

## *The VR Counselor's Corner*

*Continued...*

### **Please give us an example of how you help a student?**

"Transition is a process and there are a lot of outside factors. One of the best ways that we help the student who plans to attend college is the "college checklist." This checklist is a guide that can help the student and their parent(s) or guardian through the planning process. It breaks the steps down into a manageable process and provides the resources to help the student consider all of the multiple factors regarding college planning."

### **What are the keys to success in your job?**

"Connection and communication are the most important factors. Make a connection with the student and maintain communication. I have found that you can earn the trust from students if you listen to them. Kids really want to be respected and to feel valued. It's also about reaching out to them via the method of how they want to be contacted and that's texting."

### **Do you have a motto that you share with your students?**

"I don't necessarily have a motto but I do explain to my students that they need to find a career that they will enjoy because it will be them doing it. I talk to my students about how we all have to make our own choices in life and how important it is that they make this choice for themselves."

### **Tell us about yourself and your family. What do you do for fun?**

"I grew up in Delaware and attended college at the University of Alabama for my undergraduate in Psychology and master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling. My husband and I met when I was home for summer as a college student. We married after I graduated and we now have four children, all girls, between the ages of 13 and 19."

"I'm a big sports fan and like all sports including the Alabama Crimson Tide football team. I also like to hike and run. I am also an avid reader and enjoy historical fiction, thrillers, and mystery novels. That is, when I am not driving my kids around!"

**Stephanie is just one of the many Rehabilitation Counselors at DVR. DVR's mission is to provide individualized services to employers and people with disabilities, developing career pathways that link qualified employees to jobs, resulting in greater independence and a more inclusive workplace.**