



STAFF

Spotlight

Allison Judge, Resource Coordinator

Charting the LifeCourse™ Ambassador

Allison provides community outreach, produces Connections' internal and external newsletters, and supports our team with community resources. Allison provides case management to Hancock and surrounding counties.



What led you to the social services field?

When I was young, I had a neighbor who had muscular dystrophy. I honestly attribute having him in my life as a catalyst for my future in this field. I then studied early childhood and special education in college, but quickly realized teaching was not for me. I liked more of the 1:1 or small group situation. I worked a few different positions at a local service provider before I had my first child. After having my baby, I realized I wanted something more flexible. Ironically, our disability journey with her started the month I became a case manager. I bring a mix of parent perspective, empathy and waiver knowledge to my meetings with families, and I love it!

What is a random fact about yourself?

I've been to 14 different countries. I studied abroad in Austria for a semester and traveled almost every weekend.

What do you love most about your job?

One of the things I love most about my job is meeting other families who are going through or who have gone through the same experiences I have with my daughter. It's beneficial to both the parents and myself to have another person who "gets it." I also love the "hunt" and thrill of finding the perfect resource for families. It's like a treasure hunt every single day!

What is a favorite pastime you enjoy?

I love to garden. But not veggies! I'm growing my cut flower garden next summer to take up about half of my back yard and I cannot wait! My favorite flowers to grow are dahlias, but I also am madly in love with cosmos and lisianthus. In the winter, I like to embroider and watch documentaries. You can also find me binging true crime documentaries or listening to podcasts on my way to and from meetings.

Do you have kids or pets?

We have a very busy home! We have two cats, Copper and Frieda, a puppy (boxer/ lab mix) named Stella. And then we have four kiddos. Josephine, Walter, Ofelia, and Ramona. It's a noisy, messy house full of love! Also, fun fact, all three of my older kids have used First Steps even though only my oldest has an actual diagnosis. I'm a huge advocate for First Steps and think it's such a great resource for families!

~ Allison