



**Job Title:** Direct Support Professional IV

**Location:** Middletown, NY

**Company Description:** Welcome to an agency that is passionate about supporting the families and communities of the Hudson Valley. We have been evolving services for people facing the challenges of disability and mental illness for over 50 years. Today we offer a broad range of programs and touch thousands of lives every week. Yet we always work hard to focus on the needs and potentials of one person at a time. Our many and varied services are all focused on one goal: helping people with challenges live the fullest life possible. We believe each of us is entitled to a voice in establishing our own life goals and strive to treat each person we assist as a partner. We are committed to making a positive difference in the communities where we live and work.

**Roles and Responsibilities:** Direct Support Professionals work as part of an interdisciplinary team (MSC, Clinical staff, families, advocates, etc.) providing services to adults with developmental disabilities. Our mission is to help our individuals live happy, healthy, and fulfilling lives. Depending on the needs of the individuals, Direct Support Professionals provide assistance with living skills development, health maintenance and medication administration, personal care, and behavioral development.

Direct Support Professionals work in a number of settings including Group Homes (small residential homes or apartments that serve 2-8 people), Day Programs (living skills & pre-employment training), Home & Community Based Services Habilitation Planning (in-home care and supports), and Vocational Rehabilitation (job skill training and job placement).

Working under the direction of a Supervisor, Direct Support Professionals work to provide services that enrich the lives of our individuals. An emphasis is placed on creating a family-environment that encourages the individuals to self direct and experience their life to the fullest. Direct Support Professionals assist the individuals in participating in daily and weekly activities of their choice or as needed such as shopping going to movies, enjoying hobbies, etc. Direct Support Professionals also assist, advocate and support individuals to be fully integrated into their communities.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:** Providing our individuals with the highest quality of care and services is our mission. The Agency has an unwavering commitment to quality, ethics, and helping people fulfill their dreams and goals. Employees are expected to perform their duties and responsibilities aligned with our Vision and Values. Occassions may occur where coverage and assistance is needed within geographical area.

Some of the duties and responsibilities vary in intensity and frequency from daily total care to frequent or occasional verbal and emotional support depending on the assignment.

- **Advocacy**—Assists individuals with achieving personal outcomes; works on behalf of individuals to overcome barriers; helps individuals participate in activities of their choice; respects individual's personal beliefs, choices, and interests
- **Health Maintenance**—Provides care and assistance to promote good health; helps individuals receive medical care and communicates with medical professionals; administers medications according to physician instructions; records information regarding health events, conditions, and status; provides First Aid/CPR and seeks emergency medical care when needed
- **Personal Care**—Helps individuals with eating, grooming, dressing, bathing, and toileting; assists individuals with their mobility including lifting them from a seated or lying down position, helping them walk and maintain stability
- **Living Skills Development**—Helps individuals develop living skills such as cooking, money management, household shopping, doing laundry, personal hygiene, etc; teaches work-related skills and job preparedness; supports individuals in job search process and maintaining job performance; Additionally, assist with developing relationships connected to natural supports and records progress on skill development and achievement
- **Behavior Development**—Serves as role model and mentor, demonstrating the desired behaviors, and coaches the individuals using approved techniques and strategies; uses approved physical intervention techniques when necessary to protect individuals and others
- **Operational Support**—Maintains cleanliness of program; drives company vehicle to transport individuals to their activities; completes tasks that are beyond the individual's abilities; follows policies and procedures for handling money
- **Professional Behavior**—Acts in a professional manner and visionary manner and communicates effectively with others; completes training programs; attends required meetings

**Qualifications:** In order to perform these functions and meet the requirements put forth by Office of People with Developmental Disabilities, applicants for the Direct Support Professional position must:

1) be able to legally work in the United States; 2) be 18 years of age or 21 for positions that require the employee to be a driver; 3) for assignments that require the employee to drive a vehicle, must meet the qualifications of a driver as established by our insurance carrier and 4) be able to pass a background check and receive a fingerprint clearance; and ) be able to provide 3 verifiable non-family references including 1 previous employer.

**Education:**

- Bachelor's Degree in a related field with some experience with clinically challenged/dually diagnosed population/individual with forensic backgrounds.
- Or Bachelor's Degree with 1 year experience with clinically challenged/dually diagnosed population/individual with forensic background.
- Or AA with 2 years experience with clinically challenged/dually diagnosed population/individual with forensic background.
- Or 5 years experience with clinically challenged, dually diagnosed clients or experience with clients who may have a forensic background
- Or Experience with profoundly disabled and medically involved

**Additional Information:** ALL POSITIONS ARE SUBJECT TO A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND, FINGERPRINTING AND MOTOR VEHICLE REPORT CHECK. ALSO, ALL OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT ARE CONTINGENT ON SUBMISSION TO A PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG TEST AND RECEIPT OF A NEGATIVE DRUG TEST RESULT

***Interested candidates please [click here](#) to apply.***

*MHVC and its network of partners are equal opportunity employers who agree not to discriminate against any employee or job applicant because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, physical or mental disability, or age.*