

Our Stories

Anthony Lanzilotti believes there is nothing he can't do and has dedicated his life to encouraging others to believe in their own abilities. He was born blind with a congenital defect where he has one finger on each hand and one toe on each foot. "I've adapted to it." Anthony is adventurous and loves to travel. He often gets asked, how are you going to do that? His response is always, "Let me show you." In fact he's traveled to all 50 United States, to Canada, and Holland.



Photo: Anthony Lanzilotti



Photo: One of Anthony 's favorite cars,
Bugatti Veyron

Anthony thanks his parents and Grandfather for being encouraging and allowing him to explore and achieve his goals. They did not limit what Anthony could do. Not to say there weren't setbacks, but he learned to navigate life by dusting himself off and keep going.

Anthony explained, his Dad who worked a lot to keep up with his medical bills, always made time for Anthony, that's where he got his love for cars. "I can't drive them but I love the sound, the speed, and the smell, there's nothing like the smell of a new car."

Anthony serves the community through a number of organizations. He is the Vice President of the South Jersey Shore Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind. He serves on the Boards of NJSILC, the Atlantic County Disability Advisory Council, and Atlantic Center for Independent Living. Anthony's advice to anyone living with a disability is, "don't get discouraged, whatever your goal is, there is always a way, and we are all here to help eachother."

"The reason I volunteer as a CIL Board Trustee is I believe in the mission and want to improve the CIL for all disabled people and residents of Atlantic County. As a totally Blind aspiring Law Student, I can personally vouch for the good work provided on behalf of the CIL. During the pandemic, while on lockdown, my computer with assisted technology died, fortunately through the Cares Act, the CIL approved using some of those funds to help reconnect me with a new computer with JAWS screen reading software along with other assistive technology. Volunteering on the Board of Trustees, is my way saying thank you and giving back."

Atlantic Center for Independent Living, INC