



My name is Jalen Matthews, I am 16 years old and 5 years ago I had a stroke. It started as a normal fourth of July day. The barbecue was going, and everybody was happy. All of a sudden my left arm went numb. My mom didn't know what was going on so she told me to breath. A few seconds later I couldn't raise either arm. She called 911 immediately. Thirty minutes later, the ambulance arrived to pick me up. When we got to the hospital, the doctors informed us that I had a blood clot on the base of my spine. I had the same type of stroke Christopher Reeves had. I couldn't walk, eat, or move. 5 years later, I'm doing wonderful. I have a job and I can drive. I beat all the odds