

## *Meet Lisa:*

Lisa Coniglio has been a DSP worker for two years in Tioga County for Racker. Her background is in science with a doctorate in neurobiology. Lisa wanted a career where she could directly interact with people. She went in blind and absolutely loves it.

Lisa's daily routine involves meeting 2-3 people a day and taking them out into the community to build everyday life skills. She works about 30-35 hours a week. "The most rewarding part of my job," explains Lisa, "is seeing the direct results of what I do every day."



Lisa has worked with an individual named Richard whose main objective is to make friends in the community. He loves live music so once a week they go to an open mic at a local coffee shop. Lisa says, "he made so many friends and when he requests songs that the artists do not know they go home and learn the song and sing it for him the next time." If they miss a week at the coffee shop, everyone asks where they were. When debating on not going to the coffee shop, Richard says, "We have to go so they won't miss us." This makes Lisa happy and proud.

Lisa also works with a lot of non-verbal people and one of them has a doll that she takes everywhere. She becomes more verbal with the doll. Even though she doesn't speak much, she wants to be a part of things and Lisa makes it work. Though there are some challenges, adapting and finding places that are appropriate for people are key components to making sure her patients are a part of things. "Everyone deserves to be a part of the community," said Lisa.

Lisa works hard to ensure that people are comfortable and she's always finding resources to make everyone achieve their goals and dreams.