

My name is Katherine and I live in Chantilly, Virginia. I have lived in Northern Virginia my entire life, 34 years. When I was about two years my family found out that I have Cerebral Palsy.

I have used an EDCD waiver for the last nine years to help me from the moment I wake up and need to get dressed until I get back in bed at night. All of the little activities of daily living most people never think about are things that I need plan. I can't simply jump in the car and run



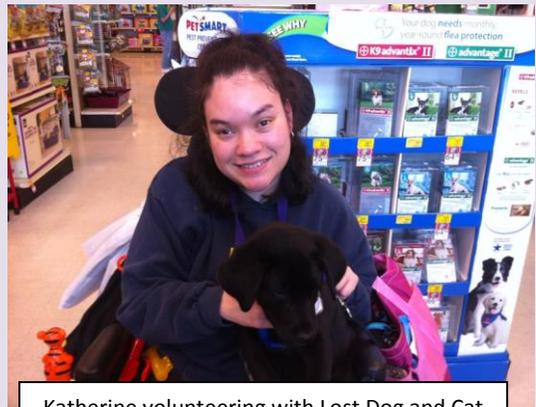
errands or even take a shower without having someone to support me. In fact, I live with my Waiver attendant because that is the only way to make things work for me. Yet there are some missing puzzle pieces in my support structure.

You see, I qualify for a DD Waiver because of my developmental disability, yet I don't have one. *I can't even get on the waiting list.*

Because Virginia has divided the ID and DD Waivers by a single IQ point, I need a current psychological evaluation to prove my IQ and get on the waiting list. When I found out I needed an IQ test, I went back to my old high school and asked for copies of the testing they had done, but they don't keep those records. I tried to get a private evaluation done, but searched for years for a psychologist who would take my Medicaid and was qualified to give the exam with no luck. I looked into private pay, but the evaluations can cost thousands of dollars.

I feel like I'm stuck. I need the assistive technology, environmental modifications, support hours, and independent options offered on the DD Waiver to be successful, yet I can't enroll. Even if I could get a psychological exam to apply for the waiver, I know I would likely be waiting for many years before I got any help. It is overwhelming to try and navigate this complicated system!

I would like you to remember that even though more than 10,000 people are waiting for ID and DD Waivers, that number does not fully represent all the people who need supports.



Katherine volunteering with Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation

You can change my future! Please fund the waiting list for ID and DD Waivers AND SUPPORT WAIVER REFORM! End the wait, start a life.