



# 2020 Direct Support Professional Recognition Week



Direct Support Professional Recognition Week (September 13-19, 2020) is a great opportunity to highlight the dedicated, innovative direct support workforce that is the heart and soul of supports for people with disabilities. We hope that you will use this opportunity to highlight the important work of direct support professionals nationwide, but especially those in your life, whether they work for your agency, support you or a loved one, or simply work to make a difference in your community. Your celebrations of the DSPs at the heart of our field are part of a nationwide party we throw every year to showcase the amazing and often unsung work of these incredible professionals, and mark just a small fraction of the recognition that they deserve throughout the year.

To support your efforts to acknowledge DSPs, we have compiled a few resources to help you say "thanks" and raise awareness about the role DSPs play in helping people with disabilities be part of the community. These resources include access to the high-resolution version of the DSP Recognition Week 2020 logo for you to use in (or on) any materials you see fit, customizable social media posts to spread the word, and our DSP Recognition Week Store. We cannot wait to celebrate your DSPs with you!

## **DSP Recognition Week Logo**

<u>Download the hi-resolution version of the logo</u> with a transparent background. Use the logo in your marketing materials, on gifts you order in appreciation of DSPs and more. If you need help using this file or would like to request other versions of the logo, please contact André Floyd.

#### **Social Media Content**

<u>Use these sample social media messages</u> as-is, or customize them to make them specific to the DSPs you want to recognize during DSP Recognition Week 2020, in your efforts to raise awareness about this important campaign. Whenever talking about DSP recognition on social media, use **#DSPRW2020** so we can follow the conversation and amplify your message.

## **DSP Recognition Week Store**

Shop at the <u>DSP Recognition Week Store</u>, which offers you the opportunity to purchase deeply discounted items with the DSP Recognition Week branding so you can purchase small gifts for each of the DSPs with which you work as a token of your appreciation. In this year's store, you'll find popular favorites such as T-shirts and bags, more varieties of popular items from previous years like tumblers and thermoses, and a few new items including face masks, hand sanitizer and a stainless-steel straw kit! Order by **end of day Tuesday, August 18, 2020** to avoid incurring extra shipping costs to receive your items prior to the start of DSP Recognition Week. (Orders will be accepted after August 18, but may incur additional shipping fees or may not arrive before the start of DSP Recognition Week on September 13.) <u>Start shopping today!</u>

### Ideas for Recognizing DSPs Who are Making a Difference in Your Community

In the market for creative ideas for celebrating DSP Recognition Week? Here are some ideas to get the creative juices flowing!

- Collect 30-second videos from the individuals you support, their family members, your other
  colleagues and more with messages about the difference your agency's DSPs are making in the
  lives of the people they support.
- Put together a gift bag for each DSP at your agency that includes their favorite candy, a small gift card and one or two items from the <u>DSP Recognition Week Store</u>. Then, assemble a team to do a non-contact delivery to places where your DSPs work.
- Host a virtual party and/or happy hour for your agency's DSPs! Assemble family members, coworkers and friends for a virtual chat and opportunity to for those who love them to hear how valued they are. Also spice it up by telling funny stories about the DSP and/or putting together a small game of trivia!
- Reach out to your mayor and ask that they issue a proclamation declaring September 13-19, 2020, as DSP Recognition Week in your town or city. Then, ask the mayor to record a short 'thank you' message to share with DSPs who have been working to help the most vulnerable among us navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Share Your Celebrations!**

Have something planned to celebrate DSP Recognition Week 2020? We want to know about it so we can amplify your celebration! Let us know what you've got in store for your DSPs this year by emailing <u>Sean Luechtefeld</u>, ANCOR's Communications Director.