

IRIS Consultant Biography

Consultant Name: Stephanie McKinney
Company Name: TMG
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Work History (starting with most recent)

Name of Agency	Date of Employment	Job Title
TMG	1/26/2015	IRIS Consultant

Care Responsibilities

Your TMG IRIS consultant is your partner as you create a plan that meets your needs and stays within your IRIS budget. Your TMG IRIS consultant can connect you to resources in your area, and will be a great source of information for any questions you have

Educational Background

Name of Institution	Major/Degree	Degree Obtained	Date Obtained
University of Wisconsin - Madison	Bachelor of Arts - Communication	Yes	6/1/1989

Credentials

Name of Certification / Accreditation	Certifying Agency	Date Certification was Obtained
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Specialties (e.g., working with autism, the elderly, employment for people with disabilities or youth in transition, mental health, experience with assisted technology)

Prior to coming to TMG, I worked for Curative Care Network and gained valuable experience as a Program Coordinator. I helped adults of various ages with limiting conditions and challenging physical conditions create individual assessments, behavior support plans and individual goals relating to their health, wellness, recreation and community integration outings.

County/Region I'm familiar with

Milwaukee

Languages or Communication Skills

English

I'm comfortable with pets in the home

Yes

More about me

How do you Partner with people to 'clear the path ahead'?

I partner with people by getting to know who they really are and understanding what they really want thru listening to their hopes, worries and concerns. I want to help them realize their life's potential based on having a realistic but optimistic outlook on living, possibilities and choices. Partnering then would lead to helping the individual create a plan they feel comfortable with and hopeful about and being aware of what's available in the communities that they live.

What's your favorite thing about being an IRIS consultant?

Everyone is creative and interesting in their own way. Meeting people and building meaningful relationships makes a difference and instills hope for both of us. Helping someone tap into their natural potential and realize that their life matters is important. It is great to see them take pride in feeling in control because they take part in creating their plan. Having that wow or aha moment during conversations is special.

What past experience prepared you to become an IRIS Consultant?

My education was important, but life experiences were more important because you can't get those experiences from a book. I have had years of working with youth, young adults and older adults either through volunteer experiences or community activities. Working with the United Way of Greater Milwaukee has allowed me to expand my community involvement and awareness of various community organizations and their impact on many populations that we serve. Being a caregiver for my grandmother has allowed me a unique perspective of knowing the ups, downs, joys and realities of providing care, staying connected to loved ones and the importance of having reliable supports.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

I like to read a good book or watch a classic movie when I have time. I love going to festivals, cooking, playing table top games, having family/friend gatherings and playing with my yorkipoo. I volunteer at a senior retirement community with my son. We work in the ice cream parlor and enjoy hanging out with the people. We also enjoy the ice cream!

