



LIFEDesigns

Opportunities for Independence

200 E. Winslow Rd.
Bloomington, IN 47401

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Russell J. Bonanno, MEd

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Chief Executive Officer

812-332-9615

rbonanno@lifedesignsinc.org

LIFEDesigns SHOWS DSPs THEY ARE ESSENTIAL THROUGH NADSP MEMBERSHIP

ALBANY, NY. (January 1, 2020) LIFEDesigns has started a membership with the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP), which demonstrates a dedication to Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), other employees, and people receiving services. Through this NADSP Membership, LIFEDesigns will take proactive steps to invest in staff development and allocate resources to elevate the status of DSPs, such as providing the tools needed for success in their work.

“DSP’s support our clients every day to help them achieve their goals” says Russell Bonanno, CEO of LIFEDesigns. “The lives of our clients didn’t stop with COVID-19, and neither did our team of professionals.”

LIFEDesigns is initiating its NADSP Membership in 2021 – which also marks our 40th year of providing support services to the community. LIFEDesigns will use NADSP Membership to advance its mission *to partner with and promote independence for people with disabilities.*

“Especially in the midst of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, it’s critical that we show DSPs that they are essential,” says Joseph Macbeth, President and Chief Executive Officer of NADSP. “NADSP Membership means that organizations are going from praise to promise – not just acknowledging the work of DSPs, but especially providing tangible support and advocacy.”

LIFEDesigns, formally known as *Better Living for Special People*, began providing services in 1981 by a group of parents who wanted a more fulfilled, independent life for their children with disabilities. Fast forward to today, LIFEDesigns employs more than 200 Direct Support Professionals who are committed to the belief that individuals with disabilities deserve the opportunity to achieve their goals, experience a quality life, and participate fully in their community. To ensure these expectations, we offer individually designed services to assist our clients at home, at work, and throughout the community.

With the NADSP membership, employees of LIFEDesigns will be able to access a robust library of archived webinars on subjects important to DSP’s, receive e-newsletters, take advantage of NADSP E-Badge Academy discounted rates, opportunity to attend the annual NADSP Conference, and apply a 10% discount for NADSP Training offerings. Along with these member benefits, LIFEDesigns will be featured on NADSP’s website,

highlighting their dedication to the people they employ, and in turn, the people they support.

The vision of the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) is a world with a highly qualified and professional direct support workforce that partners with, supports, and empowers people with disabilities to lead a life of their choosing. NADSP works to elevate the status of direct support professionals by improving practice standards, promoting system reform, and advancing their knowledge, skills and values, through certification, credentialing, training, professional development, and accreditation services. www.nadsp.org