SEPTEMBER 2026

MORE THAN A JOB

MEET MARIA

For Maria, being a DSP has never felt like just a job. She comes in each day excited to see her participants, spend time with them, and be part of their lives. Ask her whether she likes being a DSP, and she'll quickly tell you, **"Liking it? I'm loving it!"**

Maria cares for the people she supports like family, putting her whole heart into making sure they are healthy, happy, and well cared for. She takes the time to learn each person—how they communicate, what makes them happy, and what they need when they're having a difficult day. Those relationships are what make the work so meaningful to her.

"It's the best feeling when they are laughing. I'm happy too. I'm part of their life."





That connection also guides Maria through the more challenging moments. She understands that every participant communicates differently, so she pays attention to their behaviors and emotions and takes the time to understand what they may need. For Maria, providing support starts with patience, empathy, and truly getting to know the person in front of her.

That genuine connection is also why Maria doesn't always think of what she does as "work."

"When someone says, "Thank you for what you do," I honestly don't feel like I'm working because I love it so much!"

This DSP Recognition Week, we celebrate her for bringing so much love, empathy, and heart to the people she supports every day. 💙