



# 2023 Innovation Series

Relationships Matter

Innovation Series Technology Session  
April 18, 2023 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

# Agenda

Time	Topic Area
10:00am-10:10am	Welcome & Introductions
10:10am-10:15am	Innovation Spotlight Video
10:15am-10:50am	Interview with Kelsi Weaver & Nick Comstock
10:50am-10:55am	Innovation Spotlight Video
10:55am-11:00am	Break
11:00am-11:05am	Innovation Spotlight Video
11:05am-11:25am	Interview with Phil, Shannon, and Valerie
11:25am-11:30am	Innovation Spotlight Video
11:30am-11:50am	Interview with Larry & Jennifer
11:50am-12:00pm	Wrap Up

# Quality Innovation

- The [Quality and Innovation team](#) ensures that Ohioans with developmental disabilities have increased opportunities to live, love, work, learn, and pursue their own life aspirations through state-of-the-art planning, innovative technology, and support that focuses on their talents, interests, and skills.
- This team is responsible for the [OhioISP](#), [Technology First](#), [Employment First](#), and [Ohio LifeCourse Nexus](#) initiatives.
- The vision of our work is to have an integrated system that helps and empowers people to live their best life.

# What is Innovation?

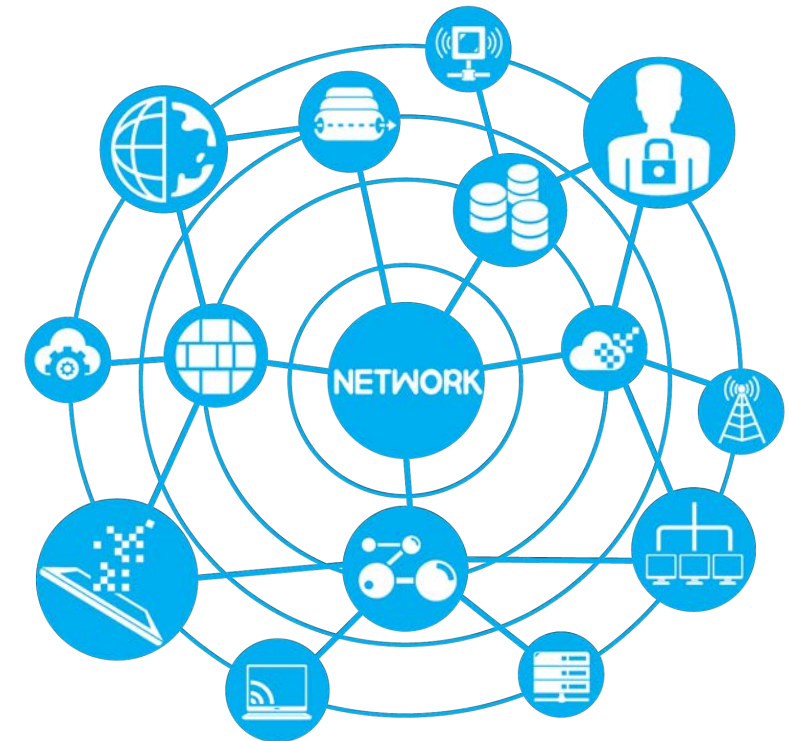
- Innovation means:
- Supports and services are so fantastic that they provide a model for others to use.
- This new model can help people rethink what can be done and imagine ideas for the future.

# Why are we Talking about Innovation?

- We want our system to support all people to live their best life.
- One way to do this is to show how relationships and networks support each person to reach their outcomes.
- We want to share stories that show the relationships and networks that have helped people in our system to do the things they want to do in their life.

# Focus on Technology Stories

- In 2023 we will be focusing on stories that show the relationships that helped people move forward in one of these areas.
- This session will focus on how technology has enhanced relationships.
- We will also focus on how technology can expand our networks and help us to achieve life goals.



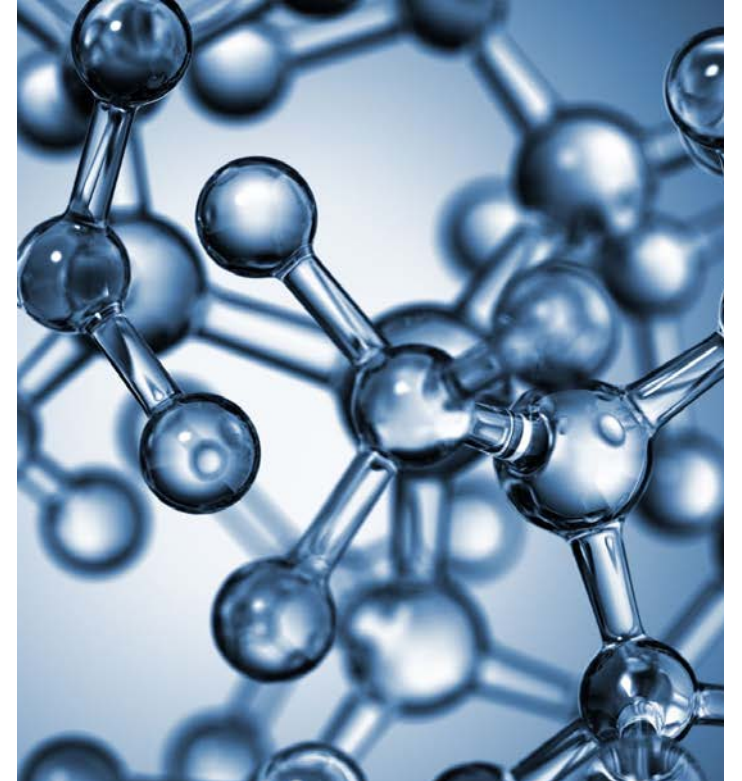
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# Ohio Tech Ambassadors

In January 2021, the Ohio Tech Ambassador Network, through a grant with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, launched a program to shed light on how technology solutions, can enhance the lives and foster independence for people with developmental disabilities.

Five Ohioans using Supportive Technology in their own lives served as role models through virtual peer-to-peer mentoring events held statewide from February-May of 2021.

Currently, the Tech Ambassadors share their personal experiences through interactive web and in-person mentoring sessions to empower and encourage other Ohioans with developmental disabilities to consider Supportive Technology in their own lives.



# Innovation Spotlight Video

- Medforall Remote Supports Services Video





Interview with Kelsi & Nick

# Kelsi's Powerfully Disabled Blog

A blog to empower those with disabilities and their allies.

## *Keeping it Real: Advocacy is Exhausting*

- “Having to constantly be “on your toes” and making sure that your voice is heard is not easy.

But if you're feeling discouraged, think about it this way...

Every time you are doing something new or something you've never done before, you are paving the way for someone else.”

# Kelsi's Support System

"This is a family photo from the night I graduated with my associates degree."


-Kelsi Weaver



# Innovation Spotlight Video

- Real Chat with Nick Video

Break

A green Kermit the Frog puppet is standing outdoors, holding a white mug with a blue design in its right hand and a sandwich in its left. It is standing next to a dark grey sign on a white stand that has the words "Have a Break" written in white chalk. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with trees and a building.

Have  
a  
Break

Ohio

Department of  
Developmental Disabilities

# Innovation Spotlight Video

- Living Independently with a Disability: Ben's Journey

A large audience is seated in a lecture hall, facing a stage. A speaker is standing at a podium on the stage, and a large screen displays a video of a person using a cane. The text "Interview with Phil & Team" is overlaid on the image.

# Interview with Phil & Team

# Innovation Spotlight Video

- Age is just a Number



# Interview with Larry & Team



# Summary & Questions

# Series Details

- April 4 – **Virtual Launch/Kickoff**
- April 11 – **Virtual Session on Employment**
- April 18 – **Virtual Session on Technology**
- April 25 – **Virtual Session on Transition to Adulthood**

*All virtual sessions are 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.*

# Series Details

- **May 2 – Virtual Session on Supporting People with Significant Needs**
- **May 9 – Virtual Session on Plans & Outcomes**
- **May 23 – Live In-Person Summit at the OCLC in Dublin, Ohio 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Register for any future sessions at <https://ohioemploymentfirst.org>

*All virtual sessions are 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.*

Thank you!

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To learn more about Ohio's Quality & Innovation Team, please click [here](#).