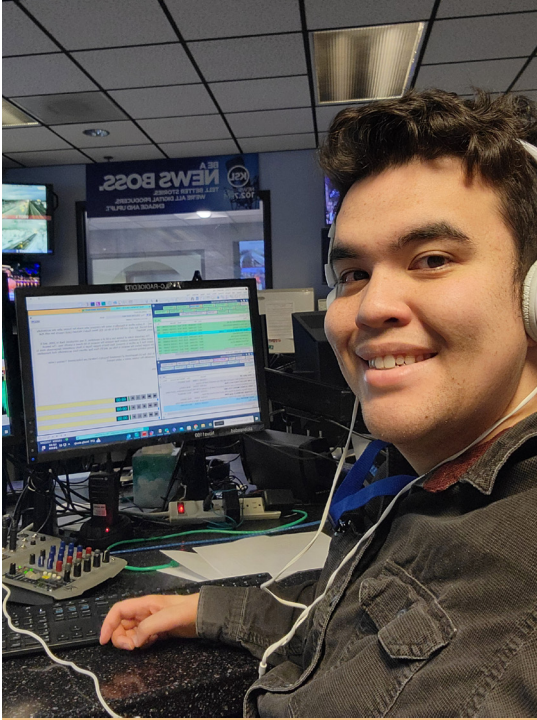


Success Stories: Vocational Rehabilitation



Michael Camit



OCCUPATION:
Producer/Early Morning Reporter, KSL
NewsRadio

VR COUNSELOR:
John Trenton, South Valley District

VR PROVIDED ASSISTANCE:

- Vocational Counseling and Guidance
- Individualized Plan for Employment
- Tuition Assistance
- Vehicle Modifications and Transportation Assistance
- Assistive Technology

Life is like a trampoline... full of “ups and downs.” In Michael Camit’s case, however, it was a trampoline that left him with a spinal cord injury in 2017. Yet Michael’s life’s journey has been nothing short of newsworthy. In May, 2018, Michael applied for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services and was presumed eligible as a recipient of Social Security benefits, with a diagnosis of quadriplegia. His VR counselor, John Trenton, assisted him with the development of his employment plan and academic objectives. Michael’s need for independence and achieving his educational goals resulted in a referral to the Utah Center for Assistive Technology (UCAT) for an evaluation of needed modifications to his vehicle while attending his academic program at Brigham Young University (BYU). VR funded the truck modifications that made completion of a degree in communications a reality. While at BYU, Michael worked in the advertising department as a copywriter, and graduated with honors in 2023. During his

schooling, he also worked as a social media and weather anchor for the Daily Universe, the school’s newspaper, and published stories on BYU’s TikTok page.

His journalistic skills and related experience earned him a position as a producer and early morning reporter at KSL NewsRadio in Salt Lake City. Michael feels his experiences with BYU Radio as an on-air host of “Evening Classics” on Classical 89 and his academic background prepared him for his current position. His most current news stories include topics ranging from disability accessibility to consumer protections. As Michael reports, “My counselor was always willing to pivot with me and now I’m doing something I enjoy. VR gave me enough guidance to narrow my field and make a living doing something I was good at.”

The future looks bright for Michael as he gives both meaning to the stories that shape our world and proof that, like a trampoline, a person can bounce back from life’s hardest falls.