

# SUCCESS STORY– ALIDA STARBLE



## SELF-ADVOCATE COORDINATOR, SR-NORWICH OFFICE

I had the pleasure of interviewing a woman named Alida Starble. She is 34 and loves arts, crafts and being around people. She also enjoys spending time with her pets and boyfriend.

When I asked Alida what motivated her to pursue a career as a Self-Advocate Coordinator, she said that she loves to challenge herself to try something new. Alida felt she mastered her previous job, as a DDS general worker, and was ready for a new challenge.

Alida feels her biggest successes have been buying a house with her boyfriend and purchasing her own car.

Alida shared that she was told by a family member that she couldn't get a driver's license because she couldn't read. She was determined, practiced a lot, and finally got her license at 25. She also studied culinary arts and received her food safety certification.

Alida considers herself a role model. She sets goals and challenges herself to hit that goal. To achieve her goals, she creates a step-by-step plan of and how to proceed. She manages stress and pressure by focusing on working toward it the goal one step at a time and getting help from her job coach or her partner. She lets others know when she's stressed and seeks their help.

She said that getting this job as a Self-Advocate Coordinator was her biggest risk. Her favorite part of work is being with her favorite coworkers (Tiffany and Paige). This job is a very challenging job which she likes.

A little history about Alida. Her DDS worker supported her since she was 15.

She lived in foster homes since she was 4. When she had a hard time with her foster parents, she would be sent to a different home. By the time she was 10, Alida had lived at many different homes and even had to live in group homes, which she said was very difficult. Now she is where she wants to be and is happy.

Alida's bucket list goal is to visit Italy and Universal Studios Wizarding World of Harry Potter. She loves to travel.