

# - DSP Spotlight -

January 2025

## Jayne Kurkul



**What do you like to do in your free time?** In my free time I enjoy many things. I cherish time spent with my family and friends, getting together for holidays, birthdays or any time. I enjoy reading, puzzles and crafts, cooking, entertaining, live performances of any kind, concerts, theater and local band. I also enjoy taking walks on nice days especially in any of the area parks; Cuyahoga Valley National Park is my favorite!

**How long have you worked as a Direct Support Professional?** I have been a DSP for 4 years.

**How did you start in the field?** I started in the field by answering a Facebook post. I initially started to earn additional income to help pay for an auto lease for our daughter while she attended Physical Therapy School at Cleveland State University. She has since graduated, and I am still working for my client. I have always enjoyed working with people and for many years was a childcare provider.

**Has there ever been anyone that has stood out to you as a mentor in this field?** My client stands out to me as a mentor. She is always patient and understanding. She has taught me so many things about individuals with disabilities and always has information directing me to where I can learn more.

**What is your favorite thing to do with the people you serve?** My favorite thing to do with her is to go on outings, I enjoy taking her to places she needs to go to or wants to go. I like when I can infuse a little spontaneity for her from time to time. I also like when we make meals together, she will find a new recipe to try and I assist with the prep, and to date, don't think we have ever had a failure!

**What is your favorite part of being a Direct Support Professional?** My favorite part of being a DSP is being able to help make a difference for someone and hopefully make their day a bit brighter.

**Narrative:** Jayne Kurkul is a great example of what a DSP should be. Jayne has been extremely dependable and always shows up to work in a pleasant mood. She goes above and beyond for those that she works with and has a willingness to just jump in and assist. I wish we could clone her!

**Thank you for your outstanding contributions to helping people with developmental disabilities and their families in Medina County. Thank you for sharing your dedication and commitment to making a difference in the lives of others every single day.**

