

Ms. Lynn Jackson

Ms. Jackson entered my therapy room April, 2012. It was almost 1 year after her stroke. She was groomed well, and articulate. She complained of problems with memory, word finding problems and fatigue. She was very motivated to find employment, because after all, she had worked all her life. Following her stroke she left her professional job as the vice president of a human resources company.

The evaluation determined that Ms. Jackson's problems with memory and word finding were related to fatigue. It was suggested that she take rest breaks as needed. All of her communication and cognitive skills appeared to be within normal limits. She did present with the problem of blindness, but she demonstrated a determination that indicated that she was ready for the challenge.

When asked how she was facing her challenges with blindness, she stated that she was learning to use assistive technology including the CCTV, Iphone, and screen reading software as well as a white cane, and Braille. She has joined several support groups and has attended a national convention for the blind. She is active in her community, and stated that her faith helped to sustain her initially. She also stated that "sometimes we learn lessons for the lives of others, and sometimes our own life is the lesson".

Ms. Jackson did not need cognitive-communication therapy, but offered to help with the Brainiacs support group for individuals with brain injury and stroke. I have interacted with Ms. Jackson on numerous occasions and requested her advice on several occasions. She is amazing, as she navigates the maze of blindness using assistive technology, support of friends and family, and her church involvement. Mid-South ACT salutes Ms. Lynn Jackson for her faith, determination, tenacity, and ability to make lemonade out of one of life's lemons.

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