



I supervise an adult group home. I'm responsible for the wellbeing of the people who live there. I do the shopping. I make sure maintenance is done. I sit in on personal service files for the people we support. I make sure all of their medical needs are looked after.

Everyday is different. That's what I really like about the job. You are working with people and you are there to support them. So you work to try to enable them to have the best quality of life possible.

I've always been an advocate for social justice and rights for people and this has given me the ability to do some of that. Some of the people we work with that come from institutions have no idea about their rights. I've worked as an advocate for the self-advocacy groups, talking to people about their rights.

This job has taught me that respect is the bottom line, no matter where you are, no matter what you are doing, everyone deserves respect.

Gale Engstrom is a frontline worker for the Williams Lake Association for Community Living. She has been a community social services worker since 1985.

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