

Arielle Akin named Superhero – February 2022 Vision

Congratulations to our most recent Superhero, Arielle Akin! Arielle is a Resource Management Analyst III with the Integrity and Analysis Section in the Program Integrity Branch of the Division of Family Support.

Arielle's nominator said that while Arielle is "an amazing employee who goes above and beyond every single day," she really showed her superhero skills during the tornado disaster that effected Western Kentucky, her home region.

When "her people" were effected last December, she immediately said, "I'll do what I can to help."

Arielle, during her own time, arranged for donations from cabinet friends, family and staff to be brought to Princeton, Ky., to be given to those individuals that had been directly affected in her hometown. Right after the Christmas holiday, Arielle had scheduled some much-needed time off, but she cancelled that leave in order to receive a delivered shipment of Disaster SNAP (D-SNAP) food benefits cards to take the following day to 14 various counties across The Lakes, Two Rivers and even Cumberland Service Region. This round trip took her roughly 14 hours to accomplish. She graciously met with each contact person in each office and took her time counting cards to ensure the accurate amounts were provided, she gave them a brief overview of how the program was going to work and offered for them to call her if they had any questions.

The next day, 7,500 additional DSNAP cards were delivered to the Caldwell County office where Arielle, by herself, counted and reconciled each and every card. As her nominator said "That is no easy task!" She provided assistance taking DSNAP applications during Phase 1 and even created an Excel spreadsheet for herself and her coworkers to use to organize applications taken to provide to the Policy Development Branch for tracking purposes.

When D-SNAP ran its course, Arielle again offered to meet other staff to ensure all remaining cards in the field were returned correctly and accurately. Arielle is a true superhero in my eyes!

Arielle's supervisors agree that her being part of the DFS central office is a great example of the benefit of DCBS to be able to hire across the state with existing telecommuting options.

They also agree: "Arielle is a true superhero!" We are so proud of you, Arielle!



Arielle Akin