



DSP in the Spotlight: Theresa Ramsey, Community Living

Theresa Ramsey as you are about to learn, grew up in the Brooklyn area of New York and came to Kentucky in 2005. She is a resilient and curious person and a strong advocate on behalf of people with disabilities. If you have the opportunity to talk with Teresa you will discover that she doesn't hold back. It is my pleasure to introduce you to Teresa!

What is your full name?

Theresa Marie Ramsey

Where did you live when you were born?

Brooklyn, New York.

Where did you attend high school?

Bishop Kearney High School a catholic school for girls located in Brooklyn, NY.

How old were you when you got married?

23 years old

How many children did you have?

One boy, Justin, who is 17 and one girl, Alexa, who is 10

What was your first job?

Working at Court Pastry where I served customers stuffed cannoli.

Have you ever had a pet?

All my life I've had a dog. I currently have a dog a little black lab and a gray tabby cat.

What is your favorite television show?

Right now it is 24. That's the only show I'll make sure I am home to see.

What is your favorite color?

Black

What are your interests, hobbies or activities that you participate in when you are not working?

I like to read, play bingo, bingo, bingo, go to the casino, sports with the kids, spending time with my family and church.

How long have you worked at the Community Living?

I have been at Community Living for 3 1/2 years but have worked in the field for 24 years.

Why did you become a DSP?

I was losing a job and my boss's wife told me she was opening a group home in NY and said I should work for her. I did, and

I loved it and have been doing it ever since. I had a cousin with Down syndrome and if she were alive today, I would want her in a place as nice as the ones we have.

What do you like about it?

It's rewarding. You empower people to find their own voices. It's rewarding, even on a bad day.

What is your philosophy toward the work you do?

Anything is possible and nothing is impossible!

What motivates you to do your best on the job?

Giving my best can impact the quality of another person's life.

What is your greatest strength?

Addressing the needs of individuals who have behavioral challenges; my organizational skills; and I am a caring self-less individual.

What is your life message?

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything.

Let's take money out of the equation and say that you don't need for anything. What would you focus on doing

if you could do whatever you wanted in this world, as it exists now?

Making sure every human in the world has a roof over their head, food on their table and medical coverage.

If you could ask one question of people you meet, what would you ask them?

UH...Hi, what's your name...I'm not going to ask anything to in-depth when I first meet them. Stick to the basics..... "What do you do for a living"?

What do you want to contribute to others?

To know that I made their life a little bit better.

What do you want from others?

Compassion. I want the world to have compassion for each other.

How have you handled challenges in your life?

I know Theresa has had challenges in her life but I think the fax machine dropped her answer. So next time you see her maybe she will share with you her challenges as well as what she wants from life.

