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**Press Release**

*September 13 – 19, 2020*

**DDS Celebrates Direct Support Professionals Week**

**Monday, September 14, 2020**

Washington, DC— Mayor Muriel Bowser has issued a proclamation designating September 13 - 19, 2020 as Direct Support Professional Week in Washington, DC.  The annual event celebrates front line professionals who provide essential supports to people with intellectual disabilities. This year due to the pandemic, various organizations will host virtual events to highlight and strengthen the skills and talents these dedicated workers bring to their chosen field.

In May, the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) hosted a virtual awards ceremony for the **2020 DSP of the Year.** Fifty-five DSPs out of 300 nominees were recognized for their commitment to helping people with disabilities live life their way.  Jason McGaughey of RCM of Washington is the 2020 DSP of the Year for the District of Columbia.  Learn more about him and DSPs around the nation in the digital publication Recognizing Excellence 2020.

For more information about Direct Support Professionals Week, clickhere. A copy of the Mayoral Proclamation follows this press release.

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For more information, contact Jocelyn Harris, Public Information Specialist at Jocelyn.Harris2@dc.gov or 202-664-2162

The Department on Disability Services is a dynamic organization serving people with disabilities through the services of the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). This comprehensive collaborative approach provides innovative high quality services that enable people with disabilities to lead productive lives as vital members of their families, schools, workplaces, and communities. Learn more at: www.dds.dc.gov and follow us on Twitter or Facebook.



