

Dungarvin

2014 ANCOR Direct Support Professional of the Year Nomination



Rosa Ochoa – Dungarvin Oklahoma

nomination submitted by Chris Serafino, Program Director

This DSP nomination is the result of an employee who has dedicated her career to serving people with disabilities. She has worked with Dungarvin Oklahoma for the last 15 years and believes that she receives more from the individuals than what she could ever give. Rosa works in a supported house with very diverse individuals with different needs of care. She assists with completing goals and objectives set forth both by the individuals and the state, to develop daily as well as long term independence.

Rosa has been working for the last 4 plus years with an individual who has had regular and extreme physically assaultive behaviors. The team's goal has been to get him to a point where he might be considered for employment in the community. He recently achieved this goal and is currently seeking employment. This four year journey of highs and lows resulted from the team work between this individual and this staff. Rosa initiated these efforts and it has yielded great success.

Rosa works with three individuals on a daily basis Monday through Friday. She has bonded with the guys and provides them the best care possible. She is the Residential Coordinator of this site and is very effective in scheduling appointments and making sure the men attend, arranging for activities regularly such as Music in the Park, Foundations, movies, going out to eat, attending amusement parks and any activity of their choosing. She has also earned the trust of families, guardians and professional staff. The men are enjoying improved health due to the excellent medical follow up that Rosa facilitated. They, along with her supervisor, have the utmost trust in Rosa based on the integrity she exhibits daily.

Although Rosa works two full time jobs, the level and quality of the job she provides never falters. She often neglects her own family in order to meet the needs in the home for which she works.

Ms. Ochoa is willing to get the individuals out in the community, participating in activities that they do not know that they will like until they have given them a try. She was essential in scheduling outings for the

home to attend Music in the Park this last summer, opening these guys up to hearing music played live. It was a 10 week series. She gets them involved in the Moose and Elks clubs, as they have parties for those with disabilities.

Rosa establishes high standards in this site for staff performance, to make sure that they provide the best care for these individuals. She is a powerful role model for all those around her. All staff are consistently aware of changes in the home and Rosa's level of communication with them is exemplary.