

This season, give the gift of independence to someone like Debbie.

When you see Debbie for the first time, the word independent may not come to mind. Debbie has an intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD). Born as a preemie, she lost her sight in the hospital incubator due to an oxygen problem.

With these challenges, living on her own is not easy. She doesn't have parents to lean on because they are both deceased.

But today, with assistance from the staff at Community Support Services (CSS), Debbie describes her life as full and happy, and independent. Each Monday she attends the CSS Day Program and works on art projects with other program participants.

Tuesday through Friday, Debbie receives direct support at home with her daily living needs.

“CSS helps me read mail, pay my bills, clean my apartment, and grocery shop. They even set up my computer.” —Debbie

The staff has helped Debbie live independently by using technology. She checks emails by using an audio setting on her tablet. She makes her shopping lists with a Braille typewriter, and stickers have been placed on the microwave to identify temperature and settings.

“Debbie cooks more than I do! She makes amazing beef tacos.” —Ellie R., of CSS

In her free time, Debbie listens to music, DVDs, audio books, and enjoys bowling. She even does crossword puzzles with friends.



Top: Debbie (right) and Linda proudly display art they worked on together at CSS Academy.

Middle: Ellie R. (left) helps Debbie set up her tablet to check emails.

Bottom: Debbie likes to be independent in her home.



Braille translation:
“My life is full with CSS!”
—Debbie, CSS participant

This holiday season, give the gift of independence to deserving individuals like Debbie.

DONATE TODAY! 

Seasons Greetings from all of us at



Diane Farina White, President/CEO