

USA tour med mera Yrken

*Denna text är ett komplement till produkten "USA tour med mera" (Specialpedagogiska institutet 2004).
Texten motsvarar helt den engelska texten i den aktuella delen av programmet.*

Chef

There is a restaurant in the city of Seattle, Washington, - owned by Danny Delcambre, who is both deaf and visually impaired. His motto in life is: "Nothing's impossible."

President Clinton's staff came here first to eat, and then they came back and brought some more government officials. One of them asked me if I would like to cook for the president, too. So I said, "Sure, I can do that." Then they took care of all the details, but they had such strict rules! They checked everything so that it was OK. When I started cooking, they put up a videocamera to film everything. When the food was ready, it was taken to Clinton's plane. A women took me along to show me how the police checked the food. It took a long time but at last President Clinton could eat it. I know that he likes Cajun food since it's popular in the Northern states.

Retinitis pigmentosa is an eye disease that hearing and deaf people can get. It limits your visual field to a small area, like looking in binoculars. You can't see anything along the sides. My visual field is the size of a TV. This affects my sense of balance so I can't walk straight in the dark. Sometimes the police think I'm drunk, but it's a typical symptom of "RP".

I ate here at the grand opening too. It's great that the owner is deaf!

I have six people working for me, both full and part time. In the beginning everyone was deaf, but then someone went back to school and someone else to study at NTID in New York. Now we have both hearing and deaf employees here.



Only one person is deaf here now – the guy behind me.

You can do anything you want. It doesn't matter if you're deaf and blind. Nothing can stop you and this restaurant is proof of that. He proves that anything is possible, there are no limits. That makes me proud.

The deaf and blind can start their own businesses just like anyone else. You can do it anywhere in the world. It doesn't have to be a restaurant. It can be a computer business, you can open a store or whatever you like. There's a company called SBA that can help you start a business. You tell them what you want to do and then draw up a business plan so you know what to focus on. I remember the first few months when I had started my business. It was a really tough time. You just have to grin and bear it.

I'm happy with my little restaurant and I'm making money. If we grew it would be too much work. It's just right as it is. I also travel and hold lectures. I enjoy it so I want to continue. Who knows, maybe I would like to do something different in the future. We'll have to see what that will be. I have all kinds of interests!

