

Christy Malmsten

What I do as a Direct Support Professional:

Help meet ISP Goals of five individuals. (Individual Support Plans)

Each person has about two weekly goals and 8 yearly goals so this adds to 10 weekly commitments that the state expects me to implement as well as 40 things that people will go do as in coast trips, cruises, hikes etc....

As a lead DSP some of my roles are to help train new employees.

I have responsibility under a licensed RN. Just a few of these are to test blood sugar levels and follow doctor protocols with insulin injections. Support people in following doctors' orders to many times helping count calories and other times puréeing food.

*It is my job to shop weekly to monthly (depending on staffing that particular week) (most dsp do grocery shopping for the house following a menu plan)

*It is in my job title to know any ppi's personal planned implementation so if there are specific things this person may do (behaviorally) what the best way to assist de escalate a person could be.

*As a DSP we set medical appointments. Since many are woman we set mammograms, colonoscopies, annual physicals and help them prep before the day. It is our job to assure that each of the five individuals in the homes are as healthy and socially integrated as possible. As a best practice dsp: It has been my goal to set Health directives in place for all over 50 years of age that desire to do so and help them understand the specifics of this.

*It is my obligation to be sure guardians and parents involved can have a smooth understanding of how their child / sibling is doing and help explain any questions on a regular basis to them.

*I review medical books and assure that things are above state standards.

*We are responsible to have the home clean and in good repair and report maintenance of car and three bathrooms.

*It is our job to advocate for these individuals in the community and at appointments and so much more.

When I added four occupations and averaged the wages that these four similar careers pay in the state of Oregon, I found we were at a 9.00 an hour lower pay scale. To pay us a living wage to where we do not need to live with a friend or relatives would not be asking to do us a favor but would be requesting you simply pay us for the work we are doing five to six days a week and forty plus hours a week.

Thank you for your time.