

We all have lots of potential. Stay adaptable and use it

My career has been an adventure — a blend of dreams, hard work, and the invaluable wisdom of mentors. When I entered the financial services sector, I had big dreams and plenty of ambition. However, it was the guidance from those who had walked the path before me that transformed those dreams into reality. They didn't merely offer advice; they shared stories of their own successes and failures, making my journey about growing as a person and a professional rather than climbing a corporate ladder.

As we look ahead to the next five years, I envision a workplace that's rapidly evolving — becoming more digital, more flexible, and more innovative. During my time, adapting to change wasn't just necessary; it was an opportunity to learn and to lead in new ways. I believe that adaptability will be the most critical skill for anyone in the workplace of tomorrow. It's about staying curious and embracing the twists and turns with an open heart and mind.

This knack for adaptation has been my trusty compass, guiding me through new roles, new challenges, and the ever-changing tides of the financial sector. Whether mastering new technology or finding fresh ways to connect with a team spread across the country, being adaptable has meant staying relevant and effective.

Beyond skills and strategies, something even more fundamental has powered my journey — a belief in the boundless potential within us all. I've witnessed firsthand that dreaming big, embracing failure as a stepping stone, and seeking wisdom from others can propel us forward. My story is a testament to what's possible when you keep your sights set on the horizon and persist with determination and an open heart.

As we all look ahead, I want my experience to be a beacon for others — a reminder that your path might be unpredictable, but with the right mindset and support, it can lead to extraordinary places. I'm excited to keep learning, growing, and seeing where this incredible journey takes us all next.



Education: MSBA, NYU Stern School of Business; MBA, Michigan State University Eli Broad College of Business; JD, Master's Degree Tax (LL.M), Western Michigan Cooley Law School; MSFS, The American College of Financial Services; BS, Liberal Arts, Excelsior University

Company Name: New York Life

Industry: Financial Services

Company CEO: Craig DeSanto is CEO, President and Chair of the Board

Company Headquarters Location: New York, NY

Number of Employees: 11,700

Words you live by: Dream Big

Who is your personal hero? My father

What book are you reading? *Hidden Potential* by Adam Grant

What was your first job? Bagger at Meijer supermarket at 14 years old

Interests/Hobbies: Reading and walking