

Founder John Boaz: Making a Difference

If you love stories that touch and inspire, you'll love Michelle Prince's new book, *Dare to Be a Difference Maker*. Prince has collected the stories of several successful individuals whose personal and professional setbacks and triumphs set the stage for their mission in life. So you can imagine how proud we are that the founder of Reliant Home Health, John Boaz, is one of the contributing authors to this book.

John's story illustrates perfectly how someone can turn a physical and emotional challenge into an opportunity to make the world a better place. Now 39, John appears to be the picture of success -- founder of six companies, CEO of three, and board member on four non-profit organizations. And yet none of that might ever have happened for John if a frightening and discouraging physical ailment had not happened first. A brain aneurism and tumor surgery at the age of 14 left John with paralysis on one side of his face -- a major setback for anyone, but a tragic blow to the self-esteem of a sensitive teenager.

John felt bad about himself until he was 25, when he began delivering Meals on Wheels. He was startled to realize that the elderly people he served didn't see his paralysis -- only his desire to help. This discovery gave John a sense of purpose that he's followed ever since. He founded Reliant in 2004, and today Reliant serves more than 1,000 seniors per year -- that's a total of more than 20,000 patient visits annually.

John's remarkable story set the foundation for Reliant's mission to Sserve Seniors, extending the same care and compassion that John gave and received during those first Meals on Wheels deliveries. Check out the book's [Facebook page](#), or hear John tell his own story [here!](#)