

ISSUE: 2

SECOND EDITION

THE ADVOCATORS

**FINDING INDEPENDENCE
IN THE AFTERMATH!**





AccessAbility

A BRIDGE TO INDEPENDENCE

Our Mission:

AccessAbility offers individual and group life-skills coaching programs for people with disabilities focusing simply on ability. We deliver teachings and mentorship with an all-inclusive approach toward society, while fostering a more integrated and harmonious community for us all.

Core Services:

**Advocacy
Information and Referral
Peer Mentoring
Transition
Independent Living Skills**

Contact:

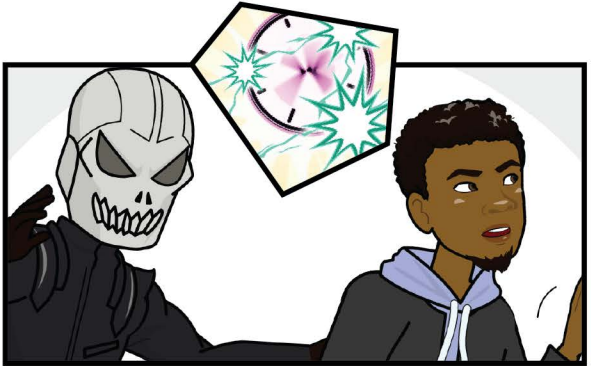
**7944 Dorchester Rd,
Suite 5
North Charleston, SC
29418
Phone: 843-225-5080
TTY: 843-225-0231
Email: info@abilitysc.org**

PREVIOUSLY IN,

THE ADVOCATORS



BARRIER MAN LEARNED ABOUT ADVOCACY DAY AND FORMED A EVIL PLAN TO RUIN THE EVENT. FIRST HE FOCUSED ON PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY!



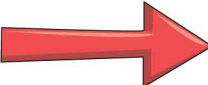
WITH NO ONE TO STOP HIM, BARRIER MAN PERFECTED HIS EVIL TALENTS AND ERASED ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY.



WHEN ADVOCACY DAY WAS IN FULL SWING, BARRIER MAN SWOOPED IN TO RUIN THE EVENT. HOWEVER, THE ADVOCATORS ARRIVED TO UNDO HIS EVIL PLAN AND DEFEAT HIM!



HERE COMES ISSUE #2 OF THE ADVOCATORS.



Good Morning folks. Thanks for tuning in. This is Mark from Channel 5 news. Today, I have Danielle here with me reporting at a COVID-19 vaccine pop-up in Charleston, South Carolina. How's it looking over there Danielle?



Hey Mark. The turnout has been great today. We have a lot of individuals ready for their vaccine!



We have seen a decrease in Coronavirus since the vaccine but we still need your help.



I'm so excited to get my last shot so I can finally see some of my friends and for COVID to start winding down.



Yeah me too! It's been a long year!

Wait, is that....Yes, it is! This just in folks. The Advocators are here, in line, getting their vaccines!



Well, Translator and I are getting our second vaccine today!



Hey Advocators! Fancy seeing y'all here. What are you up to?



THE ADVOCATORS CLOSING IN ON
HURRICANE FRED OVER THE COAST
OF SOUTH CAROLINA



PSSSST, we're
passing a secret
shelter. Should
we stop and
check it out?

It's a place for people
with disabilities to go
to make sure they
have appropriate
accommodations.

What did I hear
you say? Secret
shelter?

It's called a secret
shelter because
unfortunately, they
don't find out where
it is until the last
minute and are
separated from their
family.

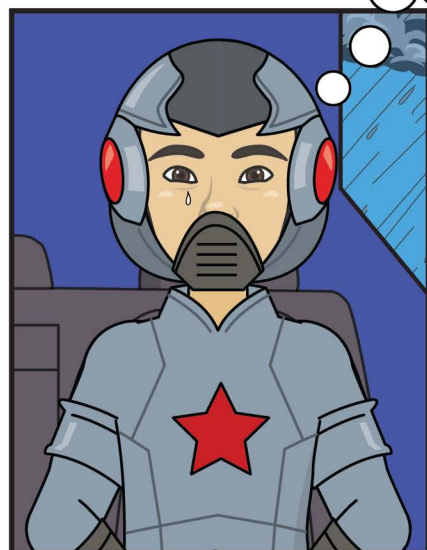
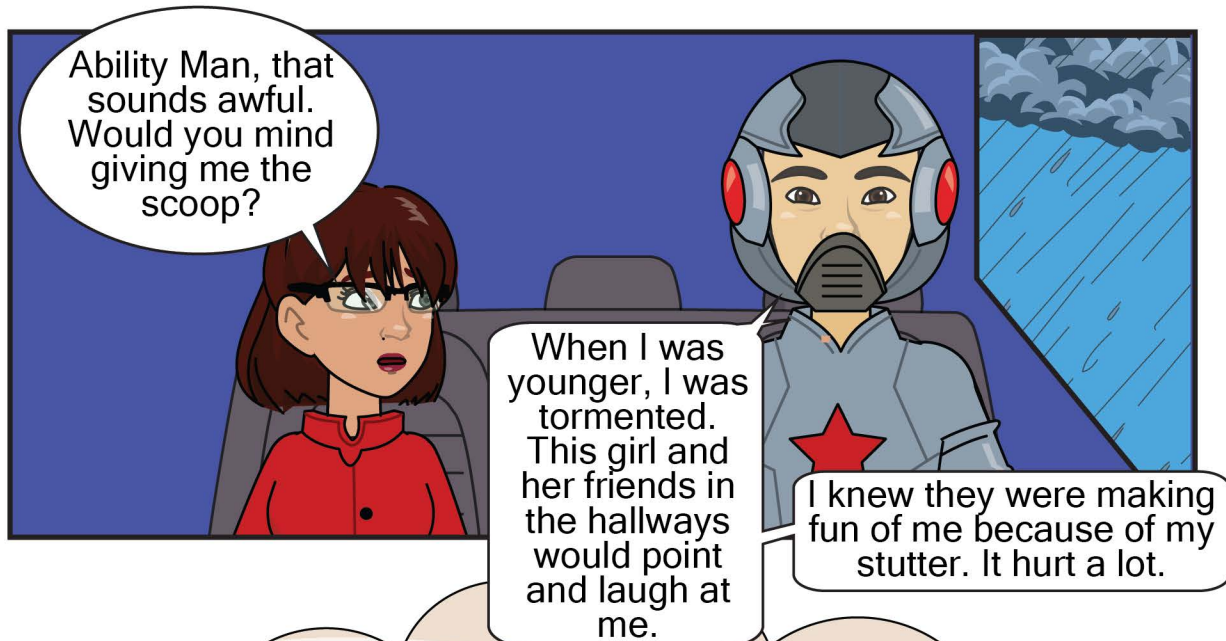
Thanks, Serenity.
Those shelters sound
like barriers. Have
ya'll had exposure to
barriers like this in
your lives?

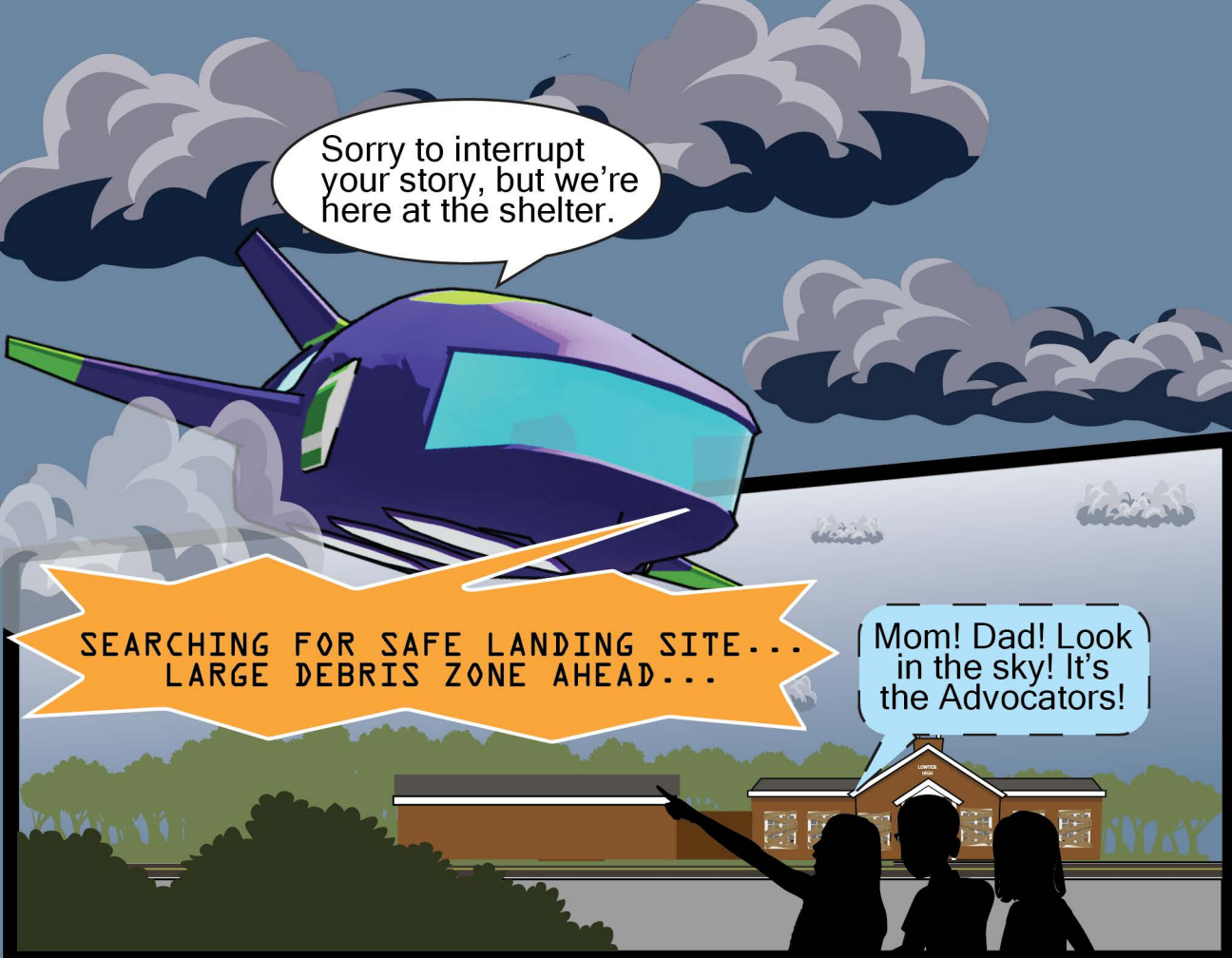
I think it's safe to say
we all have battled our
own barriers to be
where we are now.
Those situations only
made us stronger.

What did I
get myself
into! Flying
through a
hurricane!

I have personally
dealt with some
barriers, but it was
someone who
made fun of me
because of who I
am.









My **grandma** was taken to the hospital and there is nothing wrong with her! She probably only needs a new wheelchair!



Take a deep breath... Okay, tell us why they felt she needed to go to the hospital.

The shelter did not have enough outlets for her to plug in her chair, so her battery died. On top of that, as she was rolling in, two of her tires went flat! They then airlifted her to the hospital to receive proper care.

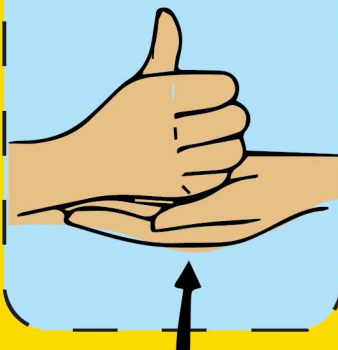
You're right, sounds like she needs a new chair, but did she really need to be admitted to the hospital? Hmm.

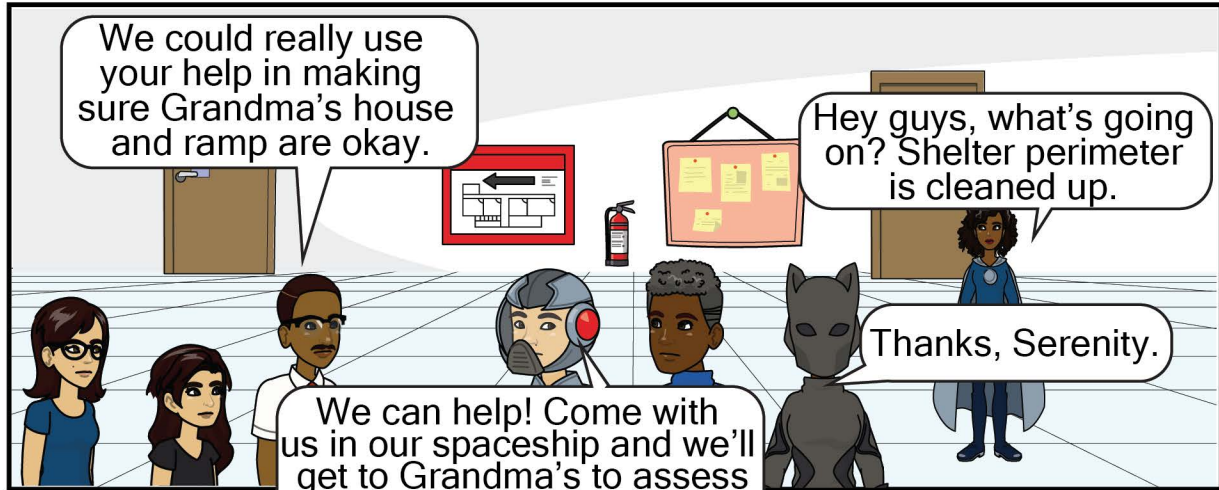
No! She even has an aluminum ramp installed so she can stay in her community. She should be here with us! Last time, she almost didn't come home. We also need to make sure the ramp is still safe due to Hurricane Fred.

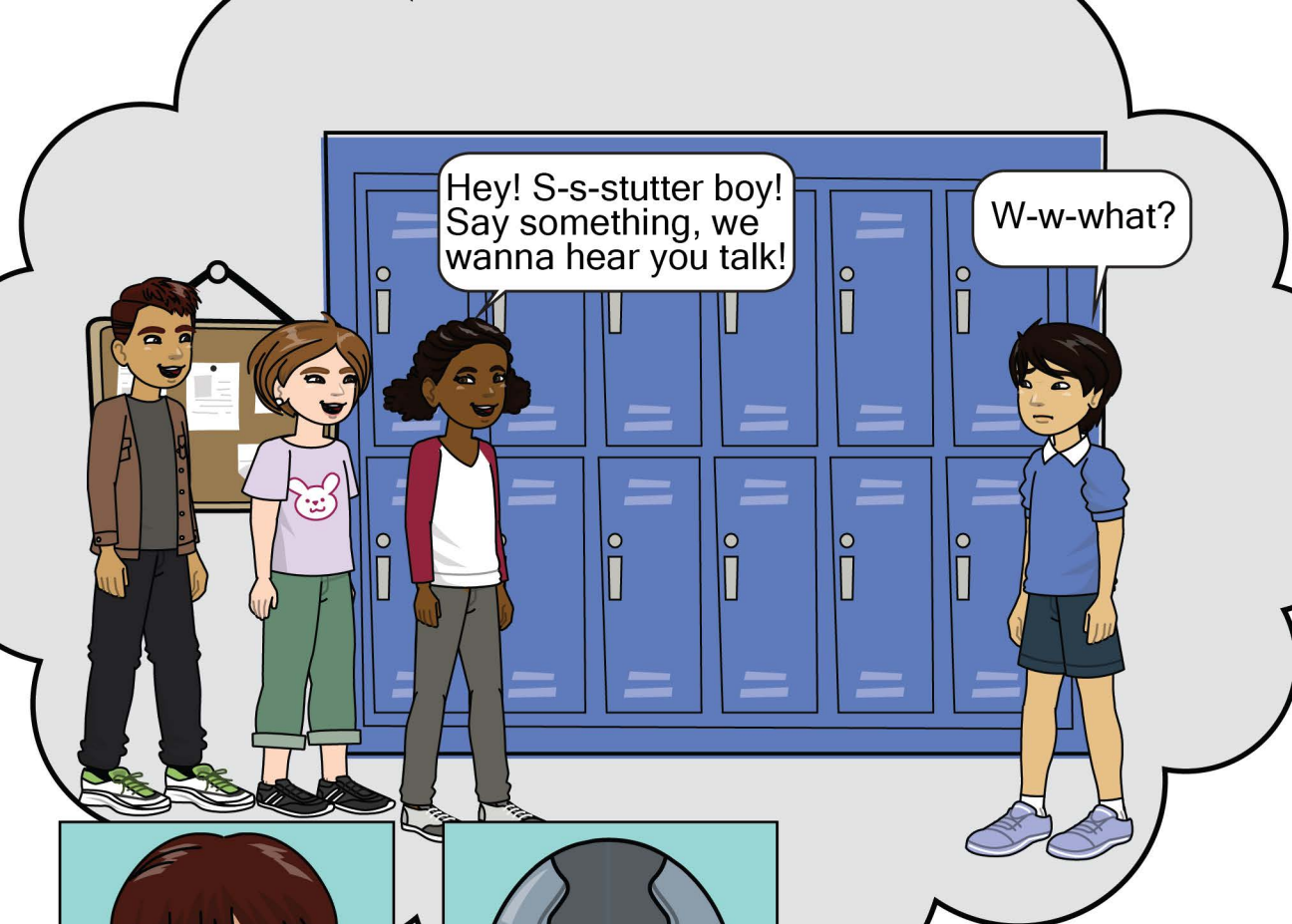
The Accommodator has great knowledge in accessibility and tech. He would be glad to check out the ramp for any damage.

The last thing Grandma wants is to leave her home! She loves her neighbors and being a part of the community. The ramp is her bridge to

Please **Help**







Hey! S-s-stutter boy!
Say something, we
wanna hear you talk!

W-w-what?



Wait...
People kept pointing
and laughing at you
because of your stutter?

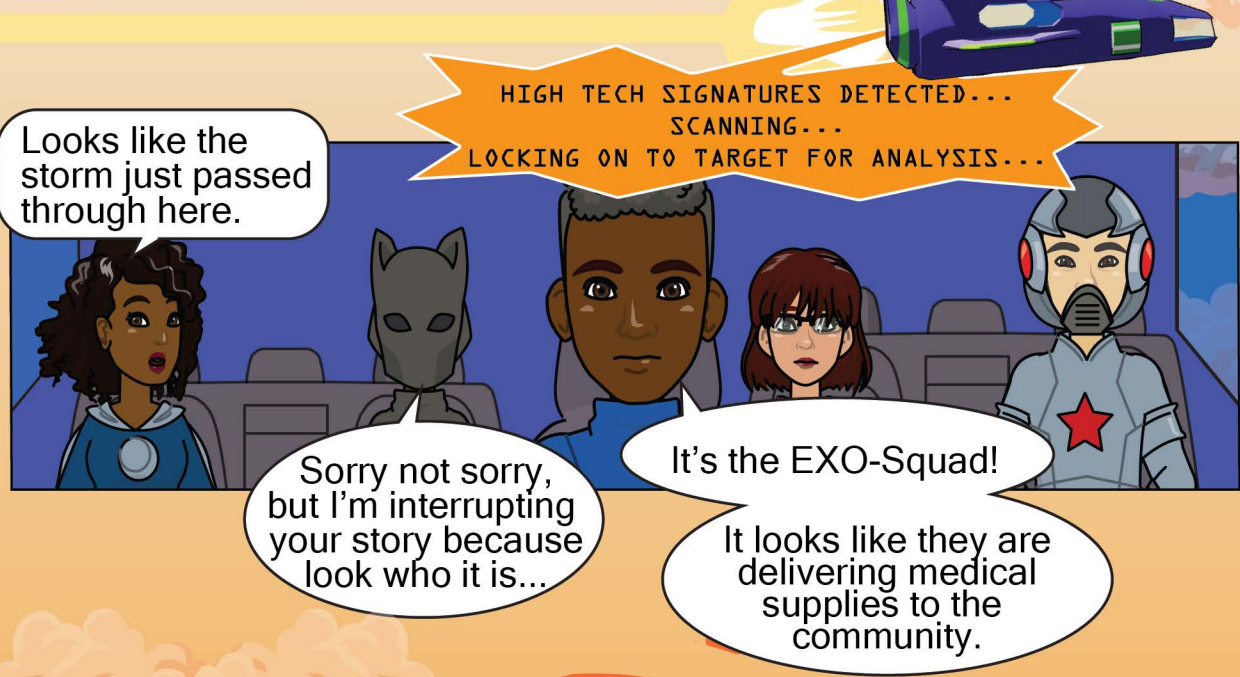
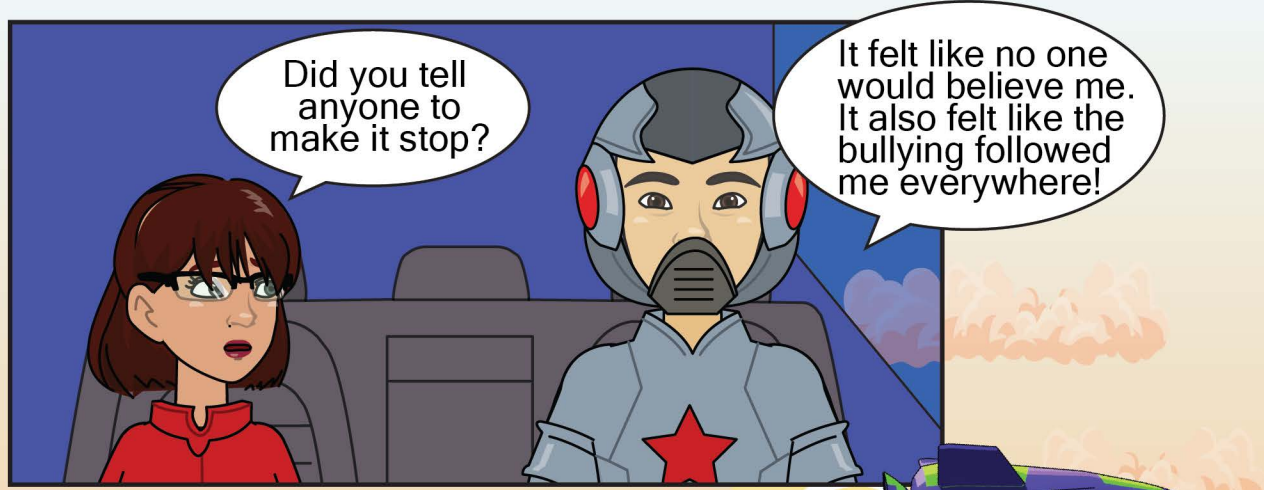


Yes. This person kept making me feel
bad about myself. It felt like they
were always calling me names and
going out of their way to bring me down.
It was really getting to me. I just felt like
an outsider. I didn't belong.

Haha! Did you
hear! He stuttered
again!

HA HA
HA
HA!





Adam and his crew...
They're always
up to something.

Oh, Translator....Give him
a break. He's helping out the
community just like we do!
It's inspiring!

Looks like we're approaching
Grandma's house. Hold on tight
ya'll, Accommodator is coming
to a full stop!

WE HAVE ARRIVED AT THE
TARGET DESTINATION.

SCANNING... ANALYZING...
MAJOR DAMAGE TO STRUCTURES AND LOCAL
PLANT LIFE...

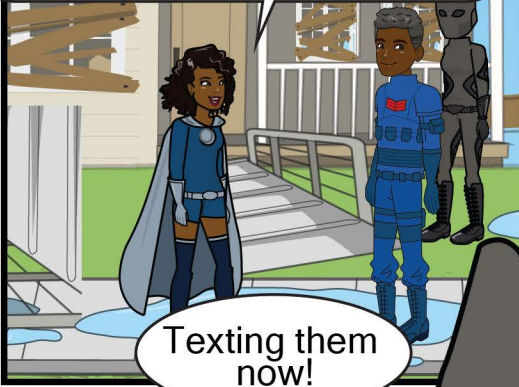
Everything is destroyed!
Her house and even the
ramp are barely standing!

We're going to help
you fix it up and get that
ramp working as it should.
Grandma's house and her
chair will be fixed in no time!

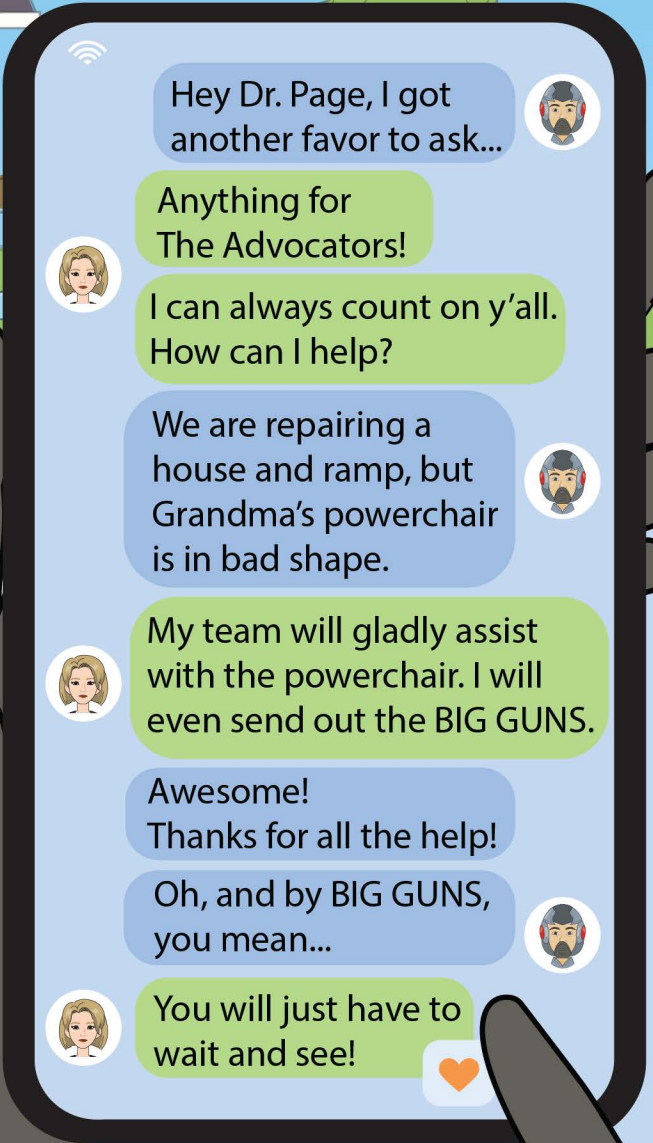
Thank you, Ms. Serenity!
The damage is worse
than I thought. When can
we get started on fixing it up
and get Grandma's chair
situation figured out?

I know of someone
who can help with
the chair. We got
the house covered!

If you're thinking of texting our friends at USC Assistive Technology Program then, I'm so in!



Texting them now!



Hey Dr. Page, I got another favor to ask...

Anything for The Advocators!

I can always count on y'all. How can I help?

We are repairing a house and ramp, but Grandma's powerchair is in bad shape.

My team will gladly assist with the powerchair. I will even send out the BIG GUNS.

Awesome! Thanks for all the help!

Oh, and by BIG GUNS, you mean...

You will just have to wait and see!

I'll connect Grandma with our assistive technology services. Scan the QR code to check out our website.

Now, let's give my friend Adam and the EXO-Squad a call.

Inside USC Assistive Technology

South Carolina
Assistive Technology
Program

SCAN ME



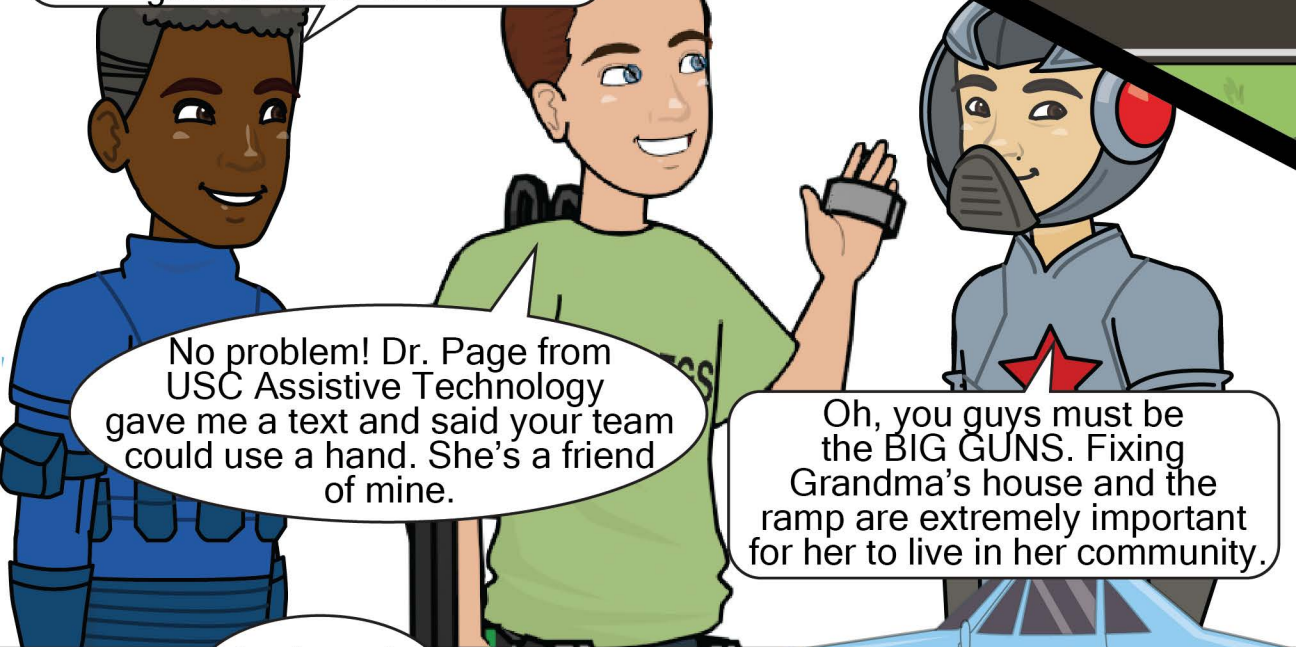


Exo-Squad!
Preparing for landing!

Look! It's
raining men!
Let me get my
umbrella....

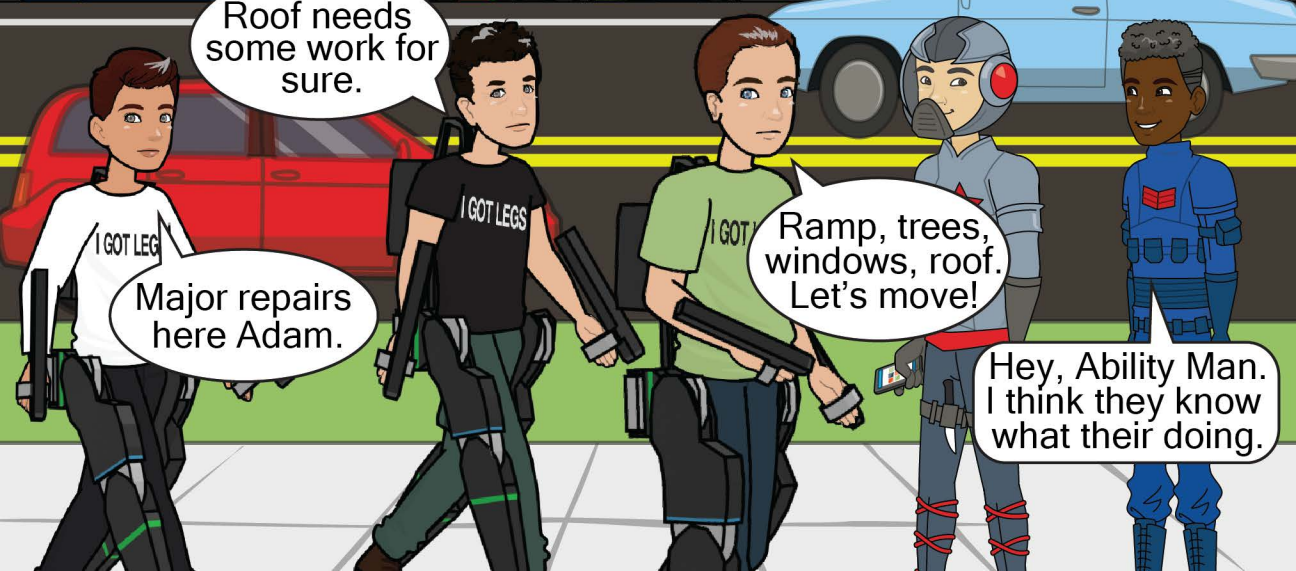
I see them!
Here they come.

Thanks for coming ya'll.
We need to fix Grandma's house,
especially her ramp. She's in the
hospital. We are trying to
get her back home.



No problem! Dr. Page from
USC Assistive Technology
gave me a text and said your team
could use a hand. She's a friend
of mine.

Oh, you guys must be
the BIG GUNS. Fixing
Grandma's house and the
ramp are extremely important
for her to live in her community.



Roof needs
some work for
sure.

Major repairs
here Adam.

Ramp, trees,
windows, roof.
Let's move!

Hey, Ability Man.
I think they know
what their doing.

TEAMWORK REPAIR MONTAGE

CUE MONTAGE MUSIC

Adam, can you hold on to the ladder for me? That's a mighty big hole! Did your team bring any supplies?

Good work Translator! I know these windows are broken badly, but we got this! We'll fix all the windows.

Be careful, there is a lot of broken glass.

Yes I can! And yes we did!

What does your shirt mean, Adam?
I Got Legs?

It's an organization I run. Our mission is dedicated to re-enabling paralyzed athletes, and individuals who are in need to walk again! Scan this QR code to check out more.

Is that what those suits do? That's amazing, Adam!

I'll help you with the roof Accommodator.

We got the ramp! Let's get this back into position.

You bet!

I'll get started on the tree! Great team work everyone!

I'll help!

The comic book page is titled "TEAMWORK REPAIR MONTAGE". It depicts a group of people, including a robot and a person in a wheelchair, working together to repair a house. The page features several speech bubbles with dialogue and a QR code.

Speech bubbles:

- *CUE MONTAGE MUSIC*
- Adam, can you hold on to the ladder for me? That's a mighty big hole! Did your team bring any supplies?
- Good work Translator! I know these windows are broken badly, but we got this! We'll fix all the windows.
- Be careful, there is a lot of broken glass.
- Yes I can! And yes we did!
- What does your shirt mean, Adam?
I Got Legs?
- It's an organization I run. Our mission is dedicated to re-enabling paralyzed athletes, and individuals who are in need to walk again! Scan this QR code to check out more.
- Is that what those suits do? That's amazing, Adam!
- I'll help you with the roof Accommodator.
- We got the ramp! Let's get this back into position.
- You bet!
- I'll get started on the tree! Great team work everyone!
- I'll help!

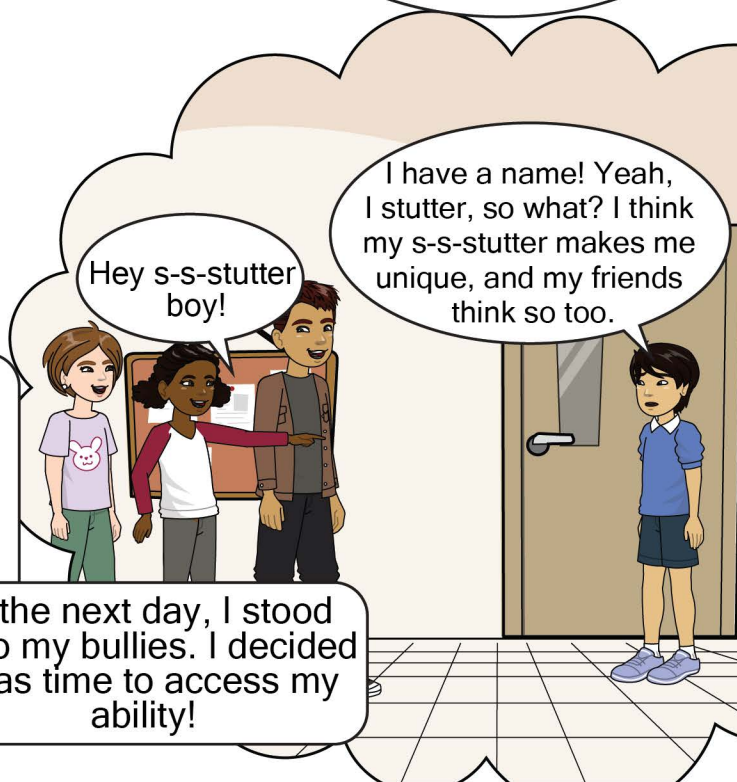
QR code: SCAN ME



SCAN ME



After all the laughing and name-calling, I told my parents. They said I'm awesome just the way I am. That I'm still capable of great things regardless of my stutter! And, to be proud of myself!



So the next day, I stood up to my bullies. I decided it was time to access my ability!

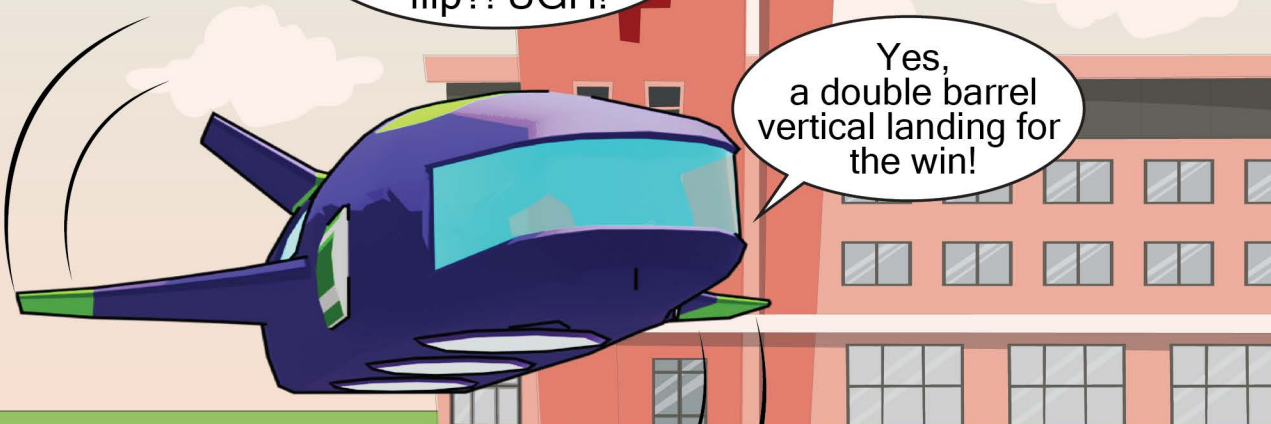


You go Ability Man!

But wait... then she did something I wasn't expecting!

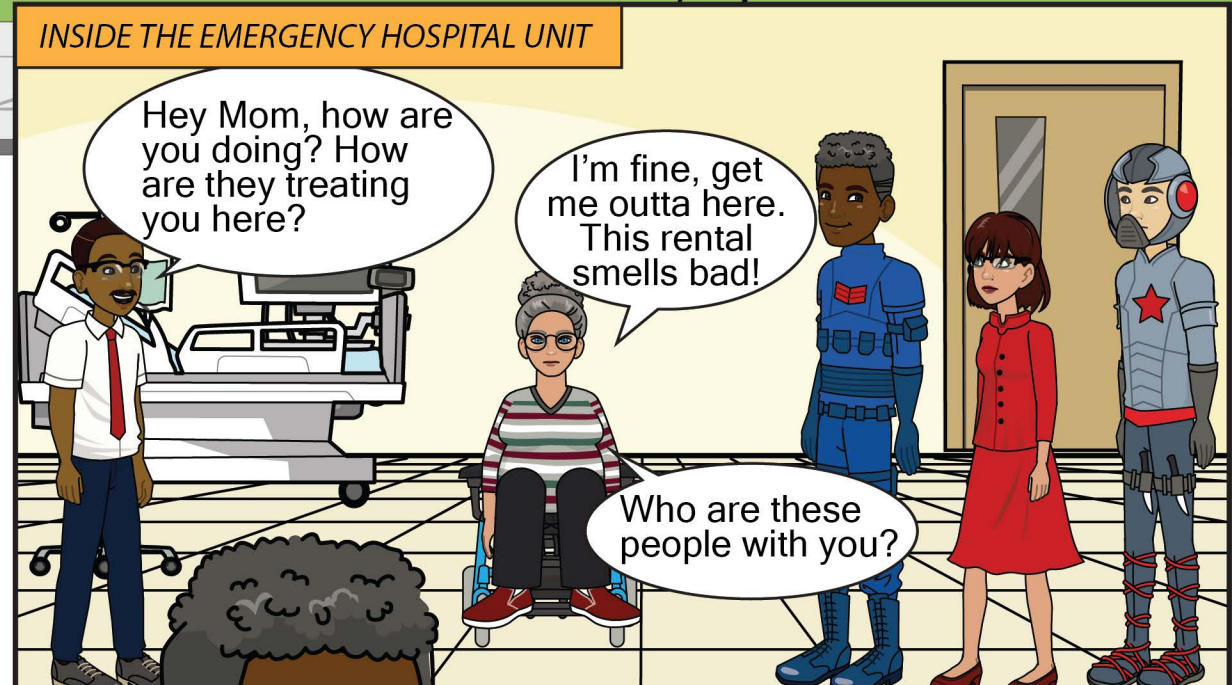
Hold that thought, we're at the hospital!

I'm seeing green. Did we just do a flip?! UGH!



Yes, a double barrel vertical landing for the win!

INSIDE THE EMERGENCY HOSPITAL UNIT



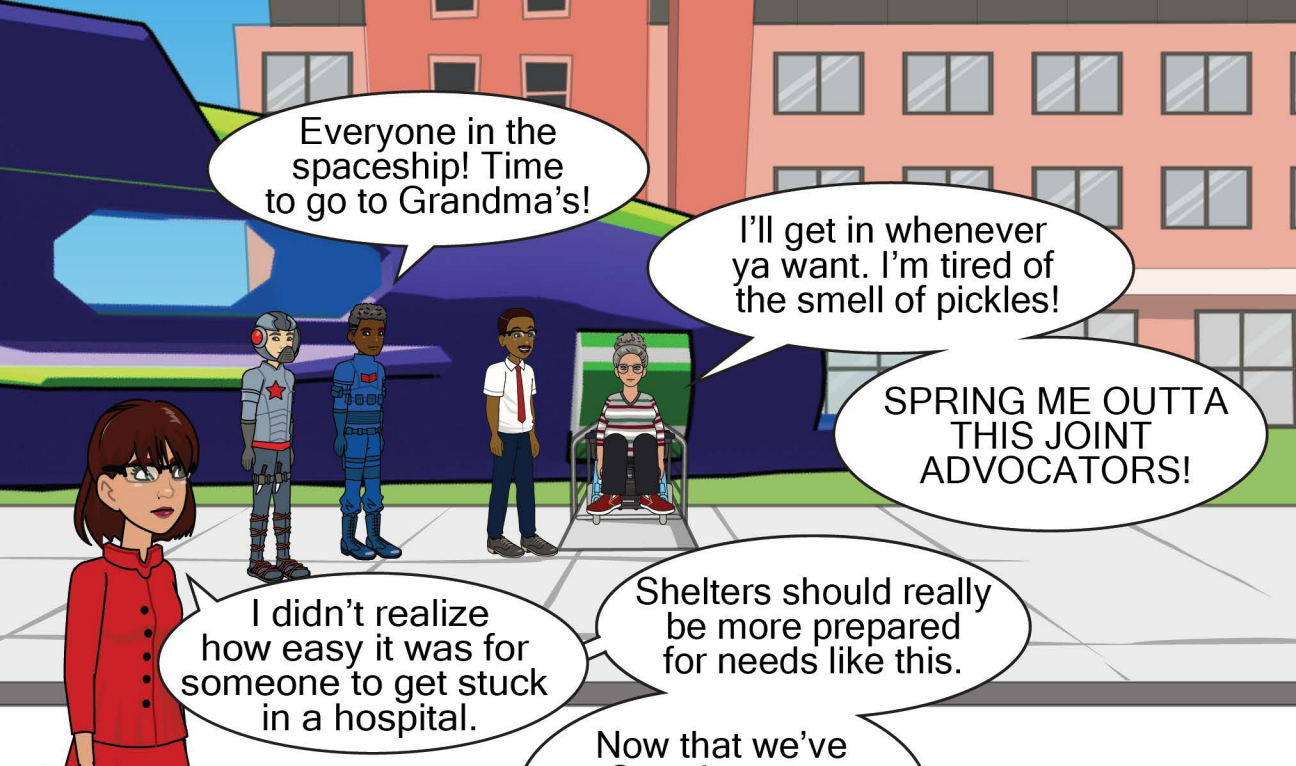
Hey Mom, how are you doing? How are they treating you here?

I'm fine, get me outta here. This rental smells bad!

Who are these people with you?



We're The Advocators! We are here to get you out. We advocate for people with disabilities and strive to make our world a more inclusive place.



Everyone in the spaceship! Time to go to Grandma's!

I'll get in whenever ya want. I'm tired of the smell of pickles!

SPRING ME OUTTA THIS JOINT ADVOCATORS!

I didn't realize how easy it was for someone to get stuck in a hospital.

Shelters should really be more prepared for needs like this.

Now that we've got Grandma, can we get back to your story, Ability Man?

I sure can.

When I confronted her, she started crying, and told me that, she too, had a disability.

WOAH! WHAT!?

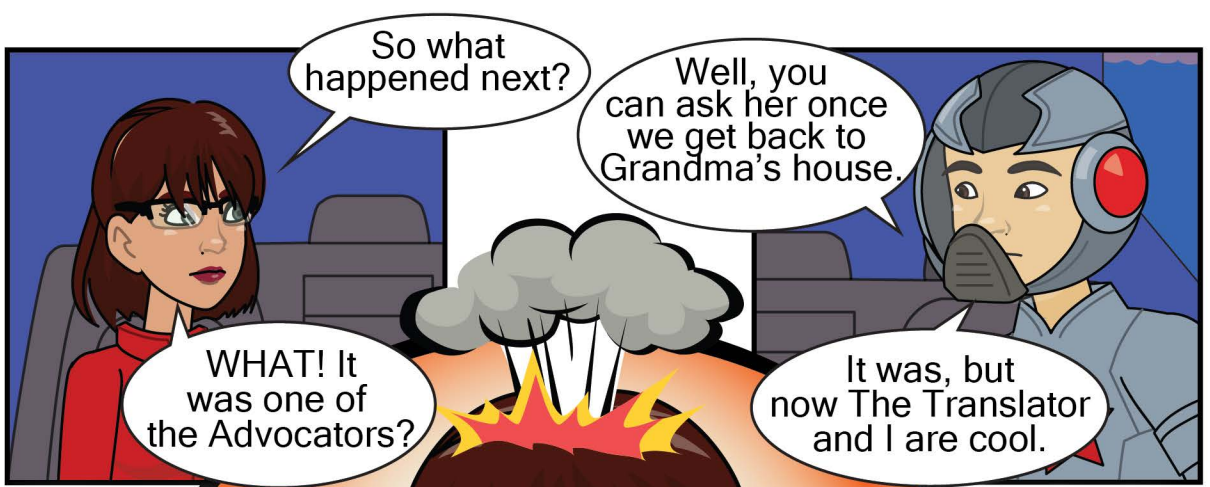
And she was making fun of you?!

Yes, but listen to what she said.

I'm really sorry. Truth is, I have a disability as well.

All my life I've been afraid. I have dyslexia and need extra time for things. I think I'm just jealous of your confidence.

BACK ON THE ADVOCATOR SHIP



MY MIND...

IS BLOWN!!!



THE ADVOCATORS





HOLD ON EVERYONE!

About to land in
Grandma's driveway.



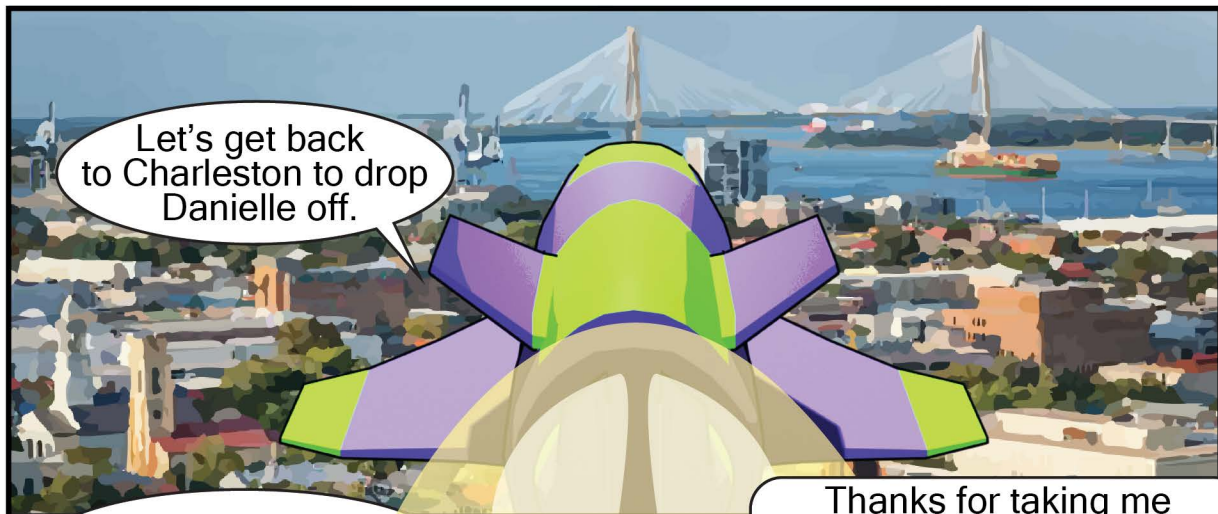
Your house!
Your ramp! It's
all fixed!

Mom, look at
your house
and your chair!

No problem at all.
We are glad you
are back in your
community!
Dr. Page and Adam
probably are too!

WOW! My house looks
great! And I love this new
loaner chair! Thank you
Advocators!

It was great to
meet you and your
family!



AT HEADQUARTERS, A WEEK LATER...

Another successful day out there team. I was just thinking...

About Grandma and her family, the ones we helped after the hurricane?

Yeah and Danielle. I wonder if she got her story?

I'll pull up the screens so we can check in on Danielle, Grandma, and the family.



We are so happy you're finally home in your own house, Grandma! Let's eat some dinner and watch the news to see if we can spot The Advocators!



Everyone in Charleston knows who the Advocators are. We see them stopping barriers and advocating for people with disabilities. I had the opportunity to follow them around for the day, and let me tell you, it was the most exciting and inspiring day of my life.

Let's see if Danielle remembers the mission I asked her to take care of for us...



WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT TIME!





Become aware
Build friendships
Share your abilities

Bring out the leader in yourself,
no matter what limitations life may bring.
Developing a strong team of leaders, from 15-30

SPECIAL THANKS:

ACCESSABILITY WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE MEMBERS OF LIT (LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE TEAM) THAT HELPED MAKE OUR COMIC BOOK SERIES POSSIBLE. WITHOUT YOU, THIS IDEA WOULD NOT HAVE COME TO LIFE.

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK DR. CAROL PAGE FROM SC ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM AT USC, MR. ADAM GORLITSKY FROM I GOT LEGS, AND THE COUNCIL AND MEMBERS FROM SC STATE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING, FOR ALL THEIR ONGOING DEDICATION AND HARD WORK TOWARDS KNOCKING DOWN THOSE BARRIERS.

THE ADVOCATORS