

## **MDS Welcomes New Staff in Keene**

*April 2, 2007...*Monadnock Developmental Services welcomes a new Adult Service Coordinators and two ISO program managers to its team of professionals who work with individuals with developmental disabilities in the Monadnock region.

Nancy Desautell of Winchester comes to MDS as an ISO Program Manager. She brings a wealth of experience in support services, having worked for many years at Southwestern Community Services as an employment specialist, providing training and support for employee and employer to ensure successful job matches for businesses and people with disabilities. Originally from Woonsocket RI, Nancy is a Certified Medical Assistant and is trained in Gentle Teaching and numerous other methods to support people with mental and physical disabilities.

Kate Adams of Bellows Falls, VT, also joins the MDS ISO team as Program Manager. Her extensive experience in working with people with disabilities includes several years in both Keene and Monadnock Regional schools as a special education teacher and case manager. While working in special education, she worked on transition planning and helped to develop the Connections Program specifically tailored for students with communication and spectrum disorders. Kate also served as Special Olympics Coach at Monadnock Junior/Senior High School for three years.

Geraldine ‘Gigi’ Cruz brings a wealth of experience in developmental services with her to her position as Adult Service Coordinator. While living in northern California, she worked as a service coordinator for the San Andreas Community Placement program and as intake coordinator for residential and day programs. Originally from the Philippines, Gigi received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from St. Paul College in Quezon City. Her training there including internships at the Philippine Mental Hospital and Mercury Pharmaceutical Company. Gigi currently lives in West Swanzey.

Monadnock Developmental Services (MDS) provides services to children and adults with developmental and other disabilities – 600 families, more than 1,000 individuals in the Monadnock region. MDS has as its mission to work toward inclusion, participation and mutual relationships for all people who are at risk of isolation from the community. For more information, please contact MDS at 603-352-1304 or visit their website at [www.mds-nh.org](http://www.mds-nh.org).

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