

NortheastArc *and*

JOHN F. KENNEDY  
LIBRARY FOUNDATION

*present*

# The Arc Tank

*Changing lives through innovation*



## ***The Arc Tank***

**Bringing  
positive  
disruption  
to  
disability  
services**

**Wednesday, November 15, 2017**  
**John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum**

Co-sponsored by



## *The Arc Tank*

# THE CHANGING LIVES FUND

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*The Arc Tank* is funded through the *Changing Lives Fund*, which was established at the Northeast Arc through a generous donation of \$1,000,000 by Steven P. Rosenthal.



## STEVEN P. ROSENTHAL

Steve founded West Shore LLC in 2016, a Boston-based real estate private equity firm, and serves as its Chairman.

Prior to West Shore, Steve was President and Chief Executive Officer of Northland Investment Corporation, which grew under his leadership into a \$3.5 billion diversified real estate company, including a 23,000 unit multi-family portfolio. Steve directed all aspects of Northland's multi-family, development and commercial portfolio, including capital formation and operations. He also managed the strategic direction of the firm and its investments.

As Co-Managing Partner at Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo P.C., the firm grew to 500 lawyers and 7 offices. During his 21-year career at Mintz Levin, Steve served as a Business and Finance attorney in Boston, where he focused on general corporate and business representation, business planning, mergers and acquisitions, venture capital, and corporate and real estate finance.

Steve holds an A.B. from Harvard College and a J.D. from Boston University School of Law. He is a Trustee of the Ruderman Family Foundation in Boston, MA and Tel Aviv, and a Member of the Board of Directors of Redwood Investments LLC, an investment management firm in Newton, MA.

Steve established the *Changing Lives Fund* at the Northeast Arc, which is funding *The Arc Tank*, today's competition to identify and fund positive disruptive ideas to improve the lives of persons with intellectual disabilities and autism and their families.

Steve has served as a Member of the Board of Directors of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) in Washington, D.C., as a Trustee of the Loomis Chaffee School in Windsor, CT, as a Director of the Harvard Alumni Association, and as a Member of the Harvard Corporation Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility. He previously served on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority and as a Member of the Board of Directors of The Downtown Crossing Partnership.

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Jo Ann Simons has more than 35 years of experience in the intellectual and developmental disabilities field. Her progressive initiatives have included closing several sheltered workshops, innovative school to work programs, inclusive community living and currently a large movement from community residences to shared living models.

She was named the CEO of the Northeast Arc in January 2016. The agency has an operating budget of \$250 million and supports over 9,000 individuals.

Prior to joining Northeast Arc, Jo Ann had served as President/CEO of the Cardinal Cushing Centers, Inc. since 2008, after leading The Arc of Middlesex as its Executive Director for fifteen years. In addition, she had been the Deputy Facility Director of the Fernald Development Center in Waltham; the Director of Policy Initiatives and Acting Director of Family Support Services for the Massachusetts Department of Disability Services; and Director of the Community Division of the North Shore Arc.

Under Jo Ann's leadership, Northeast Arc was recently ranked #9 in The Commonwealth Institute and Globe Magazine's Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts. In 2016, Jo Ann was named one of Boston's Power 50 by the Boston Business Journal.

Jo Ann serves as a Disability Advisor to the Ruderman Family Foundation and is currently a member of the Governor's Commission on Persons with I/DD. She is the current Chair of LIFE, Inc. of Cape Cod and a Director of Century Bank. She previously served on Governor Charlie Baker's Transition Committee on Health Care, and is past Chair of the National Down Syndrome Society and past President of the National Down Syndrome Congress. She is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers and past member of the Board of Directors of Special Olympics International.

She is the author of the *Down Syndrome Transition Handbook* (Woodbine House 2010). She is also the chapter author of *Legal Issues in Babies with Down Syndrome*, an essay in *You Will Dream New Dreams* and the author of the chapter on Long Term Impact in a textbook for dental students, *Treating the Dental Patient with a Developmental Disorder*. In addition she created *Footprints for the Future*, a personal planning tool that provides a place for families and professionals to record specific and personal information as part of their future and estate planning.

Jo Ann has a B.A. from Wheaton College of Massachusetts and an MSW from the University of Connecticut.

She lives in Swampscott, Massachusetts with her husband, Chet Derr. They have two children. Emily is an attorney and Jonathan is a man with Down syndrome who lives independently. They are the inspiration for her life's work.

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Steven M. Rothstein is an accomplished non-profit administrator, public servant, and entrepreneur. As President of the world-renowned Perkins School for the Blind, Rothstein led the institution through a period of significant growth. During his eleven year tenure from 2003-2014, he grew in-person and online educational services from 40,000 to 900,000 people, diversified teacher training services to all 50 states, increased academic offerings, and expanded to 30 new countries. While there, with strong partners, staff and Board members, he completed a \$136 million capital campaign, the largest in the school's history, led the largest capital building program in 100 years, and grew annual operating revenue from \$40 million to \$72 million. In collaboration with the amazing team, he also started and led the Perkins online educational programs so Perkins became the largest trainer of teachers and parents in the blindness field.

In 1979, Rothstein was part of the founding team of Citizens Energy Corporation with Joseph P. Kennedy II. In his six years as General Manager at Citizens, the world's first non-profit social mission oil company assisted needy citizens in low cost oil, natural gas, electricity and pharmaceutical services. Citizens, which continues to be led by Joe Kennedy, has delivered millions of gallons of home heating oil to poor and elderly households and provide a range of other services.

Most recently, Rothstein served as CEO of Citizen Schools, a national non-profit organization that partners with middle schools to expand the learning day for children in low-income communities. During his time at Citizen Schools, the reach of educational and STEM services nearly quadrupled from 5,000 to almost 20,000 students.

Having served on numerous non-profit boards throughout his career, Rothstein is currently a Director of the Brady Campaign and Brady Center for the Prevention of Gun Violence. He graduated with honors from Williams College and received a Master of Business Administration degree from Northeastern University. He and his wife, Susan Maze-Rothstein, have two grown sons and reside in Somerville, Massachusetts.

The Arc Tank  
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**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

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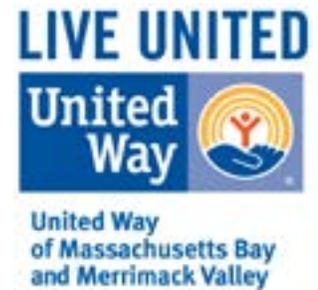


*Exceptional Parent Magazine*



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**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

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*The Arc Tank*  
**CABINET OF POSITIVE DISRUPTERS**

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Our thanks to the following early supporters and promoters of *The Arc Tank*:

**MARGARET AKE**

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**MICHAEL DURKIN**

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**LEE ROSENTHAL**

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Morton J. Kent Habilitation Center,  
Orange Grove Center

**KAYLA ZERFOSS**

Hofstra University

# *The Arc Tank* **FIRST ROUND REVIEWERS**

Our thanks to the following professionals, who donated their time and expertise to review submissions to *The Arc Tank*:

**JOE BELLIL**  
Easter Seals

**LEA HILL**  
Massachusetts Department of  
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**NICK RANDALL**  
The (Peter and Elizabeth C.)  
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**CHLOE BROWNING**  
Northeast Arc

**JEFF KEILSON**  
Advocates

**JON ROSENTHAL**

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Northeast Arc

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Easter Seals

**JESSICA DUCROW**  
Northeast Arc

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**MARGARET VAN GELDER**  
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**KATHY MARQUES**  
Northeast Arc

**STACEY VILLANI**  
Northeast Arc

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Givebutter

**TEURY MARTE**  
Massachusetts Rehabilitation  
Commission

**SARA VU**  
Easter Seals

**CARRIE HANVY**  
Northeast Arc

**ALLISON MITCHELL**  
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**CRAIG WELTON**  
Best Buddies



Heritage Shredding

For decades, Northeast Arc has provided employment training, education and supported employment opportunities for adults with disabilities through programs like Heritage Shredding.

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# The Arc Tank

## THANKS OUR FRIENDS

Our thanks to the following people, for their time and talent leading up to and at today's event:

### MARGARET AKE

PRESENTATION MENTOR



Margaret Ake is a partner at Herter Associates and an instructor for the Corporate Learning Division of Harvard Business Publishing, a subsidiary of the Harvard Business School. Herter Associates offers customized training courses for financial analysts and relationship managers at commercial and investment banks worldwide.

Margaret joined Herter Associates and Harvard Business School after a 14-year career in teaching at Endicott College in Beverly, MA. At Endicott College, she taught a variety of courses in the general business curriculum including: Economics, Statistics, Finance, Accounting, Organizational Behavior, Business Writing, and Strategy. Margaret also taught a series of corporate financial training seminars delivered through the Graduate and Professional School. She directed the Case Writing Program and has had eight business education case studies published in a variety of business journals. She also has experience from her time as a Research Analyst for Fidelity Investments.

Currently, Margaret serves on the Board of Governors of The Woods Hole Golf Club, as Treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee. In addition, she regularly travels internationally with Operation Smile working as a medical records, statistical reporting, and data outcomes volunteer.

Margaret's relationship with Northeast Arc began 25 years ago, when her son was served by the agency's Early Intervention program; he is now a special education teacher. For more than 20 years, Margaret was a valued member of the planning committee for Northeast Arc's annual golf tournament, the Mike Frangos Commodore Invitational.

### T.J. WINICK

EMCEE



T.J. Winick is a former broadcast communications professional with a proven track record of writing and presenting for audiences nationally and in major U.S. media markets. He is currently a Vice President at Solomon McCown Strategic Communications.

With nearly two decades spent in broadcast news and feature television, T.J. brings the perspective of a veteran journalist to the agency's award-winning media relations, issues and crisis management, as well as communications training capabilities. He conducts high-level writing and content editing across all client accounts. In addition, T.J. directs how the agency conceives and produces client videos.

Prior to Solomon McCown, T.J. was a correspondent for ABC News. During his five-and-a-half years at the network, he reported for Nightline, as well as Good Morning America and World News. Before ABC News, he was a reporter and anchor at WBZ-TV in Boston.

T.J. has provided insight and commentary on media issues for WGBH-TV and the Boston Herald. His writing on crisis communications has appeared in numerous PR Industry trades.

He is a North Shore native and holds a B.A. in government from Colby College, from which he graduated with honors.

T.J. joined the Northeast Arc Board of Directors in June of 2016; his son Parker is served by NeArc's Autism Support Center.

# *The Arc Tank*

## PANEL OF EXPERTS

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Our thanks to the following business and community leaders,  
for lending their time and expertise today to identify the winning ideas  
at this inaugural *Arc Tank* competition:

Ex Officio Members:

**STEVEN ROSENTHAL • STEVEN ROTHSTEIN • JO ANN SIMONS**

### **MATTHEW KENNEDY**

Matt Kennedy is a founder of Kennedy Merchant Partners (KMP) and has worked in more than twenty countries on six continents. Previously, Matt served in senior roles in the Obama Administration at the Department of Commerce, Department of the Treasury and the White House. As the Director of the Office of Strategic Partnerships at Commerce, Matt worked closely with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and Export-Import Bank of the United States to develop innovative public-private partnerships with leading Trade organizations and several Fortune 500 businesses. These partnerships have enabled more than 5,000 small businesses to learn about overseas markets and begin exporting.

Prior to his service in government, Matt managed Senator Edward M. Kennedy's 2006 reelection campaign and the MoneySite, a non-profit financial services initiative that leverages tax preparation as a vehicle to create personal financial plans for low-income households.

Matt graduated from Stanford University with a B.S. in Management Science and Engineering, where he was also captain of the lacrosse team. He holds an MBA from Harvard University. He sits on the board of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights.



### **SHIRLEY LEUNG**

Shirley Leung is a columnist writing on everything from the intersection of business and politics to gender issues in the workplace. She is also a WGBH contributor to "Boston Public Radio" and "Greater Boston," as well as a regular guest on New England Cable News.

She was a finalist in 2015 and 2017 for the Gerald Loeb Award for Commentary.

Previously, Leung was the *Globe's* business editor, where she oversaw its award-winning coverage of the 2008 financial crisis. Prior to the *Globe*, Leung was a staff reporter at the *Wall Street Journal*. A graduate of Princeton University, Leung started her career at her hometown paper, *The Baltimore Sun*.



She is a working mom of two and lives in Milton with her husband who is also a journalist.

# The Arc Tank

## PANEL OF EXPERTS

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### QUINCY MILLER

Quincy Miller is President and Vice Chairman of Eastern Bank, the largest and oldest mutual bank in the United States, with over \$10 billion in assets and over 120 banking and insurance locations serving communities in eastern Massachusetts and southern and coastal New Hampshire. He drives the overall strategic direction of Eastern, which has served its customers, colleagues and communities for nearly 200 years.

Quincy is the former President of Citizens Bank, Massachusetts, and President of its Business Banking division, where he led sales and operations teams across a 12-state footprint.

Quincy has a passion for supporting the communities where he lives and works. He is the immediate past Board Chair of the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts and serves on the Board of Directors for The Greater Boston Food Bank, Bottom Line, The Alliance for Business Leadership, Zoo New England, and Board of Overseers for the Greater Boston YMCA.

The Boston Business Journal in 2012 recognized Quincy as a “40 under 40” honoree and again in 2015 as one of “16 Business Executives to Watch in 2016.” Get Connected! also recognized Quincy on its “GK100” list of the “100 Most Influential People of Color in Boston.”

Quincy is a graduate of Lafayette College, where he earned a B.A. in Economics and Business, and of the Consumer Bankers Association’s Graduate School of Retail Bank Management. Quincy serves on Lafayette’s Trustee Financial Policy Committee and its McDonogh Network Diversity Committee.

Quincy and his wife, Jenna, have two children and live in Milton.



### MATTHEW MILLETT

Matthew Millett works for the Department of Youth Services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and serves on the Board of Directors for the Special Olympics of Massachusetts.

He is a well-rounded athlete participating in soccer, basketball, volleyball and softball. In 2010, Matthew earned the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to South Africa to play in the global, unified soccer match prior to the FIFA World Cup quarterfinal game in Cape Town Stadium.



# The Arc Tank

## PANEL OF EXPERTS

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### MIKE ROBERTS

Michael J. Roberts recently retired as the MBA Class of 1961 Senior Lecturer at Harvard Business School. He spent 25 years on the HBS faculty, serving for the last 16 years as the Executive Director of the Arthur Rock Center for Entrepreneurship. In this capacity, he directed the School's non-classroom activities in support of entrepreneurship, including the HBS Business Plan Contest, fellowship programs, Entrepreneur in Residence program, and the California Research Center in Silicon Valley.

Dr. Roberts has also served as Executive Director, Case Development at the School. In this role, he oversaw many aspects of the School's case development activities. While at HBS, he also taught the second-year elective course "Evaluating the Entrepreneurial Opportunity" for students who were actively working to transform an idea into a real business. He also taught the School's first-year required courses in entrepreneurship and business history.



### MARYLOU SUDDERS, MSW, ACSW

Appointed by Governor Charlie Baker, Marylou Sudders, Secretary of Health & Human Services, leads the largest executive agency in state government, overseeing a \$22 billion state budget, twelve agencies and 22,000 public servants. EOHHS services directly touch the lives of slightly more than 1 in 4 residents of the Commonwealth. Sudders' responsibilities include the state's MassHealth (Medicaid) program that provides health coverage to 1.9 million low-income or disabled residents, chairing the board of the state's health care marketplace (The Connector), the Autism Commission and the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) Oversight Council; and, co-chairs the Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness and the state's first Governor's Council to Address Aging in Massachusetts. Sudders is leading the Commonwealth's efforts to address the opioid epidemic, strengthen the Department of Children and Families, and to ensure a sustainable MassHealth program.



Professionally trained as a social worker, Sudders has been a public official, private non-profit executive, advocate and college professor. She served as the Massachusetts Commissioner of Mental Health from 1996 to 2003. Prior to her appointment as Secretary, Sudders was an associate professor and chaired the health/mental health program at Boston College's Graduate School of Social Work. She also served as a behavioral health expert with the Department of Justice.

She has been recognized by top business, social work and civic organizations, including the Boston Chamber of Commerce, Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, Eastern Bank, and the National Association of Social Work for her work.

Sudders is an alumna of Boston University with a Bachelor's degree with honors and a Master's degree in social work, and received an honorary doctorate from the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology. Believing in community service, she has served on many charitable boards, including the Pine Street Inn, DentaQuest Foundation, Massachusetts Association for Mental Health and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

## *The Arc Tank*

# PANEL OF EXPERTS: MODERATORS

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Our thanks to the following for moderating during the Panel of Experts' deliberation today:



### DAVID S. CHANG

David is an entrepreneur and angel investor with product, marketing and software development experience at internet and mobile startups. He is currently an EiR at Harvard Business School, Executive Chair at Feelter, and Co-founder of PersonalVC where he works closely with Boston-area founders and investors.

David has a successful track record in hands-on roles at both direct-to-consumer and enterprise companies, six of which were acquired or IPO'd. He previously led the PayPal Boston office and co-founded the Start Tank innovation space and the Where Angel Fund. Before WHERE's acquisition by PayPal in April 2011, he held the role of VP of Product, which included strategy and corporate development.

As a leader in the entrepreneurship community, he holds several advisor/board memberships and has made 40 angel investments in early-stage startups. Recent awards include Boston Business Journal's Power 50: Most Influential Bostonians, BostInno's 50 on Fire: Investment Winner/Tech Finalist, and Finalist for NEVY Angel of the Year.

David holds a B.S. with Distinction in Computer Science from Cornell University and an MBA from Harvard Business School.



### RICK RADER, MD

Dr. Rick Rader is Editor-in-Chief of Exceptional Parent Magazine, a nationally acclaimed journal focusing on the education of parents and professionals supporting individuals with special needs. He has published over one hundred articles on developmental disabilities and has received numerous national awards for excellence in health care publishing.

Dr. Rader is the Director of the Morton J. Kent Habilitation Center at Orange Grove in Chattanooga TN, where he is engaged as a medical futurist — predicting the future medical problems of people with neurodevelopmental disabilities.

He was appointed the first Special Liaison for Family Health Care at the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities; has served as an advisor to two Surgeon Generals in the field of health care for people with disabilities; is on the Board of the American Association for Health and Disability; and serves as the president of the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry.

He is a fellow of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities; a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the International Brain Research Foundation; serves on the editorial advisory board of the International Journal of Nursing in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities; and is on the board of MOVE International. He is a mentor to Project DOCC, a parent-driven educational program teaching physicians the realities of caring for a child with special health care needs. Dr. Rader is an adjunct professor of Human Development at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and a member of the Research Consortium for Sensory Integration Studies.

Dr. Rader is a founding member of the board and first president of the American Association for Multi-Sensory Environments (AAMSE) and a co-founder of the Initiative for the Defeat of Stigma.

*The Arc Tank*

## DISRUPTING THE GUARDIANSHIP PIPELINE: THE MASSACHUSETTS SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING INCUBATOR

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### LEADER & PRESENTER:

Cathy E. Costanzo, Executive Director  
Center for Public Representation  
22 Green Street, North Hampton, MA 01060  
413-586-6024, ccostanzo@cpr-ma.org

### INTRODUCTION

People under guardianship experience a kind of “civil death” because they have no rights to make their own decisions about their health care, their finances, their relationships, and other day-to-day decisions. Further, guardianship can be isolating and exclusionary. People under guardianship are *less likely* to live in their own homes or apartments, *less likely* to have jobs in the community, and *less likely* to have friends. Yet, guardianship is often viewed as the only option for individuals with I/DD.

The Supported Decision-Making Incubator will demonstrate how SDM disrupts the status quo and provides an effective alternative to guardianship.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Building on its innovative Western Massachusetts SDM pilot — the first demonstration in the nation to promote and operationalize this positive disruption to guardianship — the Project will establish “incubator” sites where providers, advocacy groups and family organizations can offer SDM opportunities to people with I/DD. Under this model, individuals with disabilities identify areas where they need decision-making support — health, employment, finances, relationships — and designate people to provide that support. The individuals and their supporters enter into an agreement to work together to make decisions.

This statewide Project will provide training and technical assistance to five Massachusetts organizations that will help 25 persons with disabilities adopt SDM instead of guardianship. At least two programs will focus directly on disrupting the school to guardianship pipeline that deprives young adults of their fundamental liberties as they stand to benefit most from this cultural change.

The incubator approach will enable the Project to advance self-determination as a mainstay in the lives of a significant number of individuals with disabilities across Massachusetts. Also, through workshops, conferences and webinars, the SDM Project will reach hundreds of individuals, families and community leaders, including legislators, who are likely to vote on SDM legislation within the next two years. Data from this Project will be utilized by CPR’s offices in Washington, D.C. to provide national impact.

*The Arc Tank*  
**MYSUPPORT.COM:**  
**THE FUTURE OF HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES**

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**LEADER & PRESENTER:**

Ari Ne'eman  
My Support, Inc.  
1401 Blair Mill Road #901, Silver Spring, MD 20910  
723-763-5530, ari@mysupport.com

**INTRODUCTION**

MySupport is a new online platform designed to help empower people with disabilities and families to control their own services. Currently active in four states, MySupport connects those seeking support with direct support workers using a unique values-based matching algorithm alongside a suite of tools for managing support relationships in line with state regulatory requirements. While self-directed services offer clear quality and cost advantages, they remain the exception rather than the norm. MySupport promotes community integration by helping state Medicaid systems and the people with disabilities they support address their workforce challenges in a sustainable fashion.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Self-direction has been documented to reduce the likelihood of institutionalization, reduce costs and improve health and satisfaction for people with disabilities. Despite that, self-directed services — and other similar models that promote choice and control — are still the exception rather than the norm in most parts of the country. MySupport offers the potential to change that, helping states dramatically expand self-directed services. In doing so, people with disabilities and families have access to more control over their own lives while states and health plans save money. MySupport already possesses contracts in California, Iowa, Virginia and New York.

MySupport helps solve the single biggest challenge in home and community based services: meeting the workforce needs of a large and diverse population of people living scattered throughout the community. In promoting greater autonomy and support-related choice, the platform also assists states in complying with the requirements of the Medicaid Home and Community Based Settings Rule, which requires individuals receiving Medicaid-financed home and community based services have access to greater agency and choice in the support process. By giving people a chance to select their own direct care worker, MySupport is assisting people with disabilities to live more self-determined, healthier and happier lives.

*The Arc Tank*  
**PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE HEALTHCARE**

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**LEADER & PRESENTER:**

Carolyn Langer, MD, JD, MPH  
University of Massachusetts Medical School  
71 Buckskin Drive, Weston, MA 02493  
339-222-6442, cslanger@massmed.org

**INTRODUCTION**

“Falling off the cliff” is a term often used to describe the precipitous transition from the educational system to adult human services. Yet, there is another cliff that is just as precarious — the transition from pediatrics to adult medical care. The unprecedented rate of individuals with ASD/IDD aging into adult services accentuates their health disparities due, in part, to a healthcare workforce that lacks adequate training and experience caring for those with ASD/IDD. Modeled after Teach for America, Pathways to Inclusive HealthCare (PIHC) will create a pipeline of healthcare professionals motivated and equipped to provide quality healthcare to this population.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Pathways to Inclusive HealthCare will be the most innovative, disruptive, impactful, and scalable program in the nation to train future healthcare professionals to work with the ASD/IDD population. Targeting pre-medical, dental, nurse practitioner and other pre-health professions students, PIHC will recruit recent college graduates (called Scholars) to a year-long program to work as paraprofessionals with individuals with ASD/IDD in practicum sites, such as day hab programs, Chapter 766 schools, and integrated classrooms. In the evenings, the Scholars will pursue a certificate program in a related field with one of our five University Partners and will also participate as a group in monthly seminars and field trips. Additionally, each Scholar will be paired with a mentor to guide the Scholar through the graduate school admissions process. During orientation, Scholars will receive the Registered Behavioral Technician™ training and credentials. After a planning period, we will commence a year-long pilot in August 2018 with 8-12 Scholars, expanding in subsequent years in Massachusetts and beyond. We believe that Pathways to Inclusive HealthCare will become a prestigious program that will attract some of the finest college graduates, spawning a pipeline of future healthcare practitioners who will make a difference in closing the health equity gap for those with ASD/IDD.

# The Arc Tank

## KEY 2 FREEDOM (K2F)

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### LEADER & PRESENTER:

Mohammad Sayed, President  
RimPower  
182 Pleasant Street, Watertown, MA 02472  
panshir.said@gmail.com

### INTRODUCTION

Google “Wheelchair Accessories” and you will get an assortment of trays, umbrellas and device holders that are adapted from the stroller, scooter or bicycle market. Difficult to attach, in places unreachable by the user, they often require help to deploy, can’t be easily removed, and they look like they belong on a baby carriage or lunar lander.

The Key 2 Freedom was developed by a wheelchair user for wheelchair users. It is a plastic cylinder that attaches to any armrest or support in front of the user, without the need of additional tools or extraordinary dexterity. Accessories ranging from an iPhone holder to your own favorite plate can be easily slipped onto the Key, securing it to the wheelchair.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Wheelchair users face both physical and social challenges. The Key 2 Freedom addresses both, by allowing us to have control of our accessories, to be able to attach and remove them without help, even if our dexterity is compromised. Furthermore, we are no longer forced to use a different plate at the family dinner. The Key 2 Freedom expands our inclusiveness and reduces our dependence on others. The wide variety of attachments includes a smartphone holder that doubles as a kickstand and has a unique magnetic reacher built in. I don’t have to ask anyone to pick up my keys when I drop them and I can FaceTime from my phone or aim my video camera anywhere I want. Plates, trays, baskets and my iPad are all at my fingertips and when I am done, I can pack them all away, remove the Key 2 Freedom and roll away unencumbered by protruding brackets, flapping Velcro or clumsy bolt-on attachments.

There are at least 3.5 million wheelchair users in the US alone and as many as 65 million of us worldwide. We are forced to depend on others for far too much, and the Key 2 Freedom gives us back a measure of independence, control of our environment and a wider range of abilities at an affordable cost.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See a short video about the Key 2 Freedom on YouTube by entering the following ID in the search field:  
qNipC6yPr3Y

# The Arc Tank

## INDEPENDENT LIVING SUITE

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### LEADER & PRESENTER:

Kymberly DeLoatche  
The Arc of Northern Virginia  
2755 Hartland Road, Suite 200, Falls Church, VA 22043  
kymberly.deloatche@thearcofnova.org

### INTRODUCTION

Nationwide, too many people with cognitive challenges are growing up to sit at home for their entire adult life. Building on the success of our TravelMATE and EmployMATE — which act as “virtual job coaches and travel trainers” in your pocket — we would like to extend our “Independent Living Suite” to include other activities of daily living. This innovative technology can provide ongoing support from the moment they wake up, navigating throughout the day at work, in relationships and out in the community to allow them to live as independently as possible, complete with integrated data collection to facilitate progress.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

It is clear that the limited supports and funding to help individuals are not sufficient or more likely simply don't work effectively. To positively disrupt this current trend, we want to expand our successful use of ONEder's software technology to provide supports in ways that are already highly effective to allow individuals' lives to be more independent and fulfilling.

The Arc of Northern Virginia's “Independent Living Suite” is innovative in that it uses technology to provide real functional formats that actually meet learning needs. It cuts across the barriers and obstacles that currently exist in public and private providers, such as available staff and limited financial resources, so that these individuals can be living more independently in the community. These tools are fully customizable to the user's learning abilities and real life environments, incorporating their own photos/videos and text/audio in any language. This project has the potential to reach thousands across the country and while it immediately meets the needs of people with disabilities, it also puts appropriate tools in the hands of employers and teachers as well.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Videos and statistics can be found at <http://www.oneder.com/the-arc-of-nova>

# *The Arc Tank*

## **AUTISM TRAINING VIDEOS FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS:** **ATVs FOR HCPs**

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### **LEADER:**

Shari King, Program Director  
Autism Program at Boston Medical Center  
72 East Concord Street, Vose 419, Boston, MA 02218  
617-414-3666, shari.king@bmc.org

### **PRESENTERS:**

Shari King & Sarah Qin

## **INTRODUCTION**

Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) require medical attention at disproportionately higher levels than their typically developing peers, yet their experience with medical care remains suboptimal. Parents report more than twice the odds of unmet medical needs compared to others, citing difficulty using services, lack of shared decision making and care coordination as barriers. Both in the literature and in a survey conducted at BMC, clinicians report a need and desire for training around how to interact with patients with ASD, and we aim to address this gap through concise, informative and patient-centered training videos.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The core features of ASD, such as difficulties with expressive communication and sensory needs, make the monitoring of medical conditions more challenging for clinicians, and participation in medical appointments problematic for patients and families. Patients with ASD also have higher rates of most medical conditions including obesity, hypertension, and diabetes. There is substantial evidence that providers and staff do not currently have, and would like, better training on how to interact with patients with ASD. We want to disrupt the typical experience for patients with ASD in the hospital setting by making positive changes that will lead to greater patient satisfaction and improved health outcomes. With 1 in 68 children being diagnosed with ASD as of 2012, the need for better training and more resources for hospital personnel cannot be overstated.

We plan to leverage many resources at BMC to develop the training videos, including input from a hospital-wide steering committee, a partnership with BMC's Accessibility Committee, and our Autism Program, which annually supports over 500 families through direct patient referral and community-based outreach. Trainings will be available online, thereby expanding the potential reach of the project exponentially.

# The Arc Tank Y'S WATER WISE

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## LEADER:

Chris Lovasco  
YMCA of the North Shore  
254 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915  
978-564-3061, [lovascoc@northshoreymca.org](mailto:lovascoc@northshoreymca.org)

## PRESENTER:

Meegan O'Neil

## INTRODUCTION

Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) often feel anxiety. Wandering, especially toward water, is one way they seek relief. According to a 2011 study, roughly 50% of children with autism wander. Unfortunately, this often leads to tragedy. Drowning is a leading cause of death for children with ASD. A 2017 study revealed that children with autism are 160 times as likely to die from drowning as other children. The high risk of accidental drowning reaffirms the importance of teaching water safety to children with ASD.

To address this safety concern, the YMCA will develop "Water Wise," a water safety program for children with ASD. It will include an intake process, customized support, parent education and staff training.

The goal of Water Wise is to reduce death by drowning.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The YMCA is well-known for teaching children water safety. Children with ASD, however, can experience difficulty navigating YMCA Swim Lessons. Participation in typical swim lessons requires children to change clothes in a crowded, noisy locker room; to enter a loud, brightly lit, wet environment; and to follow the instructions of a swim instructor with a group of 6-8 other children.

Children with ASD present with a broad range of abilities and needs. While one child may navigate group instruction with little additional support needed, another child may require one-on-one instruction. One child may manage the noisy, bright environment without difficulty, while another may require sensory aware strategies.

Before beginning lessons, we'll ask parents/caregivers to complete an intake, outlining their child's needs/goals. We'll review the form together to determine the best track for each child — regular, specialized group, or one-on-one lessons. Our unique approach to the intake process will allow us to focus on and teach to students' abilities, not their disabilities, ensuring that all children with ASD feel comfortable accessing and participating.

Where possible, a child's final lesson will be with pants and shoes on, mimicking real-life situations when children fall into water wearing street clothes.

In its first year, Water Wise will serve 60 children with ASD in Northeast Massachusetts. As a leading provider of swim lessons and water safety classes, the NSY will look to partner with agencies such as Northeast Arc that lead the way in promoting solutions for the needs of children with autism and their families.

## The Arc Tank

# OUTSIDE THE TANK

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The following people were awarded “*Outside the Tank*” for being out-of-the-box thinkers — people who can imagine the possibilities, are creative and have entrepreneurial spirits.

### SHOP DROP ROLL

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Shop Drop Roll is a wheelchair attachment that simplifies the transport and accessibility of goods on the back of a wheelchair, allowing for increased independence and an easier traveling experience for people who use wheelchairs. A frame with hooks clips to an attachment on the chair. After shopping, the user pulls a lever to deploy the frame to the ground, allowing the user to turn around and access their groceries without requiring assistance or leaving the chair. We designed the prototype specifically for an older adult who uses a wheelchair as students in Olin’s Engineering for Humanity class. While the design was initially created only for one specific user, it has potential to apply to people of all ages who use wheelchairs. We are testing options for both manual and power wheelchairs. There are currently no products on the market that allow for people to remove bags from their chair on their own.

**LEADER:**

Andrew Holmes  
Junior, Olin College  
781-367-2745  
andrew.holmes@students.olin.edu

**KEY COLLABORATORS:**

Sunny Chae, schae1@babson.edu  
Micaela Chiang, micaela.chiang@students.olin.edu  
Daniel Daugherty, daniel.daugherty@students.olin.edu



### THE BIONIC HAND: STRONG AND SMART

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Many people have brilliant ideas and designs that they would like to create but they need OT assistance to make them come to life! Nathaniel is a high school student who is full of ideas, including The BIONIC Hand! This device could be fastened to his wrist, desk, or computer to assist with many tasks, including common computer commands such as CTRL + ALT + DLT, which Nathaniel is unable to complete due to a physical disability. Who couldn’t use the extra help of useful tools at their fingertips? Many individuals who have difficulty with fine motor skills cannot complete 3-key computer commands simultaneously. The Bionic Hand “3 key attachment” could be fastened to any computer for quick access.

**LEADER:**

Nathaniel Lorenz-Galdamez  
617-763-4927  
bill61570@gmail.com

**KEY COLLABORATOR:**

Paula Gordon, Special Education Teacher  
978-239-6242

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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The following submissions were placed in the “*Holding Tank*,” to be shared here so that attendees at the competition could pursue or learn more about them by contacting the lead applicant.

### ACTIVE SPEECH

It is the goal of this project to develop a communication system which is based on the theory of Memory for Action (Zimmer and Engelkamp) by incorporating distinct user movements within the system, thereby augmenting expression and overall interaction.

CONTACT: Susan O’Shea, Ed.S., BCBA  
The Arc of Greater Plymouth  
508-732-9292 x148  
sueo@thearcofgp.org

### BRIDGEWELL’S MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

Meaningful Connections, a relationship service, will provide individuals with developmental, intellectual and psychiatric disabilities and other life challenges the opportunity to meet others who have the same interests and are also looking to find friendship and possibly romantic relationships. Relationship coaches, classes and monthly social events will be key components of the service.

CONTACT: Laura K. McNamara, LICSW  
Bridgewell  
339-883-2173  
lmcnamara@bridgewell.org

### JOB WHEELS

Job Wheels is an expansion of Cardinal Cushing’s vocational assessment program, aimed at reaching students with intellectual abilities in gateway communities (beyond the suburban districts of Hanover, Hingham, et al.) where school districts lack resources to properly assess students on IEPs.

CONTACT: Peter O’Meara  
Cardinal Cushing Centers  
781-829-1200  
pomeara@cushingcenters.org

### PLUGGED IN

This ground breaking Plugged In program will match clients with companies offering career opportunities not previously attainable, by shifting the idea of what creates employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities by embracing and adapting technology to benefit this community.

CONTACT: Stephanie Parish  
Minute Man Arc  
978-287-7932  
sparish@minutemanarc.org

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **PUFFIN**

Puffin is making an assistive technology device that fits to the user, instead of the other way around. Our product will work in every place and way that people do, providing them the same level of access to computers and mobile devices that many take for granted. The device utilizes IOT connectivity and artificial intelligence to advance the way the device interacts with both the user and the environment, further enhancing opportunities for users.

CONTACT: Adriana Mallozzi  
Puffin  
617-935-2177  
adriana@puffinsip.com

### **UNIFIED HEALTH AND PERFORMANCE MOBILE**

This will be an online platform/mobile app that includes several hundred pictures of exercises, exercise videos taught by adaptive athletes, as well as weekly health and nutrition tips. The program is geared toward caretakers of adolescents and adults with disabilities as well as adult service agencies.

CONTACT: Brendan Aylward  
Unified Health and Performance  
978-855-9141  
unified.hp@gmail.com

### **XOGO**

Focusing on making innovative and accessible technology for individuals with disabilities, our Xogo product allows both custom and off-the-shelf input devices to connect to any output device: cable boxes, smart homes, game consoles, and more using our protocol inter-conversion hardware and open API platform.

CONTACT: Ray Abel  
Bansen Labs  
412-512-4918  
ray@bansenlabs.com

### **VIRTUAL REALITY DIGITAL MEDICINES THAT IMPROVE IMPORTANT COGNITIVE ABILITIES IN PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES**

Millions of children and adults with genetic disorders struggle to understand numbers, money, time, distance and math. Finding their way around and driving is hard. We seek funding to accelerate our *design, build, test* cycle for a virtual reality treatment game, designed directly from published scientific findings, to address the cognitive issues that are at the root of these challenges.

CONTACT: Tony Simon  
Cognivive, Inc. and  
University of California Davis  
530-219-2474  
tony@cognivive.com

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **OUR CITY: A PILOT PROJECT TO DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS FOR AUTISTIC INDIVIDUALS IN THE SECOND LIFE VIRTUAL WORLD**

This project aims to increase employment skills and opportunities for people with autism by piloting virtual world technology. Participants will engage in skill-building activities in the Second Life virtual world and receive guidance from trained mentors.

CONTACT: Maggie Sheets  
Disability Policy Consortium  
617-542-3822  
msheets@dpcma.org

### **ADULT TRANSITIONS: TURNING A CLIFF INTO A BRIDGE**

To improve special education transition planning, bridging naturally to adult services for the most challenged students who are eligible, a working group will create a fiscal option that allows for better, gradual transition that will reduce costs for both municipalities and the Commonwealth. With some tweaking, we can better use our state government resources to make the transition processes to adult services more flexible, efficient, easier to navigate and less expensive.

CONTACT: Philip Campbell  
HMEA  
508-298-1103  
mmoloney@hmea.org

### **ONLINE LEARNING FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES**

This proposal is to develop an online course accessible and useful to people with intellectual disabilities (PwID)— those that effectively teach them real-life skills. The overall goal is to develop best practices of effective online learning for PwID, and then experiment with those practices via a demonstration online course.

CONTACT: John Rochford  
University of Massachusetts Medical School  
774-455-6536  
john.rochford@umassmed.edu

### **FAMILY MATTERS: SUPPORTING HEALTHY FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH ASD**

Research has shown that the physical and psychological strain of caring for an individual with Autism Spectrum Disorder can be considerable; parents are particularly vulnerable. This project creates a structure to implement screening and, when necessary, treatment of caregivers of individuals with ASD.

CONTACT: Nicole Benson  
Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Psychiatry  
857-205-3146  
nbenson@mgh.harvard.edu

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **“MAY WE HELP” JOB MATCH**

The MAY We Help (MWH) Job Match increases community access and employment opportunities for individuals ages 14-22 with autism or intellectual disabilities. Through a May Institute website featuring student employment profiles, community members will be able to post work requests and MWH will match students to the task based on skills and strengths.

CONTACT: Bridget Anderson  
May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities  
banderson@mayinstitute.org

### **“MEANINGFUL JOBS” INITIATIVE**

This collaboration between May Institute’s National Autism Center and Work Inc. intends to open pathways in the security industry for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). We are providing specialized training and support to adults with ASD to assist them in obtaining employment with the Transportation Security Administration as Transportation Safety Officers. We are also working with TSA to provide tools and training to create a positive working environment for individuals with ASD.

CONTACT: Dr. Robert Putnam  
National Autism Center and May Institute  
bputnam@mayinstitute.org

### **HAND MADE PROSTHETICS™**

After losing his hand to necrotizing-fasciitis, and given the shortcomings in available prostheses, the applicant designed his own and started Hand Made Prosthetics. The team’s patent pending designs earned acceptance to the Autodesk BUILD Space, an R&D incubator. Hand Made’s goal is to be the premier maker of prosthetic hardware for active lifestyles and help hundreds of thousands of people regain their abilities.

CONTACT: Braden Leonard  
Hand Made Prosthetics, Outradius Design  
401-413-9236  
braden@outradius.com

### **BUILDING A RESPONSIVE COMMUNITY FOR CAREGIVERS OF LOVED ONES WITH AUTISM**

Our concept is to develop a community strategy to support caregivers involving everyone: businesses, educational institutions, health providers, community organizations, friends and neighbors. We want to celebrate caregivers and bring awareness to the need for community action, implementing the concept of a caregiver friendly community by utilizing the strengths and resources among us.

CONTACT: Jeff Keilson  
Advocates, Inc.  
508-628-6662  
jkeilson@advocates.org

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **PYD'S eMENTORING NETWORK**

PYD's eMentoring Network is an online network designed to improve the leadership skills and employment outcomes for transition-aged young adults with disabilities (mentees) by connecting them with professional and peer mentors. Mentees engage with their e-mentors to increase their networks, receive advice and support in achieving goals, communicate through live chat or direct messages, participate in webinars and engage in a live interview and/or networking events with mentors and businesses.

CONTACT: Genelle Thomas  
Partners for Youth with Disabilities  
gthomas@pyd.org

### **HARNESSING IMAGINATION, EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE TO EMPOWER RISING ADULTS: A WIKI FOR ID/DD LEARNING TOOLS**

3LPlace seeks to create a collaborative online community where we will work together to develop and share learning tools for people with ID/DD and the professionals and loved ones who help them.

CONTACT: Deborah Flaschen  
3LPlace  
617-817-5869  
dflaschen@3lplace.com

### **DESIGN PARTNER PROGRAM FOR EYE TRACKING-ENABLED, VIDEO GAME-BASED SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING TOOL**

BioStream Technologies is working with the Center for Autism Research at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia to develop the first-ever immersive, eye tracking-enabled, video game-based social skills training tool for children on the autism spectrum. BioStream is requesting funding to pilot its current prototype in 20 schools and therapy clinics via a Design Partner Program.

CONTACT: Luc Robinson  
BioStream Technologies, LLC  
617-981-3274  
lrobinson@biostreamtech.com

### **BEYOND THE DIAGNOSIS APP**

Our plan is to create a medically-reviewed, balanced app for iOS and Android that can explain a range of prenatally-diagnosed conditions with photos and video that show authentic lives with disabilities. Too often, a parent or medical student's first encounter with a prenatally-diagnosed condition is a list of medical problems and a karyotype image. This is not sufficient for families during that first, most vulnerable moment when learning about a diagnosis.

CONTACT: Stephanie Meredith and Elaine Eisenbaum  
Human Development Institute  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, KY 30114

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **STATE OF PLACE: HARNESSING THE POWER OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS TO BUILD BETTER, SAFER, HAPPIER COMMUNITIES - FOR EVERYONE**

Street design impacts everyone — and our most vulnerable pedestrians (children, the elderly, and people with physical/intellectual disabilities) are particularly impacted by street design. We want to quantify the impact of street design on safety and identify what kind of design features are most needed to ensure not one more pedestrian comes under harm's way.

CONTACT: Dr. Mariela Alfonzo  
New York University & State of Place  
mariela@stateofplace.co

### **ENSURING SUSTAINABLE CAPACITY OF EARLY INTERVENTION AT A GLOBAL SCALE**

The Moscow Framework of Action identifies Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) as the provision of care, education, health, nutrition, to children from zero to eight years of age. Most children with disabilities are denied the right to ECCE. These children face drop-out and low achievements in school, leading to life disadvantage. This aim of this programme is to support countries to deliver quality and integrated ECCE services to children with disabilities, as the foundation for better school performances, and decent lives.

CONTACT: Dr. Mmantsetsa Marope  
UNESCO International Bureau of Education  
+41 (0)22 917 78 25  
m.marope@unesco.org

### **DEBBY'S DREAM**

I have always dreamed about creating a supportive village for people with disabilities. I would describe it to anyone that would listen to me that it would be like a senior housing complex except it would be for people with disabilities. I visualize several buildings with 6-8 small studio apartments in each one, along with a common kitchen and living room and apartment for the house parents. This project could serve 50 people or more depending on the size and location.

CONTACT: Debby Regan  
781-389-0751  
deb@meninno.net

### **CREATING CARE FOR CAREGIVERS**

The goal of this project is to create a pipeline to certified nursing assistant (CNA) training programs and to job opportunities in nursing home services to people with I/DD so that they can (1) have steady employment, (2) be constantly exposed to social interaction, (3) keep lonely senior citizens company, (4) be trained in the skills to help the elderly, and (5) be able to apply those skills to care for their aging caregivers.

CONTACT: Jessica Liang  
650-307-0768  
jessliang@gmail.com

# *The Arc Tank* **HOLDING TANK**

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## **TRACKER LENDING LIBRARY**

Tracker Lending Library allows physicians to “prescribe” wearable activity trackers to patients whose health would improve with increased physical activity. Patients leave with a set-up tracker to use until their follow-up appointment. Tracker Lending Library overcomes the barriers of price and choice confusion for the individual, while simultaneously involving a trusted authority figure — the physician.

CONTACT: Lisa Gualtieri, PhD, ScM  
Tufts University School of Medicine  
671-636-0438  
lisa.gualtieri@tufts.edu

## **EVALUATION OF WHEELCHAIRS AND WHEELCHAIR TIE-DOWNS OR OCCUPANT RESTRAINT SYSTEMS AND OCCUPANT PROTECTION ON TRANSPORT PLANES**

All Wheels Up is crash testing wheelchairs and wheelchair tie-downs for in-cabin use for both commercial and private flight. We are working to create a wheelchair spot on planes. Our proof of concept study was a success. With continued studies, research and testing we are working for true accessible air travel.

CONTACT: Michele Erwin  
All Wheels Up, Inc.  
917-414-0897  
micheleerwin@allwheelsup.org

## **NORTHEAST LEARNING COMMUNITY: A SYSTEMS CHANGE CATALYST TO PROMOTE PERSON CENTERED AND SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORTS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Our idea is simple and has proven success. We intend to expand the capacity of our web-based community to organize and support training efforts, community conversations and other community organizing and advocacy events. The site would enable organizers to communicate, create and publicize events and to populate our growing community with connected supporters. People with disabilities, family members and professional staff alike need a direct pipeline to the most promising learning in self-direction and person centered thinking, planning and support.

CONTACT: Michael Steinbruck  
TLCPCP  
PCAST Project Team Leader, Rutgers/The Boggs Center  
tlccp@gmail.com

## **VISITRY**

Visitry is a mobile application that partners with service agencies to provide volunteer visits to people at risk of social isolation. Visitry gives members and volunteers the ability to arrange their own visits while providing the agency with management and analytical tools to monitor their program. Visitry aims to reduce visiting overhead and make face-to-face visits easy for all parties.

CONTACT: Sarah Coletti  
978-496-0949  
sarahcoletti12@gmail.com

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **DAILYWORKPLAN**

DailyWorkPlan (DWP) is a technology initiative that empowers caregivers, employers, educators and administrators with the ability to provide prompts and reminders to people with disabilities. DWP, which operates on mobile phones, tablets and desktop computers, allows support people (such as parents or professionals) to regularly send reminders and remotely communicate with these individuals at all times, which will increase independence in school, home or employment.

CONTACT: Allan Stern  
Silent Disclosure, Inc. (SDI)  
781-363-6394  
astern@silentdisclosure.com

### **BRAIN POWER @ WORK**

Brain Power has developed novel assistive technologies that will help more people in the I/DD population secure employment, thus improving their quality of life. Our tool will enable transitioning adults with I/DD to learn about worksites from home using inexpensive virtual reality and receive on-the-job remote coaching via “see-what-I-see” video smartglasses.

CONTACT: Ned Sahin  
Brain Power, LLC  
617-514-7242  
outreach@brain-power.com

### **SAFETY CONNECTION GATEWAY PROJECT**

People with disabilities have limited choice about the home supports they receive. Well-meaning service providers, family members and guardians cite safety and isolation as concerns for the person with a disability who wishes to live on their own. Safety Connection is a support system that addresses the desires of individuals and the concerns of their loved ones by using technology to monitor for wellness, and by daily connection with a proactive and clinically-trained team of support staff.

CONTACT: Cathie Buscaglia  
Howard Center  
802-488-6535  
cathieb@howardcenter.org

### **TALK2U**

Navigating social cues and interacting appropriately with others is often difficult for people with autism and other disabilities. This becomes even more of a challenge when communications occur via a computer screen. Talk2U is a plug-in that works with your web browser and guides individuals with disabilities on how to create appropriate messages on social platforms. In a classroom environment, individuals might have an aide who facilitates peer-to-peer interactions, or in a job they might have a job coach. A virtual equivalent does not yet exist.

CONTACT: Ricki Meyer  
Exceptional Lives  
617-921-3971  
ricki.meyer@exceptionallives.org

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **TOM: TIKKUN OLAM MAKERS**

TOM: Tikkun Olam Makers is a global community connecting people with disabilities with Makers to develop solutions for everyday challenges. To scale globally and address the gaping market failure, TOM is building a web platform to host assistive technology designs, while connecting people with disabilities and Makers to develop solutions together.

CONTACT: Daniel Weil  
+972 54-5311886  
daniel@tomglobal.org

### **MERMAID BOARD, LLC**

Mermaid Board is a colorful, eye catching tactile board that provides sensory stimulation, regulation and creativity when sitting still can be a challenge. The boards are weighted to naturally reduce stress and increase relaxation while sand adds additional soothing sound as it's turned. They work perfectly for waiting rooms with children but can also be carried along during long road trips, plane and train rides.

CONTACT: Ysis Moreira  
508-494-8536  
ycm@ysismoreira.com

### **PROJECT RESPITE**

Project Respite's goal is to bridge the gap for families of people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in the wake of natural disasters when services are disrupted. While dealing with displacement, loss, and trauma is difficult for any family, people with ASD face unique challenges. Project Respite is a curriculum and service delivery crisis intervention model. When there is a natural disaster, a multi-disciplinary team of experts will train volunteers to provide respite services and will put a short-term treatment plan in place to help carry over disrupted services.

CONTACT: Paul Simeone  
May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities  
psimeone@mayinstitute.org

### **21ST CENTURY SMART CARE/SMART HOME**

Latham Centers has formed a strategic partnership with a leader in home technology, Savant, to develop a concept for an apartment featuring the latest assistive technology to provide support, safety and guidance to intellectually disabled individuals. This model for technology-assisted independent living will foster greater independence and freedom, while allowing us to use staff more efficiently.

CONTACT: Anne McManus  
Latham Centers, Inc.  
amcmanus@lathamcenters.org

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### DESIGN CHALLENGE

The Design Challenge Group is an activity-based therapeutic group designed to increase participants' experiences of industry and self-efficacy through development of User Centered Design skills. Participants in the group will have an increased repertoire of social and problem solving skills, increased skills and confidence in STE(A)M (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) activities, as well as increased confidence in their own self-efficacy and sense of pride in their disabled identities.

CONTACT: Miriam Zisook  
847-828-6710  
mzisook@alumni.risd.edu

### LET'S DISRUPT WITH DIFFERENT ABILITIES

Employment for individuals with I/DD and ASD at a market rate wage will reduce reliance on entitlements and save taxpayers money; resulting in GREATER economic independence, workforce stability and life improvements. Work Inc. is seeking funding for Third Sector Capital Partners Inc., national experts in conducting a feasibility study to determine whether a Pay for Success Model can attract investors and government support.

CONTACT: James Cassetta  
WORK Inc.  
617-691-1501  
jcassetta@workinc.org

### THREAD LEARNING

The largest problem facing special needs is the lack of coordinated care between teachers, therapists, parents, children, and doctors. Thread Learning will make coordinated care seamless. Parents will get automatic updates and tools they need to optimize their child's care. All the child's records and data will be in one place, whether you're a teacher filling out an IEP or a speech therapist teaming with parents to work on "ba" words.

CONTACT: Greg Brill  
Thread Learning  
703-597-2542  
greg@threadlearning.com

### TENACITY LIFE

The goal of Tenacity Life is to teach vital life skills to transition-aged (14-22 years) people with disabilities who are resistant to learning in a public setting where anxiety can become a barrier to success. Tenacity Life teaches vital skills in a fun, stress-free gaming environment on a mobile phone or tablet. Tenacity Life gives young people a way to learn, explore, and know what to expect so they are prepared for the real world.

CONTACT: Pamela Newport  
978-395-1879  
pamela@newporthome.org

# The Arc Tank

## HOLDING TANK

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### **QUEST! THERAPEUTIC TABLETOP ROLE PLAYING GAME**

There is a gap in services for kids with autism who need more nuanced social skill and friendship development. The Quest! Program is the first original tabletop role playing game designed to encourage more sophisticated social behavior. It's therapeutically adaptable and easy to use in group settings. Our goal is to provide Quest! certifications to providers for exponential reach and impact on children with autism and related disorders.

CONTACT: Krysten Callina  
Mastermind Adventures LLC  
508-916-2187  
krysten@mastermindadventures.com

### **SMARTIESUITE'S FIREGUIDE**

Galactic Smarties, LLC, a technology company, is developing personalized "Internet of Things" technology suites (SmartieSuites) that empower people of all abilities to live independently and joyfully in the home of their choice. FireGuide is our first SmartieSuites product. It is a low-cost, easy-to-use mobile app that schedules fire drills with instructions that guide a person to safety in the calming voice of their caregiver.

CONTACT: Lili Dwight  
Galactic Smarties, LLC  
413-665-8576  
ldwight@fireguide.co

### **NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US**

Beit Issie Shapiro and Israel Elwyn, in partnership with the Ruderman Family Foundation and Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles successfully brought about a groundbreaking amendment to Israel's Guardianship Law, allowing supported decision-making by people with ID. Beit Issie Shapiro wishes to ensure wide use of supported decision-making by people with ID by developing, piloting and documenting a model for training people with ID to self-advocate with their guardians, and to replicate this model for people with ID and their guardians worldwide.

CONTACT: Yaov Kraiem  
Beit Issie Shapiro  
978-9-7701249  
yaov@beitissie.org.il

### **ONLINE VIDEO INSTRUCTION IN LIVING SKILLS WITH LIVE CHAT SUPPORT**

This project would provide online video instruction in specific living skills, paired with live chat support during key hours, for people with autism to increase independence. Autism Housing Pathways and Brio Integrated Theatre will develop 10 videos of up to 3 minutes each, which will be piloted with students at the Ivy Street School's transitional living program and clients in the Skills for Life community based Occupational Therapy program, with occupational therapy students at Boston University providing live chat support.

CONTACT: Catherine Boyle  
Autism Housing Pathways  
617-893-8217  
ahphousing@comcast.net

# *The Arc Tank* **HOLDING TANK**

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## **SHEPRD INC.**

Sheprd is modernizing the school bus by making it safer, more efficient, more enjoyable, and more convenient. Our technology matches students with others going the same way and our dedicated drivers (background checked, pediatric first-aid certified, 7D licensed) provide transportation in our fleet of safe, fully-insured and licensed Land Rover SUVs (seatbelts, airbags, AWD).

CONTACT: Nick Jasset  
617-697-4123  
nick@sheprd.us

## **THE GAME PLAN**

The Game Plan is a universally-designed problem-solving process with demonstrated efficacy that individuals with I/DD can use to identify and resolve environmental barriers to participation. We will collaborate with individuals with I/DD to develop a prototype Game Plan web application that harnesses the power of machine learning principles to support independent problem solving and self-advocacy by people with I/DD in education, employment, and the community.

CONTACT: Jessica Kramer, PhD, OTR/L  
Boston University  
617-353-2702  
kramerj@bu.edu

## **QUILLO: BETTER RELATIONSHIPS, BETTER LIVES**

Quillo is a unique mobile platform that engages, inspires and educates the workforce -- using personal wellbeing, positive psychology and employee engagement as guiding principles; changing the paradigm of how organizations engage staff. Quillo pushes content daily to employees' smart devices -- 60 second videos designed to focus on the why of what they are doing, building up their value and importance to those they support, their co-workers and the organization.

CONTACT: John Dickerson  
Quillo  
john@myquillo.com

## **FACE-OFF LIVE**

Face-off LIVE is an online and mobile software platform that allows friends and strangers to meet in person at safe local establishments such as cafés and pubs to play board games that they love. Diverse customers connect on the secure platform, including those who have disabilities. Safer than traditional "MeetUp" and "Match" because games are held at authorized locations that adhere to safety guidelines, plus participant ID is verified on the platform. Players must be 18 with a valid ID and cell phone - players sign in using their cell.

CONTACT: Frank Gorham  
fg045837@gmail.com

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO



For sharing their artistic talents by filming today's competition  
and editing it into an official *Arc Tank* 'episode.'

# NortheastArc

Since its inception in the early 1950s, Northeast Arc has provided the supports, education and training to people with disabilities, and their families, to help them become full and engaged members of the community, choosing for themselves how to live, learn, work, socialize and play. The founding families advocated for a better future, one that defined possibilities over limitations.

In the past 63 years, Northeast Arc has been on the forefront of providing services that assist a person in not only identifying their dreams, but providing the building blocks and supports to achieve those dreams. Services and supports may span a person's life and include Early Intervention, Family Support, Personal Assistance, School to Work Transition, Residential and Community Living Supports, Education and Day Activities and Employment Training, Education and Placement Supports. The Northeast Arc also operates the North of Boston Regional Autism Support Center and four businesses that provide employment training and education to people with disabilities in an inclusive environment.

Through the array of opportunities available, the Northeast Arc serves over 9,000 people annually in more than 190 Massachusetts cities and towns. Northeast Arc is the largest Arc in the Commonwealth and the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest Arc in the country.

[www.ne-arc.org](http://www.ne-arc.org)



## JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Mission of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation was first articulated by Jacqueline Kennedy, who, when describing the yet-to-be-built library, envisioned it as a “vital center of education and exchange and thought, which will grow and change with the times.”

“It will be,” she wrote, “not only a memorial to President Kennedy but a living center of study of the times in which he lived, which will inspire the ideals of democracy and freedom in young people all over the world.”

The primary mission of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation is to support the work of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum. In addition to its support of the Kennedy Library, the Kennedy Foundation directly sponsors programs and activities that help people understand the major challenges facing democracy today; that inspire current and future generations to political participation and public service; and that promote debate and discussion of issues at the heart of contemporary democracy that relate to the legacy of President John F. Kennedy.

[www.jfklibrary.org](http://www.jfklibrary.org)