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I have been a DSP for almost 7 years with Support Solutions and at no point have I been financially secure or comfortable. I live in Portland and so housing is unmanageable with the wages I and my coworkers receive as is increasingly the case in cities around the state. Healthcare is also nearly unmanageable, and there have been periods that I have had to go without critical medication because I could not afford it on my wages alone. I have worked other jobs while working this job and it only led to burnout and an inability to perform my job effectively. This is my dream job, but it is dehumanizing to do what I know to be such important and impactful work and not be able to live comfortably and with dignity. Most importantly, the wages we receive lead to increased turnover of staff, as well as decreased workforce (many applicants for the job have to decline solely because the pay is unlivable). The population we support is a population that relies on consistency and adeptness from the DSPs supporting them, and with the rate of turnover and burnout in this field, we cannot offer either. For the dignity of DSPs as well as that of those supported by us, it is of the utmost importance that you see us as more than unskilled laborers, and that you acknowledge the humanity of this job and the importance of making sure that those of us on the ground are being supported at all whatsoever.