

Presenter Bios



2. Primary Presenter's Name		Presenter's Primary Title	List Co-Presenter Names, Titles, affiliations	Please provide a brief professional bio
1	Mark Surabian	Founder, ATHelp.org	N/A	Mark Surabian founded ATHelp.org, a free Assistive Technology clinic that has served 5500+ children and adults with learning, communication, sensory, and physical challenges, and ATTrain.org, a free training program for professionals in the greater NYC area. He has utilized assistive and instructional technologies to directly serve the educational and vocational needs of thousands of individuals with disabilities for over 38 years across five states. He is an instructor on assistive/educational technologies for NYU's Doctoral Program in Occupational Therapy, and for the Graduate Schools of Education at Bank Street College and St. Joseph's College.
2	Ari Rosenberg	Ari Rosenberg Founder of NARBE House • Adaptive Technology Creator • Family Caregiver	N/A	Ari Rosenberg is the founder of NARBE House, a Rhode Island-based nonprofit focused on creating simple, accessible technology and sharing powerful stories from the disability community. As the full-time caregiver for his brother Ben, who is nonverbal and quadriplegic due to a rare neurological disorder, Ari blends personal experience with creative problem-solving to design tools that restore independence and connection. With no formal training in software development, Ari taught himself how to use AI and open-source tools to build a two-button interface that allows Ben to communicate, play games, and control his environment. His approach emphasizes human-centered design, modular accessibility, and the power of adaptive tech to improve quality of life—not just for Ben, but for others facing similar challenges. Ari's work has gained national attention for its impact, and his presentations highlight what's possible when families are empowered to innovate from the ground up.
3	Kevin J. Nolan, Jr.	Accessibility Relationship Manager	N/A	Kevin J. Nolan, Jr. grew up in western Massachusetts and is a graduate of American University (B.A. – Justice) and of Gallaudet University (M.A. – Deaf Education). He has worked in the fields of education, advocacy and leadership at the state, national, and international levels. Currently he is an Accessibility Relationship Manager with T-Mobile Accessibility. Kevin is an avid reader, a passionate supporter of Boston sports teams, and enjoys spending time with his family on Cape Cod.
4	Pam Fields	CEO	N/A	Pamela Fields, MBA, ATP CEO MidState Arc & Living Without Limits Pamela Fields is a leader in the field of assistive technology for independence, especially in devising new approaches to independence as they relate to people with intellectual disabilities (IDD). Her pioneering efforts are grounded in a 40-year career in leading agencies that provide services for people with IDD and other complex disabilities and medical needs. With an undergraduate degree in Human Services and an MBA with a concentration in non-profits, Pam has the foundation and the vision needed to move the fields of assistive technology and direct-service care forward in new and exciting ways. As a passionate advocate for the rights of people with developmental disabilities and their services, Pam founded Living Without Limits to assure service providers have a place to gain knowledge and build capacity in cutting-edge assistive technologies and families can benefit from best practices in how to support their loved ones with disabilities. Pam also created the ARMS remote support system to provide a way to enable people with disabilities, the elderly, and other persons with barriers to independence live on their own without the need for 24/7 congregant living or care. Pam envisions a world where each person can be as independent as possible, fully connected to and autonomous in their communities, regardless of their barrier issues.
5	Laura Mitchell	CEO	Scott Feldstein	Laura Mitchell enhance remote supports for individuals living with disabilities and older adults. She has over 20 years of experience in the remote monitoring and connected health industry. In 2015, she founded LMC a boutique marketing and consulting agency with a technology and senior housing niche. Laura has been featured in Forbes magazine for social media, was a 2012 "Top 40 under 40", Top 100 Women in M2M in Connected World and recipient of the 'Flame Award for Innovation and Leadership' in 2011. She was a 2020 Rotarian of the Year, WI Innovation Awards finalist and a 2022 Women in Consumer Technology Legacy recipient. She frequently volunteers with the Carlsbad Rotary and Cal State San Marcos business program. She lives in southern California with her husband, two boys and three dogs. Scott Feldstein is the director of US Sales and Training at GrandCare. In addition to 25 years of experience in technology, Scott has studied psychology, religion, education and computing. He holds a master's in education from Marquette University.

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6 Arianna Bordeleau	Assistive Technology Specialist; ATP, CESP	N/A	Arianna is a RESNA-certified Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) at Perspectives Corporation, a Rhode Island-based agency that offers a wide range of services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She has been with the organization for 11 years, beginning her career as an Employment Specialist. Over her eight years in that role, she became the agency's go-to expert for assistive technology and workplace accommodations. Arianna later transitioned into the role of Assistive Technology Specialist, where she now conducts assessments and provides consultations for both adults and children with disabilities. Her goal is to match individuals with tools and devices that promote greater independence across all areas of life. She has a particular passion for developing and identifying affordable AT solutions. In 2024, Arianna was honored by the Rhode Island Assistive Technology Access Partnership (RI ATAP) as their Assistive Technology Champion of the Year.
7 Joel Zimba	Product Specialist	N/A	Joel Zimba, a West Virginia native, graduated from West Virginia University in 1996 with a degree in Computer Science. Over the past twenty years, he has worked as a software engineer, Assistive Technology trainer, Accessibility advocate, and project manager. Joel has been a Product Specialist for HumanWare since 2018. He provides tools and strategies allowing blind students and professionals to realize their full potential.
8 Meghan Broz	Speech Language Pathologist	N/A	Meghan Broz, M.S., CCC-SLP, ATP, is the department chair and program director of the Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology program. Clinically, Meghan has 20 years of experience as a practicing speech language pathologist, primarily working with children from birth to 22 years of age who are complex communicators. She continues to consult to programs across the state providing support for implementing communication strategies, augmentative alternative communication, selective feeding programs, and functional communication. Additionally, Meghan is a certified by RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America) as an Assistive Technology Professional. She has extensive experience in assessment and treatment utilizing augmentative alternative communication.
9 Michelle Cline	Executive Director	Georgina Buckingham, Interpreter/CART Referral Specialist at RICDHH georgina.buckingham@cdhh.ri.gov	Michelle Cline – Executive Director, Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH) Michelle Cline serves as the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. She began her role in 2023, bringing a wealth of experience in counseling, education, policy work, advocacy, and legislative affairs. Notably, Michelle was the first female Treasurer of the National Association for the Deaf and played a pivotal role in advocating for the Deaf Students' Bill of Rights in New Jersey. She currently resides in Massachusetts with her husband, William, and their three children, enjoying family time and traveling. Georgina Buckingham - Interpreter/CART Referral Specialist, Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH) Georgina Buckingham brings a wealth of experience in promoting access and inclusion for Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing communities. Her professional background includes coordinating interpreter and CART services, scheduling Support Service Providers (SSPs) as a Co-Navigator, and working directly as a Deaf Interpreter. Georgina is passionate about ensuring communication equity in both in-person and virtual settings. When she's not advocating for accessibility, she proudly roots for all her beloved Philadelphia sports teams.
10 Krishna Venkatasubramanian	Associate Professor	Tina-Marie Ranalli, PhD. Faculty, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, University of Rhode Island, tinamarie.ranalli@uri.edu	Krishna Venkatasubramanian is an Associate Professor of Computer Science and the director of the Accessible and Socially Responsible Technologies (ASSET) Lab at the University of Rhode Island. His work focuses on human-computer interaction with the aim of designing for accessibility, health, and wellness-related applications. Tina-Marie Ranalli is faculty in the Modern Languages and Literature department at the University of Rhode Island. She is a faculty member in the Accessible and Socially Responsible Technologies (ASSET) Lab at the University of Rhode Island. She earned her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Her research interests include applying humanistic critical thinking to accessibility and human-computer interaction with a focus on the marginalized.

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11	Dr. Cathy Stern	Smartphone Accessibility Settings for All Abilities	N/A	Dr. Cathy Stern, OD, FOVDR, FCSO, FNORA is a behavioral and neuro optometrist in the Boston area. She retired from her private practice and as the optometrist for Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children. Her practice was devoted solely to vision therapy and vision rehabilitation. Dr. Stern is currently chair of the International Committee for the Neuro Optometric Rehabilitation Association and a reviewer for their Fellowship Committee, Research director and Trustee of the College of Syntonic Optometry (CSO), and Facilitator of the monthly Chat VT study group of the Optometric Extension Program Foundation (OEP). She is a recipient of the CSO Charles Butts award and the OEP Skeffington-Alexander Award for her significant contributions to behavioral optometry and vision therapy. Dr. Stern teaches optometrists worldwide and is passionate about vision therapy, vision rehabilitation, optometric phototherapy, sports vision and the use of assistive technology. Dr. Stern believes the eyes and vision are key players in prevention, enhancement, and rehabilitation for lifelong success.
12	Emily Cantillon	Ph.D., Teacher of the Visually Impaired, Lead CVI Teacher	Mary Giunta, MA CCC-SLP, EdTech Solutions, Mary.Giunta@ed-tech.solutions	Emily Cantillon, Ph.D., TVI is a Teacher of the Visually Impaired with specialized expertise in supporting students with complex access needs, particularly those with Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI). She earned her Ph.D. in Special Education from the University of Northern Colorado, where her research focused on educational practices and access for students with CVI. She also holds a doctoral minor in statistical analysis and a Graduate Certificate in CVI. Dr. Cantillon currently serves as the School-Age Lead CVI Teacher at Perkins School for the Blind, where she provides direct instruction, consultation, and program leadership to enhance outcomes for students with CVI in both public and specialized settings. She has over 15 years of experience in the field of special education and has worked extensively in itinerant, collaborative, and cross-disciplinary roles. In addition to her work in the field, Dr. Cantillon is an adjunct professor in the University of Northern Colorado's graduate TVI program, where she teaches and mentors future vision professionals. Her academic and professional efforts focus on integrating research-based strategies into accessible educational programming and improving interdisciplinary practice. Dr. Cantillon regularly presents at regional and national conferences and contributes to professional development initiatives through Perkins' CVI programs. Her work bridges the fields of vision and communication, advocating for meaningful, individualized supports that reflect both the visual and learning profiles of students with CVI. Mary Giunta: Mary Giunta has accumulated over thirty years of experience in the AAC field, during which she has provided support to diverse populations across various environments, including hospitals, schools, adult day programs, outpatient clinics, and early intervention programs. Since 2008, Mary has served as an AAC Consultant, offering comprehensive assistance to school teams through evaluations, professional development, specialized training sessions, practical coaching, and effective implementation strategies. Currently, Mary supports more than twenty school districts within the North Boston area. Mary maintains a strong commitment to continuous professional growth and actively seeks opportunities to expand her skillset to enhance her service to AAC users and educational teams.

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13 Alyssa Sciortino	CCC-SLP, Clinical Director	Jamie Smith, OT Director	Alyssa Sciortino, MS, CCC-SLP Pediatric Speech Language Pathologist Clinical Director- Providence, RI Small Steps Therapy LLC Alyssa Sciortino is a dedicated and compassionate Pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist with extensive experience working with children, particularly those on the autism spectrum and those utilizing Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) systems. With a deep commitment to enhancing communication and improving the quality of life for her clients, Alyssa Sciortino has spent years refining her expertise in pediatric speech therapy and AAC interventions. Throughout her career, Alyssa has held leadership roles, including serving as a Clinical Director, where she successfully manages interdisciplinary teams and oversees clinical operations. In this capacity, she ensures the delivery of high-quality, evidence-based care while advocating for the unique needs of each child. Her ability to lead and collaborate has allowed her to create an environment of effective communication and growth for both clients and clinicians. Alyssa is highly trained in several specialized approaches, including the SOS Approach to Feeding and the PROMPT Technique, and holds a certificate in AAC from the Tobii Dynavox Accelerate Program. In addition, her technical expertise extends to a variety of communication apps, including Proloquo2Go, TouchChat, TD Snap, AACORN, Communicator 5, and Boardmaker 7, as well as various access methods such as touch screen, eye gaze, switch, and auditory scanning. Above all, Alyssa is deeply committed to providing individualized, empathetic therapy to children, helping them unlock their potential and thrive in their communication abilities Gina Oraziotti, OTD, OTR/L Pediatric Occupational Therapist Small Steps Therapy LLC Dr. Gina Oraziotti is a Doctor of Occupational Therapy specializing in pediatric care at Small Steps Therapy LLC. She provides skilled, evidence-based occupational therapy services to children from birth through age 18 in an outpatient setting. As a dedicated member of both the Baby Team and the Feeding Team, Dr. Oraziotti collaborates closely with families and interdisciplinary providers to create and implement individualized plans of care that promote meaningful participation in daily activities. Her clinical expertise includes sensory integration, motor development, feeding, and self-regulation interventions across a diverse caseload. Driven by a deep commitment to client-centered care, Dr. Oraziotti strives to empower each child and their family through thoughtful, goal-directed therapy that fosters growth, independence, and improved quality of life.
14 Amy Donaldson	Occupational Therapist / Assistive Technology Specialist	Stephanie Piselli, M.S. CCC-SLP, ATS Srusso@aces.org	Amy Donaldson is an occupational therapist and assistive technology specialist who is passionate about incorporating creativity and collaboration in her practice. With master's degrees in both Occupational Therapy and Education, she brings a thoughtful, holistic lens to her work across schools, technical programs, and adult services. Amy believes that real progress happens when people come together. She is especially dedicated to supporting communication through augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and assistive technology, and values the power of multidisciplinary teamwork in creating meaningful, person-centered solutions. Stephanie Piselli is a speech-language pathologist and assistive technology specialist who is passionate about fostering connection and inclusion through collaborative practice. With a master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology, she brings deep expertise in AAC and a strong commitment to team-based solutions that support meaningful participation across environments. Her work bridges clinical insight and practical implementation, ensuring that AAC supports and strategies are accessible, relevant, and empowering.

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15	Raechaell Corbett	MS, OTR/L, CDRS, CDI	Christian Quandt, President Advanced Wheels	Raechaell Corbett has been an Occupational Therapist for 19 years. She received her CDRS in 2020 and is currently the Supervisor of the Driver Assessment Program in Meriden, CT. Raechaell has experience working in a multitude of settings including in-patient rehab, acute care, sub-acute rehab, and outpatient orthopedics/neuro. Raechaell is currently using all of her experience to provide comprehensive driver assessments and adaptive driver training. She is currently the President of the Northeast Chapter for the Association for Driver Rehab Specialist (ADED) as well a member of ADED's education committee and the Speakers Bureau. Raechaell provides comprehensive driver assessments and adaptive driver training with low tech and high- tech driving equipment. She has assisted Easterseals in educating the community on driver rehab and in partnering with various organizations throughout CT including police departments, fire departments, local rehab hospitals, vocational rehab (in CT, RI, and NH), mobility equipment dealers, etc to be able to provide a team approach to driver rehab. Christian Quandt is the President of Advanced Wheels and is the current Past President of the National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association. He was 12 when the company was founded, and worked part-time there growing up. After college and a brief teaching career, he came back to the company as Service Manager before taking on the role of GM a few years later. Christian has been very active within the mobility industry including years of service and volunteering for the National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association. Over the years he has chaired both the Testing, Compliance Review, and Mediation committees, and also served on the Guidelines and Quality Assurance Program committees.
16	Cheryl Farley	Assistive Technology Consultant	N/A	Cheryl Farley, M.S. Ed., O.D. is an Assistive Technology Consultant and owner of Adaptech Consulting, LLC. She received her B.S. from Stonehill College and her Doctor of Optometry degree from The New England College of Optometry. She later obtained her M.S. Ed. from Simmons College in the area of Special Education: Assistive Technology. She has been the owner of Adaptech Consulting, LLC for the past 14 years and provides assistive technology consultations and evaluations to public K-12 school districts. She has presented at local, regional, and national conferences on the topic of Assistive Technology. In addition to her professional skills, Cheryl is also the mother to a young adult who is currently utilizing a self-directed adult service model. She is the "CEO" (Chief Everything Officer) of his self-directed program, which includes facilitating the compilation and implementation of his person-centered plan, hiring and training support staff, and facilitating his programming model.
17	Jennifer Keenan	Assistive Technology Specialist	Kelly Jarrett - ATP, The Maryland School for the Blind	Jenifer Keenan, with over 30 years of experience in special education and assistive technology, Jennifer Keenan is a passionate advocate for inclusive, nature-based learning. A certified Master Gardener, Master Naturalist, and practitioner of animal-assisted therapy, she specializes in creating accessible outdoor play experiences for children with complex needs. As a seasoned presenter, she shares practical strategies for integrating assistive technology, therapeutic practices, and environmental education to help educators and families foster meaningful connections with nature for all learners. Kelly Jarrett, ATP, is an Assistive Technology Practitioner with over 25 years of experience supporting children with visual impairments and complex needs. Known for her creativity and hands-on approach, Kelly specializes in designing custom 3D materials and innovative low-tech solutions that promote access, engagement, and independence. Her work empowers educators and families to make learning tangible, meaningful, and inclusive for all.
18	Kyle Odierno	Education Consultant	N/A	Kyle Odierno Education Consultant since April 2023 Bachelor's degree in marketing, digital marketing minor from Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT Current MBA student at Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT
19	Mary Giunta	Speech Pathologist	N/A	Mary Giunta brings over 30 years of experience in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), during which she served diverse populations across multiple settings, including hospitals, schools, adult day programs, outpatient clinics, and early intervention programs. Since 2008, Mary has worked as an AAC Consultant, providing comprehensive support to school teams through evaluations, professional development, specialized training, hands-on coaching, and effective implementation strategies. Currently supporting more than twenty school districts throughout the North Boston area, Mary maintains a steadfast commitment to continuous professional growth and expanding her skillset to better serve AAC users and educational teams.

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21	Liz Davis	M.S. CCC-SLP Speech & Language Coordinator/Assistive Technology Specialist	N/A	Elizabeth (Liz) earned her Master's in speech-language pathology in 2013 from Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU). She has been at one of Connecticut's regional education service centers, LEARN, since 2016. Liz first served as a speech-language pathologist and has been in a coordinator position since 2019. She has worked with students from preschool through transition age with complex medical, learning, and communication needs, including students requiring AAC. She earned her assistive technology graduate certificate from SCSU in 2022 and now also serves as the regional assistive technology special at LEARN. This unique position grants Liz the opportunity to not only work directly with students, but also completes assistive technology evaluations, and provides coaching, consultation, and professional development to regional district partners.