

William (Billy) M. Pickens, III

Billy is a graduate of UNC-Charlotte and has a B.A. in Communication Studies and minor in Journalism. He served as the President of the Student Advisory Board for Disability Services at UNC-Charlotte.

He has worked as an Intern at the NC Division of Services for the Blind and Seacrest Studios at Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte, NC. He also worked as the Youth Outreach Coordinator for the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC). Billy has traveled to all 50 United States. He was born with a condition called Norrie's Disease and is totally Blind with hearing loss.

Billy is a member of the Youth Engagement Transition Initiative (YETI), a collaborative created through a Partnership between the RAISE Center and the National Training Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC). The group is a collaboration between a diverse collective of youth with disabilities spanning nationwide and adult allies. Through our Youth Engagement Now website and in-person presentations, the initiative aims to assist organizations that serve youth with disabilities in fostering sustainable youth outreach, leadership and services.

He is also known as DJ "Real Bill".

