



Edna Quarcoopome- Dungarvin Ohio

nomination submitted by Yacine Diallo, Program Director

K.J. is a loner. Furthermore, he would always engage in disruptive behaviors when asked open-ended questions. Since Edna started working with him, however, she has supported K.J. with going out in the community. Every Wednesday, he waits patiently for Edna's shift to start in order to go to the movies. Furthermore every Saturday, he looks forward to having staff take him to his family for a visit. K.J. was reluctant to attend his appointments due to the multiple questions he faces from the nurses. This was a concern due to his diabetes and high blood pressure. However, with Edna as his staff, she would communicate with K.J. by leaving him notes in order for him to be prepared for the upcoming event. As a result, K.J. has been attending all of his appointments. In addition, he has become an active participant during his annual meetings. Most importantly, he greets everyone by their names. Although he can still get irritated from time to time, a huge improvement has been seen with him since Edna started working with him.

Edna has enhanced K.J.'s level of participation in his household activities. She observed that leaving notes for him will provide results. Whenever he engages in a positive behavior, she communicates with him and leaves feedback in a note. She also started scheduling movie outings every Wednesday. As a result, by the time Edna would come for her morning shift on Wednesday, K.J. has washed all of his dirty dishes, mopped the floor, taken a shower and is waiting for Edna to take him to the movies.

K.J. is a diabetic and has hypertension. His doctor suggested for staff to check his blood sugar on a regular basis. However, he would throw items at staff if they attempted to check his vital signs or blood sugar. Edna observed that K.J. always allowed the nurses at the doctor's office to check his blood sugar and blood pressure. She suggested Dungarvin arrange for an outside nurse to come to his house and check his blood sugar and blood pressure. K.J. has responded well to this suggestion. His blood sugar and blood pressure are being checked daily. As a result, the team has been able to make necessary changes to his medications and address his medical issues in a timely manner. When

Edna observed K.J. was not staying home for his 4PM medications, she shared her concerns with her supervisor and county personnel. As a result, it was decided the nursing service will administer the meds when he leaves before the end of the shift.

This year K.J. had an outbreak of bed bugs in his apartment. Edna communicated with the apartment management and helped with scheduling the extermination treatments. During each treatment, K.J. had to leave his apartment for few hours. By the time he returned home, Edna's work schedule would have ended. K.J. unfortunately has difficulty opening his door on his own. He had 4 treatments scheduled. During each of those times, Edna would leave her house to check on K.J. and help him enter his apartment. There have been occasions when K.J. has missed his afternoon medication administration with the nursing service due to not being at home. After receiving this feedback, Edna has returned to his apartment to ensure he takes his meds.

Edna has encouraged K.J. to participate in his services by encouraging him to write her notes describing he needs. Edna's willingness to write notes to K.J. has helped him maintain his reading skills. Her encouragement for his participation in his supports has helped him improve his writing skills.

Although Edna is not in a leadership position, her organizational skills have been held up as an example by her program manager to train other house coordinators. She consistently completes and submits her paperwork on time. K.J's benefits have never been cancelled and her communication with outside agencies has proven to be essential in maintaining K.J's livelihood.