

# Invaluable

the unrecognized profession of direct support



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Direct Course  
ONLINE CURRICULA FOR LIFE IN COMMUNITY



# The Evolving Role of Direct Support

<b>Historical expectations of DSP role:</b>	<b>Evolved expectations of DSP role:</b>
Caretaker, Custodial and Companion Care	Ambassador, Mentor & Teacher
Meets basic health and safety needs only	Holistic Wellness
Follows a one-size fits all plan	Sets personal goals with the person
Must have supervision to make all decisions	Confident to make decisions independently
Supports people to be IN their community	Supports people to become OF their community



# What can you do?

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- Ensure that others know who DSPs are, what they do, and why they are important.
- Create opportunities to improve DSP identity, expand role perception, respect, and recognition.
- Advocate for funding, such as rate increases, to increase DSP wages and support quality training for DSPs as professionals.
- Urge your policy makers to support a Bureau of Labor Statistics occupational title for direct support professionals.
- Ask legislators to fund and incentivize employers to use career building, competency-based training models.
- Provide DSPs with training that addresses role-evolution, opportunities for advancement and wage increases.

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Thank you for attending “Invaluable: the unrecognized profession of direct support”



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*Evolving your workforce to advance home + community-based service outcomes.*

*I/DD • Direct Support • Employment Services • Community Mental Health*

*No Wrong Door • Case Management • Supports Coordination*

*Home Care for Older Adults • Physical Disabilities • Self-Direction*

Competency-Based Training | Culture-Shifting | Person-Centered | Strength-Based | Community Living

