

Jonathan Herring

A **AS I GROW INTO ADULTHOOD WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES, I** reflect upon the challenges that I have faced and the obstacles that I have overcome. I was constantly told that I would not have a productive, “normal” life. My question is: “What is a normal life?” I am a proud graduate of Margaret Mary Washington (M.M. Washington). I serve proudly and actively as a member of the Male Caregivers Advocacy Support group (MCAS) of Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Inc (HSCSN). I also am a member of the Parent Advocate Leaders Group (P.A.L.S.) of HSCSN. In addition to my advocacy work, I am a board member of the Development Corporation of Columbia Heights (DCCH), and am a strong supporter of the National Federation for the Blind (NFB).

I refuse to allow my disabilities, or society to dictate my life. My future plans are to attend Howard University and earn my degree in computer technology. Upon graduation, I plan to work for an organization developing tools and resources to assist persons with disabilities.

So I ask you, what is a “normal” life?