

Sara Lane, Quality Management Nurse in DAIL's Adult Services Division, was selected as Professional of the Year, awarded at Vermont's 31st Annual Brain Injury Conference on October 8, 2019.

Sara's award nomination from the Brain Injury Association of Vermont reads as follows:

This year's nominee for Professional of the Year joined the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living in 2007 as a Long-Term Care Clinical Coordinator nurse, for the newly emerging Choices for Care program. She quickly put her RN skills to work; helping Vermonters access the long-term services and supports they needed to live in the setting of their choice. It was clear from the very beginning of her career at DAIL that she brought with her very strong values with regards to self-determination... supporting people to set their own goals and direct their own lives to the fullest. She carried these values with her as she developed into her leadership roles as a clinical supervisor, then Program Manager and now the TBI program lead. She is truly committed to collaborating across networks to improve our systems of care for all Vermonters. This can be seen in her most current work, assisting the Vermont Brain Injury partnership grant and the Brain Injury Advisory board, to improve the Vermont system of care for people with traumatic and acquired brain injury. Members of the Adult Services Division all feel they are extremely fortunate to have her on their team and are proud of the work she has done.

The Brain Injury Association of Vermont board and staff are also very cognizant of her full commitment to the mission of the BIAVT, and she is always a willing participant in BIAVT events and activities. She is also a very important voice in discussions involving program development as both DAIL and the BIAVT work on maximizing providing services and supports to Vermont's brain injury community. In addition, she has journeyed into the National scene as board member of the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators making her mark on national policy. There are no limits to her dedication, commitment and energy!

