Daily Progress John 6/10/14 Written by Genni Sasnett, DSP Total hours of service 6

John met me and his friend DW at Union Station at 9:30am. We proceeded to the bus stop where he independently used his pre-purchased fare card to board the bus and pay his fare. He recognized the stop at his destination and exited the bus without assistance. He proceeded by foot to the Washington Humane Society (WHS), acknowledging and adhering to all crosswalk notifications and looking each way before crossing busy streets.

We arrived at the WHS at 10:00 am. John greeted the staff at the front desk and they returned the greeting, calling him by name and “chatting” for a few minutes. John went to the staff locker room where he recognized his locker and independently opened it with his key. He changed into his smock with no assistance. He required some support putting shoe covers on. After dressing, John proceeded to the volunteer office to wait for his assignment for the morning.

John was assigned to the cat room. Several other volunteers were in the cat room. John engaged in conversation with the volunteers he had previously met and appropriately introduced himself to the new volunteers. John’s task was to water and feed the cats which he was able to do with some support and coaching from familiar peers. The volunteer coordinator also positively engaged him throughout the two hour time period he was at the WHS.

After completing his volunteer tasks at 12:00, John independently removed his smock and placed it in the wash bin. He removed his shoe covers and placed them in the trash. His friend DW, who had been volunteering with the cats but in a room adjacent to John’s was picked up at noon to go to another activity. Upon leaving we noticed volunteers from the WHS entering a nearby coffee shop. Seeing an opportunity to further develop relationship with the volunteers, we decided to go to the shop as well. They invited John to sit with them which clearly delighted him. I assisted him to purchase a cup of coffee as he needed some support to manage the payment. He was independently able to eat his lunch while talking with the others. I faded back from the group while remaining in the shop to allow John time with his friends. I heard John asking the other volunteers about animals and sharing his hope of one day working with them. The volunteers encouraged him and talked about their own experiences working with animals. This appears to be a routine for the volunteers. John stated that he hopes he will be welcome to join the group. I told him I would assist him to do that.

At 1:00pm I had to remind John that it was time to leave for his appointment at City Paws, a veterinary clinic, where he had an appointment to tour and conduct an informational interview. City Paws is one of the clinics closest to John’s home. We will continue to work on telling time so that John is able to better manage his own time and schedule.

We traveled by bus to the next destination. John did not recognize the bus stop as it was not one he had been to before but was able to manage all other aspects of travel independently. Upon arriving at City Paws John was able to ask the receptionist for the person he was to meet for the tour. He greeted the person providing the tour very appropriately and was able to state what his interest was. I accompanied them on the tour but hung back in order to allow John to be as independent as possible. He did a great job of asking appropriate questions about the types of jobs at the clinic of the person conducting the tour and the workers he encountered. Afterwards he sat in the office with the tour guide and asked additional questions including the qualifications for different positions. He needed some prompts to recall all of the questions he had previously said he wanted to ask. He thanked the staff for their time and wished them well.

We went to the bus stop and proceeded back to Union Station for John to be picked up by staff. On the ride we talked about the day. We discussed what he had learned, whether he had enjoyed the day and some skills he would like to focus on like time telling and learning to ride the bus independently. He stated that it was a “great day”. He especially liked the lunch with the volunteers and the tour at City Paws. He also talked about DW and how he liked going to WHS with him. We talked about the schedule for the next time we meet and said goodbye at 3:00pm when he was picked up by staff.