

Success Stories: Vocational Rehabilitation



Kennedy Camarena



OCCUPATION:
Editor-in-Chief/Weber State University

VR COUNSELOR:
Mark Gardner, Davis District

VR PROVIDED ASSISTANCE:

- Counseling and Guidance
- Individualized Plan for Employment
- Educational Assistance
- Coordination of Academic Accommodations

The field of Communications offers a multitude of pathways, and for Kennedy, the journey to academic achievement and her current “dream job” has unfolded as an adventure. In 2016 when Kennedy sought VR services, she portrayed herself as a high school transition student grappling with academic challenges and uncertainties about her future. Collaborating with her VR counselor, Mark Gardner, Kennedy embarked on an exploration of potential career avenues and the requisite training. Throughout her pursuit of an Associate of Science in Communication degree at Weber State University, VR provided unwavering support. Kennedy acquired the skills to advocate for herself, securing the necessary academic accommodations to ensure her success.

More than six years have passed since she embarked on her journey in the Communications arena. Initially, she served as a photojournalist and team lead, progressing

to her current role as the Editor-in-Chief of the student newspaper, the Signpost, at Weber State University. Armed with valuable skills that enhance her prospects for success in future career and educational endeavors, she is committed to pursuing her bachelor’s degree in a closely related field. The guidance from her VR counselor and the opportunities extended by Vocational Rehabilitation have empowered Kennedy to envision the future with eager anticipation.

In her own words, “Vocational Rehab has made a great impact in my life, from helping me to plan out the next steps to take to get me into my dream career, to helping me to afford a college education in order to get that career. I truly wouldn’t be where I am today if it wasn’t for Vocational Rehab and the people who work there.” Now that makes for a good story...and a reason to pick up a copy of the Signpost newspaper! Kennedy has now accepted an internship with KSL.