

I used to be “the kid in the wheelchair.” Now I’m the kid with the amazing dog.

Cory's classmates used to focus on his wheelchair and tracheotomy tube, the result of a car accident that left him paralyzed from the neck down. Now they all want to talk about his partnership with Melly. Cory's skilled companion dog knows more than 50 commands and helps him do things the rest of us take for granted, like turning on a light or opening a door. Says Cory's dad, "Other kids wish they had a dog like Melly for themselves."

For more than 30 years, Canine Companions for Independence has been teaming people like Cory with dogs like Melly completely free of charge. To find out more about making a donation, volunteering, or applying for a dog of your own, visit www.cci.org or call 1-800-572-BARK.

