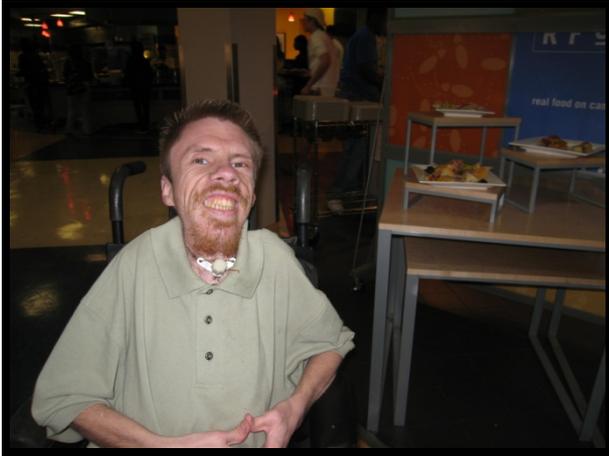


Anthony Hammett



Anthony Hammett– VR client, Region One (Dallas Unit)

Anthony Hammett was referred for VR services in 2001 by his high school teacher. He has Multiple Pterygium Syndrome. Anthony is not ambulatory and has limited use of his upper extremities due to contractures of both upper and lower extremities.

A sports fan since childhood, Anthony worked as an assistant football coach at Hiram High School in Paulding County for four years. After graduating from Hiram High in 2001, Anthony decided to attend the University of West Georgia in Carrollton to pursue a BS degree in recreation with concentration in sports management.

Anthony needed several accommodations to successfully complete college. Some of these accommodations included an attendant to assist him with hygiene and personal care, assistive technology accommodations and a reliable wheelchair.

AWT technologist Melissa Freeman assisted with identifying some of the accommodations. These accommodations included a computer, word prediction software, a tape recorder and a shower bench. A seating evaluation at Shepherd Center was also recommended. It was recognized during the seating evaluation that Anthony would be best served using two types of wheelchairs – a manual one for transportation by automobile and a power chair with a custom molded seating system for independent mobility

at work and school. The seating system and wheelchair were partially funded by Medicaid.

Anthony did not attend college without any challenges. There were a couple of setbacks and health issues along the way. But with perseverance and determination he made it through. One summer, while still in college, CRC Sylvia Franklin informed Anthony that she was in the process of calling potential employers on his behalf. Anthony told CRC Franklin "You can tell them I am confined to a chair, but outside of that there is nothing that I cannot do."

RES Joye Carroll assisted Anthony with job search techniques and activities such as networking, cold calling, classified/internet/DOL job listings and tracking potential leads herself.

A position with Aramark Inc, a company that FORTUNE magazine **ranked #1** on their list of "**World's Most Admired Companies**" three years in a row opened up in Carrollton where Anthony lives. He jumped on it. Aramark has a contract with the University of West Georgia to provide food services. Anthony's job responsibilities at the university's cafeteria include cleaning and monitoring nine food bars. He notifies appropriate staff members when food items need to be re-stocked. His work time was gradually increased to 32 hours a week.

Anthony says "I love my job because I help serve others and am able to keep the food facilities clean and sanitized. I also like being able to make life easier on my fellow employees."

Mr. Terrence Dromm, Anthony's supervisor stated that "Anthony reliably provides great service to our customers. Many of them have gotten to know him by name during his tenure at the Z-6 Food Services Building (Hubbard Dining Hall.) He plays a vital role in our operations, making sure that our guests are served in a clean environment. His quality of character and eagerness to serve are great assets to our operations."

If you are visiting Carrollton and wish to eat at a clean establishment with great customer service, but you are not sure what you are in the mood for, visit the "Z-6" on the University of West Georgia campus where you have nine fully stocked food bars to choose from, and while you are there, say hello to Anthony Hammett.