



“It’s Not Easy Being Me, But I Try”

Grant Grogan attends the SCARC, Inc. day program and resides in a SCARC, Inc. group home. Grant attends Adult Basic Education weekly where he checks Facebook, works on money skills and occasionally prepares speeches. Grant also leads discussions about recent news stories that are, in his words: “good, bad, or indifferent”.

Grant is on the Board of Directors of SCARC, Inc. with full voting privileges. Grant’s paying job is working for a local industry in the production room of SCARC, Inc. and answering phones and relaying messages in the office. For this, Grant uses a headset and dials the phone with one hand.

As mentioned, Grant gives in-depth testimonials promoting SCARC, Inc. This year his engagements took him to prison, as well as to a church, a business and a non-profit organization.

Grant is proud of “being alive, being well taken care of and doing the things I can do that I know nobody else can do.”

In spite of his busy schedule, Grant relies on almost total assistance. I asked Grant what that was like:

“I’ve been dependent on people all my life. I wish I could do more on my own, but I know the good Lord has put me on this earth for a purpose. I don’t know what it is yet, but I wish that other people would experience what I experience; be in my shoes. It’s not easy being me, but I try.”

I asked Grant “Is there anything that makes you fearful?”

“What makes me fearful is being in an institution. They stick you in a room, might give you breakfast and lunch, but there’s no interaction with people. Interaction with others is the cornerstone of an individual’s life and well-being. Here, every day is a new day. You never know what’s going to happen, from one minute of every day to the next.”

Grant enjoys getting out with friends that he “loves so very much”. He enjoys going to movies, shopping, and going to church, where “you can pray about things”.

Grant’s future goals are to have the supports he needs to perhaps get his own house and have his old roommate again, or get married. He knows this is not possible without adequate funding:

“I know the budget is tight right now, but if you were in our shoes and knew what we have to deal with on a daily basis, you would always support us. I will tell you straight from the horse’s mouth what’s going on, what we need, and what we deserve.”