



## Introducing Danny Heumann

Two weeks before Danny Heumann was supposed to start his freshman year at Syracuse University in 1985, he was paralyzed from the chest down in a car accident. There were no drugs or alcohol involved. He could have given up, but he didn't. He hung in there and discovered strength he didn't know he had. He entered Syracuse a year later and graduated in 1991 and then went on to receive his J.D. from American University in 1998.

As Danny will tell you, life presented him with an impossible situation that made all kinds of things possible. He is a man on a mission to help people live with joy and meaning; someone for whom a wheelchair is just a piece of furniture to help him get from point A to point B. A member of the Board of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation, Danny is also an ardent advocate, in both the public and private sectors, for Americans who suffer from neurological disorders.

To overcome the challenges Danny faces each day, he cultivated what he believes are the 4 attributes necessary for success: **Courage, Persistence, Attitude, and the Importance of Asking for Help.** All of us here today have stories about the challenges and adversity we face each day. But overcoming them, discovering - *and developing* - our greater potential, is truly what life is all about. Danny Heumann has done it, and he is here to inspire us with his story.

Please join me in welcoming Danny Heumann.