

HELP FOR GOOD

Anne



Stark County
Board of
Developmental
Disabilities



Anne

I'm Anne Lauren Simmerman. I am 38 years old. I have lived all my life in the Canton area. Right now I live with my mom and dad, Karen and Sam. I love living at home. I talk to my parents all the time and tell my mom everything. I keep my bedroom and my TV area organized. I do my own laundry, cook some of my own food and help my mom with chores and in the yard. I love movies, Classic TV shows, reading books, and music.

I have an older brother and younger sister, 4 nephews and 1 niece. I love spending time with all of them. I love spending time with Ashleigh my HPC provider. We do interesting stuff like crafts, cooking, shopping and going to movies. I can talk to her about anything. I used to do Special Olympics through Stark DD. I have done track, softball, swimming and bowling. I met many friends this way. I was in the Hand Prints signing choir. I loved doing music and signing and performing for people. At my old church, Grace UMC, I was in a puppet ministry, led by Lee and Diane for a lot of years and we performed for people.

I was born with Down Syndrome and was in the Stark County DD infant and toddler program. They helped with my speech and helped me learn a lot. I went to North Canton schools.

After I graduated high school, I worked on a cleaning crew at Malone College, actually Malone University now. I had many job coaches who helped me a lot to learn cleaning techniques. I learned to pay attention to detail when I cleaned and not to socialize too much when working. Some of my job coaches were Kathy, Wendy, Pam, Shannon, Millie, Pat and others. I worked



Me and Mom



*(Top) Me and my Dad, and siblings;
(Bottom) my three nephews.*

there for over 16 years. On days I did not work at Malone, I also went to Avenue for Independence where we cleaned at some businesses and did some cooking and had small group classes and had fun.

Stark DD, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) and Gentlebrook helped me when I was ready to look for a job in the community. I found a job at Taco Bell where I work now. I have worked there since 2019. I started on my birthday and they had a cake for me when I went there. I love working at Taco Bell. It was my dream job. I do cleaning. I think I'm a really good cleaner. Everyone likes me and they think I do a good job too. They always support me. I have transportation to work from Clearview Developmental Services. I also go to Clearview on days that I don't work at Taco Bell. At Clearview we also do work, learn to cook and also have fun.

Stark DD has helped me learn how to work. My SSA Allison and others have helped me find opportunities. I have met a lot of good people who have helped me. I have had the chance to make friends. I have had opportunities to have fun and socialize.

Thank you to everybody for supporting me and encouraging me.



Ashleigh, my HPC provider, and me

