

**EMPLOYEE**

Rafaela Mello

AGE

47

POSITION

Full-time Carer

Rafaela is from Portugal and has an energy which fills the room and invigorates anyone within reach!

She is relatively new to her caring career, having spent many years working in an office in her home country. Latterly she spent ten years working for one company which unfortunately folded in the recent recession. Whilst looking for a new job, she responded to many advertisements in Portugal before looking much further afield, including looking for work in the UK.

She says: *"Jobs are difficult to find particularly as I am considered an 'older worker', which means I am virtually unemployable in Portugal. I obviously need and want to work as I have always been independent, so it was particularly frustrating to not even get as far as an interview in my home town."*

She adds: *"I saw the job advertisement from Beaumont Health Care advertised in my local paper and after the initial interview and checks. I was offered the role, which I accepted and was packed and on my way to the UK! I can honestly say it is the best thing I have ever done. I really appreciate the opportunities Beaumont Health Care has given me. I have restarted my life in a new and different way which I absolutely love and I have never been happier."*

Rafaela has now been with Beaumont Health Care for two and a half years. She does not have a regular base of clients, nor a regular round. As fits perfectly with her personality, she goes anywhere and everywhere she is needed! Rafaela literally just drop into rounds where help is needed, often when a regular carer is off duty, on holiday or sick. She works with a great mix of people, male and female, young and old, disabled or frail. She loves her daily challenge of moving around and meeting different people, both carers and clients.

Beaumont Health Care have helped Rafaela with her accommodation, funds to get her through the first few weeks after her arrival and helped her set up a loan for her car with her most important accessory - her Sat Nav.

She says: *"From the moment I arrived, I was helped to get on my feet so I was ready to work immediately. I really cannot thank the team here for the help they have given me, plus the warm reception I received on arrival and their on-going support with training. I really cannot see myself ever moving!"*