



Caregiver Spotlight – Gabrielle Lidji

Here at [Visiting Angels Wayzata](#), we are lucky enough to meet interesting people with even more interesting stories. From our clients, to our client families, to our caregivers, we are amazed with the stories that they have to tell. This month, we are excited to spotlight Gabrielle Lidji, a caregiver with love for her clients and music in her heart.

“When I sing for a client, it can change the whole atmosphere of the room.”

Gabrielle, or Gabby, came to Wayzata via the Ivory Coast. Born and raised in Africa, Gabby grew up during a tumultuous time on the Ivory Coast, living through a coup d'état and two separate civil wars. However, in the midst of such violence, Gabby was also able to see, and do, much good. Her father was a doctor, and gave her a foundation of compassion and care. She went to the University of Abidjan-Cocody to get her Master's Degree in American History, and even found herself acquainted with former Ivory Coast President Laurent Gbagbo and his wife. Under harrowing circumstances, Gabby found herself fleeing Africa for America with her family. Despite her departure from her home, she still has plenty to sing about.

Gabby's passion for music started at a young age. A quick YouTube search for her name will give you the chance to watch her in action. ([Click here](#) to catch one of her videos) As a caregiver with Visiting Angels, Gabby is able to use her beautiful voice as a bridge to connect with her clients. She waits for the perfect opportunity to give her gift of song, often humming or singing when performing personal care or when a client seems sad or distraught.

Once she shares her gift, she is able to almost immediately notice a change in her client, and in the entire atmosphere of the room. Clients that were sad seem happy after a musical interaction with Gabby, anxious clients seem calm. Forgetful clients begin to sing along, and distant clients make eye contact or even cry with happiness. Even better, music tends to open up a new way of communicating, and starts the foundation of a trusting and loving relationship with Gabby.

“I want to be an angel.”

You need only speak with Gabby for a few minutes to understand her passion for caring for others. Gabby takes great pride in being able to find interventions that work with clients, and she understands that tactics are as individualized as her clients. Though all of her interactions, Gabby leaves her clients feeling empowered and a part of their own care.

Gabby considers her work as a caregiver as a true calling and privilege. She says that she is “able to bring joy to these souls” and that she “has the pleasure of doing this job”. We love that she leaves her clients with joy and confidence that they can carry with them even after Gabby’s shift is over. We know that the family members of her clients rest well, knowing that Gabby is connecting with and caring for their loved one.

“Lifting their spirit, and giving them hope...”

Gabby offers her clients more than just a musical interaction. She offers them the feeling of security and empowerment. We know that Visiting Angels Wayzata is lucky to have Gabby among our caregiver staff. She gives us plenty to sing about.

When you connect with [Visiting Angels Wayzata](#), you can be sure that your story matters. What story do you have to tell?

Visiting Angels of Wayzata, MN

952-935-0789

angels@angelsmn.com

www.visitingangels.com/Wayzata

www.facebook.com/visitingangels.wayzata