

Hi! I'm Mary Beth and I love my life now that I am in Self Directed Services. For 10 years I was in traditional services: that is a group home and a day workshop. I wasn't happy and started showing it through my behavior. My family heard there was another way to support me and to help me live the life I wanted. Since 2009 I have been self directing my services and my life is sooooo much better. I get to live in my own condo with a typical roommate and I hire the people I want to support me. I have a great team of part time ladies that help get me to my part-time volunteer activities at nursing homes and soup kitchens (pre Covid of course!) as well as to my community activities such as zumba, fitness classes, bowling, movies, and my favorite - eating out at restaurants. I



need you to pass **HB 318/SB 441**.

Since my family knows me best, they help with the hiring and training of staff. My Dad is my support broker and I need him to advocate for me. I am non verbal and communicate with signs and gestures and so people outside my family don't always understand what I need and want. **HB 318/SB 441** ensures that my family can always be there to support me and assist me in hiring people who will help me be the best person I can be. **HB 318/SB 441** creates an advisory board to help DDA know what is best for people in self directed services. Having **choices** about what I do each day and who works with me is very important. I need to have **control** over my life to be happy. Thank you for all you do to help me live this good life!



Here I am last year with my staff before Covid 19 and masks!!!

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