

KCDHH,

January 23, 2020

Let me introduce my name, Georgette Sullivan. I am DeafBlind due to Usher syndrome and no longer drive. I would like to share my experience with SSP (Support Service Provider) service for several years when I lived in Maryland.

My husband, Mike and I moved here in Kansas in August, 2018 and are now living in Olathe, KS. The SSP service was really a blessing to me so much and also improve my quality of life as well as it helps me getting access and living independently. SSPs help bridge the communication gap between the public and me as DeafBlind person. For example as of reading the note or message with a cashier or teller at stores or doctor's appointments. It saves time and insures accurate communication.

I would like to share a bit about my husband who had shoulder surgery. He was required to have ice pack on his shoulder all of time for about 2 weeks. I acted as "nurse" to be sure that ice pack remained cold enough. One day, the ice pack was all gone, It was "urgent" for me to request SSP to take me to the grocery for ice. The SSP came to my house and drove me quickly to the store and then guided me to the ice pack area of the store to save time.

I like the short paragraph at American Association of the DeafBlind (AADB) website, "Hearing and Sight are the two senses that we depend on for communication, visual and environmental information that will enable us to carry on with our daily tasks. Without these two senses, we are isolated from the world around us."

Hopefully my experience with SSP is helpful. Thanks,

Best regards,

Georgette Sullivan, Olathe, KS