

My Story

Hi, I'm Jeff and I am 49 years old. I am a proud employee at PetSmart for 18 years. Right now I work in the cat department. I love my job and I get along with people very well. I have aspergers, so while I may need some time to adjust when we move things around in the store, I have a really good memory for details.

"Jeff is very neat, organized and has everything where it is supposed to be," said PetSmart supervisor Dan Monter. "He's great with customers. He never calls off and he's always asking for more hours."

Stark DD Service and Support Administrator Holly Minarik first got to know Jeff in her position as his job coach 18 years ago. "When he started, Jeff struggled with modular changes because he likes things in order. Now when I check on Jeff as his SSA, I can see that when there is a change he does well. He goes straight to work and knows where everything goes."

In addition to his SSA, Stark DD helps Jeff by funding a Medicaid waiver to pay for services. This funding helps Jeff live independently in an apartment in our community.

continued





"I have worked with Jeff for 14 years," said Amy Kelly, a Direct Support Professional (DSP) with Break Thru, Inc., a community provider in Stark county. "I help Jeff with homemaker personal care tasks, including cooking meals, shopping, and rides to work or outings in the community.

In addition to his job, Jeff enjoys reading, and attending services at John Knox Presbyterian Church, and visits the North Canton Library frequently. "I like to read books, especially history and sports books. They (the library staff) all know me."

A native of Waynesburg, Ohio, Jeff enjoys his family, that includes his parents, sister and three nephews.







