

Bio information for Craig J. Phillips MRC, BA

My name is Craig J. Phillips. I sustained an open skull fracture and a traumatic brain injury in an automobile accident when I was 10 years old in 1967. I remained in a coma for 3 weeks with right frontal lobe damage, a severe brain bruise with brain stem involvement. Waking from the coma, I felt like I had a bad dream, but the reality became apparent. I also fractured my left femur and remained in traction for 6-7 weeks to set the femur. I was then placed in a full body cast (Spica) for 5-6 months. After being taken out of the Spica cast, I learned how to walk, talk, read, write and speak in complete sentences. I also underwent 2 EEG's and a battery of cognitive and psycho social testing. The results were shared with my parents, but not with me. Once my external wounds healed, the impact of my traumatic brain injury went invisible and was never factored into my struggle. I was mainstreamed into the 6th grade. I graduated on time with my high school class and then went on to college, although the testing done in 1968 showed that I would probably not succeed beyond high school academically. It took me 10 years to obtain my undergraduate degree (2 universities and one college) and 3 ½ years to obtain my graduate degree (2 graduate schools). I had a long history of getting and losing jobs. I applied for SSDI 3 times. I was made a client of the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation in Florida while still working as a master level rehabilitation counselor with the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. I was terminated as a client of the Voc Rehab because of a bad job placement. After being recruited and fired as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (Workers Compensation) in Charlotte, North Carolina I applied for services with the North Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. After my evaluation with Voc Rehab here in North Carolina, my Vocational Rehab Counselor told me that I was unemployable. Shortly after my 2nd Department of Vocational Rehabilitation evaluation and being told that I was unemployable, my 3rd application for SSDI was approved. I began receiving SSDI at the end of 1998 / the beginning of 1999. My undergraduate degree is in Theology. My graduate degree is in Rehabilitation Counseling. Although I had diligently applied myself both academically and vocationally, I felt like someone all dressed up with nowhere to go. Nevertheless, I had a desire to use what I had been seeking to do all my life. On February 6, 2007 I created Second Chance to Live. Since that time, I have written 1930 articles, 12 eBooks, 430 video

presentations, 20 slide show presentations and 36 inspirational posters, all focusing on empowering the whole person. Since June 2020 and to date I have given 42 keynote presentations through Zoom. To view a list of these presentations and the locations where these presentations have been given, you may click on following link: <https://secondchancetolive.org/brain-injury-support-keynote-presentations-through-zoom/> To access the resources that I share during my presentation, you may click on this link: <https://secondchancetolive.org/resources-available-second-chance-live/>. I look forward to being of service to you and your organization through Second Chance to Live. To contact me to schedule availability: My email: secondchancetolive1@yahoo.com, My phone number: 980 475 8479.