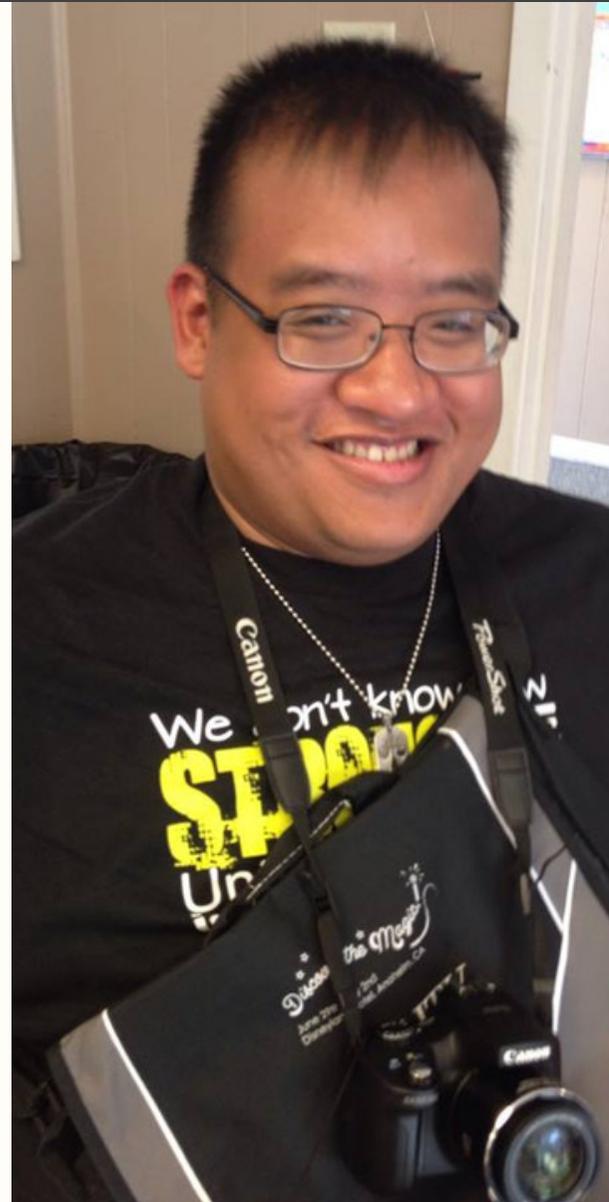


#ThinkABILITY

STEVEN NGUYEN

Steven Nguyen is 27 years old and a native of New Orleans. Steven has not always had the easiest of lives. With a diagnosis of Spina Bifida, one of the most common neural tube birth defects come a multitude of surgeries, hospital visits, and trial and error. His mother, Thuy, recalls the word abortion being thrown around by doctors and healthcare professionals as an option. Despite the odds stacked against them and their patience being tested, the Nguyen family persevered and Steven is doing well.

Over the last 4 years, Steven's been employed by Families Helping Families of Jefferson as the Youth Liaison with Children's Special Health Services (CSHS). In his role as YL, Steven provides information and



He credits much of his success to the love and support of his family, friends and the community around him.



support to patients and their families going through the Children's Hospital Rehabilitation Program. He also assists with the planning and implementation of CSHS program activities.

Steven served/serves on various committees and boards that provide community supports and services to individuals with disabilities and their families, including the Spina Bifida Association of Greater New Orleans, the Statewide Independent Living Council of Louisiana, and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities Systems Transformation Advisory Group.

In 2013, Steven was recognized as the Ryan Colburn Scholarship Award recipient for outstanding youth leadership and involvement in the field of Maternal and Child Health (MCH), by the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs in Washington D.C. This gave him the opportunity to attend their annual AMCHP conference and represent the great state of Louisiana. While there, he met with then Senator Mary Landrieu and David Vitter to chat and discuss important issues pertaining to MCH.

During his downtime, Steven enjoys being immersed in the world of technology which includes music, social media, taking apart and fixing computers, and photography and editing. He also enjoys being a member of the community, playing sports like wheelchair basketball, baseball, and hanging out with family and friends.

He credits much of his success to the love and support of his family, friends and the community around him. It's true when they say, "It takes a village to raise a child."

–Proverbs



201 Evans Rd, Bldg. 1, Suite 100, Harahan, LA 70123

Phone: 504.888.9111 Toll-Free: 800.766.7736

Fax: 504.888.0246 E-mail: info@fhfjefferson.org

#Think**ABILITY** is a month long social media campaign to celebrate the accomplishments of individuals with disabilities. The campaign is coordinated by Families Helping Families of Jefferson and held annually during the month of **March**. Learn more about it at <http://fhfjefferson.org/whats-going-on/special-events/thinkability>

Changing Lives. Every Day.