

Caregiver

This position is for a caregiver for my wife, Janet Derksen who has frontotemporal dementia, a terminal illness of unknown cause(s) that strikes people of any age. Janet is a cheerful 73 year old who was in excellent physical condition but now weighs just 87 pounds. I have 3 other caregivers who attend Janet 11 hours a day, 7 days a week. Primary duties include feeding, toileting, bathing, meal preparation, minor house cleaning and entertaining Janet. The setting is in a tidy, quiet, well organized home. I or other caregivers are available to help orient a new caregiver and to answer questions. Other duties include meal preparation for me. Shifts are from 8:30am to 2:00pm, 3:00pm to 8:30pm or 8:30am to 8:30pm with an hour midday break as fits an individual caregiver's schedule.

Janet has thus-far shown no aggression toward caregivers. She is able to talk: mostly single words or simple sentences. At times she has both fecal and urinary incontinence. She is unsteady on her feet and requires assistance to move around the home. On sunny days, with assistance, she goes out to sit on the deck or for a short wheelchair ride around the neighborhood.

Starting pay is \$18/hour with increases for experience/competence. Janet is Medicaid eligible: a minor portion of all caregiver pay is paid by private contractor "Ability Montana (AM)," under the auspices of Medicaid. Caregivers are required to apply to AM and will receive a biweekly paycheck from AM and a cash payment from me. AM conducts a cursory background check on all employees.

For a tour of the home and more complete job description, please call (406)660-0291 or stop by 502 Vine St., just 1.5 blocks south of Safeway in Dillon.

Lee