

▶ Disability Support Services



**Outstanding Alum
Evan Wainwright**

Evan Clifford Jerome Wainwright joined TRIO Disability Support Services in August 2009. Evan has cerebral palsy and has been an advocate for people with disabilities since he was 15 years old. He graduated from Wichita State in July 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice.

After graduating, Evan decided to move to Atlanta, GA to pursue a career in modeling and acting. He had seen an ad on Facebook™ about a company that was looking for models. He submitted a photo and short description of himself and a few weeks later he received a message from the company that they were interested in speaking with him about modeling. Of course, he was very pleased and excited at the prospect of working as a model.

He now works for Sunrise Medical as a brand ambassador for Quickie Wheelchairs®. The ad campaign featuring him was released in 2017. Evan is a strong advocate for people with disabilities and leads by example to empower others to not put limitations on what they can achieve. He indicates that he is very grateful to Sunrise Medical for giving him a chance to live out one of his career goals. In spite of his disability, Evan refused to give up on his dreams. He says “Never give up on your dreams and believe in yourself.”



**Rising Star
Amber Barker**

Amber Barker is currently a senior at Wichita State. She joined TRIO Disability Support Services (DSS) in fall 2013 when she was a freshman. Amber is working toward a degree in social work and expects to graduate in 2018. When asked how TRIO DSS has helped her, Amber said that TRIO DSS is great about arranging tutoring assistance for her in math and writing. She also indicated that her advisors shared ways on how to obtain textbooks for her classes.

Amber’s journey at Wichita State has not been easy. There have been several times where she has struggled through difficulties related to her disability. Fortunately, Amber was assured that she has a strong support system through the Office of Disability Services and DSS.

Recently, Amber lost her job and visited with her TRIO DSS advisor for assistance. The advisor helped Amber with job searches, editing her resume, and helped her with devising a cover letter for a new job in the social work field. Within two weeks Amber was able to start a new job with a company that assists children with behavioral issues to further their independence and ultimately improve the quality of their daily lives.