



2023 RISING STAR AWARD FINALIST

QUINN BANG

Creative Care for Reaching Independence

Quinn works in a home where her clients struggle with negativity. Quinn has brought positivity, and self-love into her clients' lives. Quinn created a board at the site, which consists of a mirror surrounded by positive affirmations. Every time her clients walk out the door, they can see themselves in the mirror with those statements as a positive reminder. This has helped remind them to look for the positive each day! The site's calendar is also filled with appointments they often dread. Quinn has added fun stickers, sayings, and color coded it to relieve some of the stress surrounding this calendar. This has changed her client's views about this calendar making it much more approachable and welcoming!

Prior to Quinn coming into Curt's life, he struggled opening up to staff and often refused to partake in his preferred activities. When Quinn was hired to be his 1:1, they quickly found a common interest for their love of cats. Quinn and Curt have volunteered at a local animal shelter together twice a week. Curt has enjoyed this activity immensely and has developed relationships with the people he volunteers with at the shelter. The duo also used their common love for coffee to develop a routine of stopping at Starbucks along the way. They have also shopped at many antique stores often looking for military memorabilia; which is something Curt really enjoys. Over the course of the last year and a half, Quinn has used these common interests to build rapport with Curt and the progress he has made has been incredible.

Having spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy created obstacles for Curt, one of those is being in a wheelchair. When his team noticed he needed a new chair, Curt was referred to physical therapy. When PT came up with a plan for Curt to stand, he wasn't so sure. Quinn was quick to jump right in and be right by his side while he completed his goal of standing for 1 minute a day. She played cat racing videos and model train videos to encourage Curt during this time. The cat racing videos entail multiple little kittens racing in a field. Before the video begins, Quinn and Curt each pick which kitten they think will win the race. Curt begins standing when the cats begin. Meanwhile Quinn performs a wall sit to show they are in this together. Once the first kitten crosses the finish line, Curt and Quinn will sit down. Because of Quinn's relationship with Curt and creativity, he conquered this goal and has progressed to walking! This is something both Curt and his family never thought he would be able to do. His team cannot wait to see what the future holds for Curt with Quinn alongside!