

Our Ability Connect- Empowerment

Employment: Why and How

- When Oscar Wilde wrote, "...there, but for the grace of God go I," he had little idea of the impact these words would someday have on people with disabilities.

John Robinson

- John Robinson is Managing Partner and CEO of Our Ability. Our Ability, Inc. is a company owned and operation by People with Disabilities to support People with Disabilities. Our Ability is a USBLN Disability Owned Business Enterprise (DOBE) specializing in Diversity Inclusion messaging, Disability Etiquette and Video Production.
- John Robinson is the subject of a national documentary shown on Public Broadcasting Stations titled Get Off Your Knees: The John Robinson Story. He also authored the autobiography Get Off Your Knees: A Story of Faith, Courage, and Determination published by Syracuse University Press.
- Named 2014 White House Champion of Change for Disability Employment

Our Ability

Our team turns decades of experience into motivational and educational talks for you and your employees in a way that is universal for today's corporate climate and personalized for your particular organization.

Our Ability Alliance (501c3)

Our Ability Alliance is the parent 501c3 organization for New York Business Leadership Network and Journey Along the Erie Canal.

- NYBLN



- We are answering the call of Gov. Cuomo to “sign-up” 100+ businesses in New York who will pledge to hire PwD.
- NYBLN engages leaders from the private sector, public agencies, labor unions and community-based organizations throughout NYC.
- Businesses join the NYBLN because they want an opportunity to engage with like-minded businesses to learn how to progress in the journey toward inclusion of diverse talent who happen to have to be people with disabilities (including Veterans). Membership is open to both private and public sectors.

Why this is important?

Cycle of life – Employment,
Financial, Relationships

Facts

- Approximately 15% of the world's population have disabilities that cause major challenges in one or more of their life activities.
- Some 71% of disabilities are **invisible**. They include mental health, sensory, learning, intellectual and attention disabilities.
- Roughly 50% of all Americans are affected either directly or indirectly by a disability.

Unemployment Facts

Labor Force Participation

People with disabilities: 20.5%

People without disabilities: 68.4%

Unemployment Rate

People with disabilities: 9.7%

People without disabilities: 4.3%

Education

An estimated 13.5% of non-institutionalized persons aged 21 to 64 years with a disability in the United States have an educational attainment of a BA degree or higher – as compared to 31.9% of general population.

Section 503

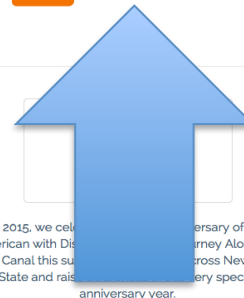
- **Does Your Company Know How to Determine “What is a Disability?”**
 - Take a look at the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008
- **Does Your Company Understand the 7% Utilization Goal?**
 - How does it effect your compliance.
- **Does Your Company Support Self-Identification?**
 - How Our Ability can support your employees today to identify their disability and why it is important
- **Recruiting – Our Ability Connect**

Connect

- **With Our Ability Connect, our process takes yet another step forward by providing a medium in which people with disabilities can build, listen to, read about and interact with successful people with disabilities in the education and business world - nationwide. Our Ability Connect is tackling a complex problem in today's world - and making it simple.**
- “We are excited to build an important technological bridge for people to show their ability in the educational and employment arenas,” **John Robinson** said. “We are inviting students, universities and businesses to share this opportunity.”





OUR ABILITY CONNECT- EMPOWERMENT

The Candidate



Individual verses Employer

Open School - WoodSuite - USA Hockey - Disability Service ... - QuickBooks - Disability Statistics - Our Ability -

  Individual Registration  Employer Registration  Log In

Enter your information

First Name

Last Name




Email Address

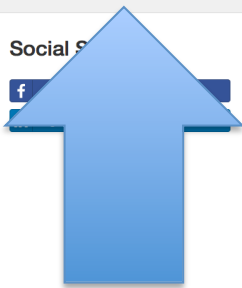
Password

Confirm Password

Are you a person with a disability? ☒ Yes ☐ No





Social S...



Sign on with FB, LinkedIn or...

Most Visited - Owen School - HootSuite - USA Hockey - Disability Service ... - QuickBooks - Disability Statistics - Our Ability -

  Individual Registration  Employer Registration  Log in

Enter your information

First Name

Last Name


Email Address


Password


Confirm Password

Are you a person with a disability? ☒ Yes ☐ No




Social Signup

 Sign Up with Facebook




 Sign up with LinkedIn



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Dashboard

Hi, John | [Settings](#) [Users](#) [Log out](#)

Job Search

Updated 29 minutes ago

Search by title

Comments

Pearson
Apr 21, 2015
London, GBR

“Business Area (FT) is one of the world's leading business news and information companies, used globally for our authority, integrity and accuracy. We provide a broad range of content, including news, comment, data and analysis, to the growing audience of business people. The FT is a Pearson company. Pearson is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment, determined to create a diverse group at all levels of ...

[View](#)

Sales Representative

Pearson
Apr 21, 2015
Springfield, IL

OverviewPearson has one defining goal: to help people progress in their lives through learning. We champion innovation and we invest in models for education that deliver on our promise for effective, accessible, and personal learning from early literacy, college and career readiness to professional education, through data informed instruction and inventive applications for mobile and digital learning. Pearson, the world's leading learning company, has global-reach and market leading business...

[View](#)

Sales Representative (P&C) - Greenville, SC

Pearson
Apr 21, 2015
Greenville, SC

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[View](#)


Cost Analyst

Pearson
Apr 21, 2015
Rancho Cordova, CA

OverviewAt Pearson, we're committed to a world that's always learning and to our talented team who makes it all possible. From bringing lectures vividly to life to turning textbooks into laptop lessons, we are always reexamining the way people learn best, whether it's one child in our own backyard or an education community across the globe. We are bold thinkers and standout innovators who motivate each other to explore new frontiers in an environment that supports and

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
Merck and Co.
Dec 08, 2014




Merck and Co. believe in supporting educational and outreach programs for all individuals. “I am Merck” is the present campaign proudly stating all employees should bring their whole self to work – including people with disabilities.

[View](#)

#disability

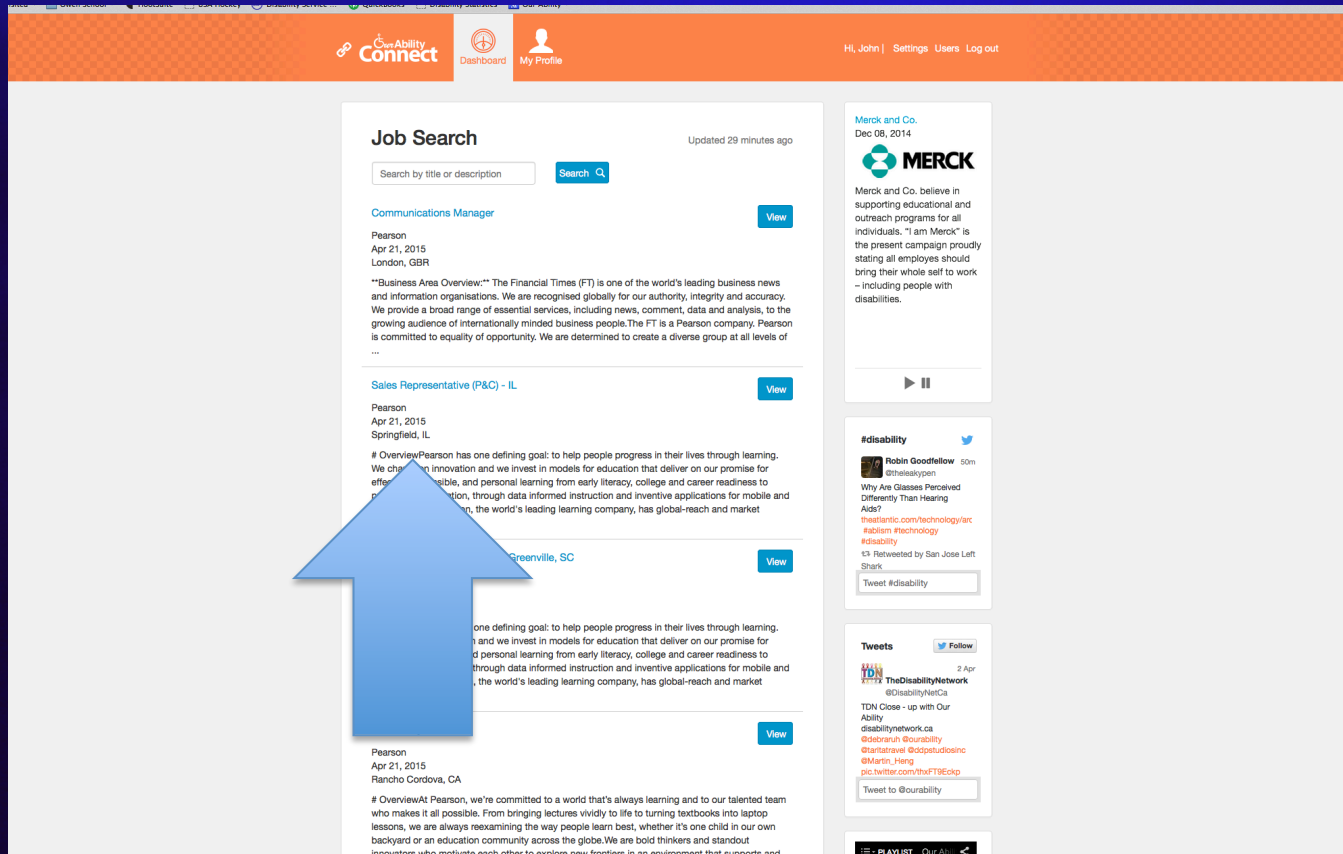
 **Robin Goodfellow** 50m
@thelaskypen
Why Are Glasses Perceived Differently Than Hearing Aids?
theatlantic.com/technology/art...
#disability
Retweeted by San Jose Left Shark

Tweets

 **TheDisabilityNetwork** 2 Apr
@DisabilityNetCa
TDN Close - up with Our Ability
disabilitynetwork.ca
@disabilitynetwork
@startatwork @disabilitynetwork
@Martin_Henry
go.twitter.com/theFTSExp

PLAYLIST [Our Ability](#)

Dashboard: Jobs



OurAbility Connect

Dashboard My Profile

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Job Search

Updated 29 minutes ago

Search by title or description

Communications Manager

Pearson
Apr 21, 2015
London, GB

"Business Area Overview:" The Financial Times (FT) is one of the world's leading business news and information organisations. We are recognised globally for our authority, integrity and accuracy. We provide a broad range of essential services, including news, comment, data and analysis, to the growing audience of internationally minded business people. The FT is a Pearson company. Pearson is committed to equality of opportunity. We are determined to create a diverse group at all levels of ...

Sales Representative (P&C) - IL

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Apr 21, 2015
Springfield, IL

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Greenville, SC

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Apr 21, 2015
Rancho Cordova, CA


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Merck and Co.
Dec 08, 2014

 **MERCK**

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#disability


 **Robin Goodfellow** 50m
@thetaskypen

Why Are Glasses Perceived Differently Than Hearing Aids?
theatlantic.com/technology/arc
#atlantic #technology
#disability

Retweeted by San Jose Left Shark

Tweet #disability

Tweets




 **The Disability Network** 2 Apr
@DisabilityNetCa

TDN Close - up with Our Ability
disabilitynetwork.ca
@disabilitynetwork.ca
@startatrain @disabilitynetwork.ca
@Martin_Heng
p.o. twitter.com/theFTBExp


Tweet to @Disability

PLAYLIST Our Ability

Profile

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John Robinson
 Location: Glenmont, NY
 Industry: Education and Library
 Person with a disability
 Public

Skills

Leadership	10+
Community Service	
Public Speaking	10+
Education	10+
Nonprofit / Social Work	
Human Resources	9
Financial Services	
Sales / Business Dev	10+
Marketing / PR	
Science	
IT / Computer Science	

Your profile is

100%

complete.

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Experience +




President and CEO

Our Ability


Mar 2011 - Current

We mentor connect and inspire people with disabilities to achieve their education and employment dreams. We speak, facilitate employment, conduct seminars and produce video stories.

My Profile Information


 Dashboard
  My Profile

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[Upload..](#)

☒ Are you a person with a disability?
☐ Are you a veteran?
☐ Are you a disability owned enterprise?

First Name
Last Name
Phone Number
Location
[Remove](#)
Industry
Summary

Public speaking and advocacy.

Save

Cancel

100%

Your profile is
complete.
[How is this calculated?](#)

[Download PDF Resume](#)

Skills

Leadership	<div></div>	10+
Community Service	<div></div>	
Public Speaking	<div></div>	10+
Education	<div></div>	10+
Nonprofit / Social Work	<div></div>	
Human Resources	<div></div>	9
Financial Services	<div></div>	
Sales / Business Dev	<div></div>	10+
Marketing / PR	<div></div>	
Science	<div></div>	

Skills



Industry: Education, Training and Library

Person with disability: ✓

Public speaking and advocacy.

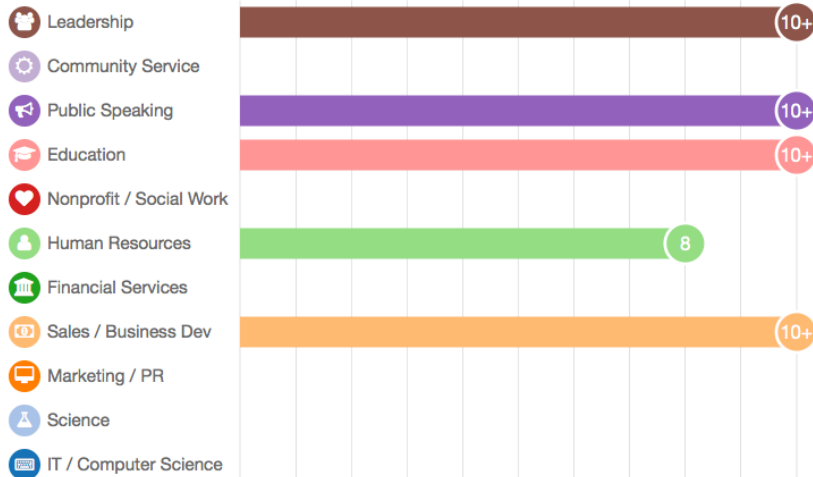


complete.

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Experience +

Experience

Experience +

President and CEO

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Mar 2011 - Current

We mentor connect and inspire people with disabilities to achieve their education and employment dreams. We speak, facilitate employment, conduct seminars and produce video stories.

President

Get Off Your Knees (J. Robinson Marketing)

Jan 2006 - Current

John Robinson is the subject of a national documentary shown on Public Broadcasting Stations titled Get Off Your Knees: The John Robinson Story and authored an autobiography Get Off Your Knees: A Story of Faith, Courage, and Determination published by Syracuse University Press

General Manager East, AXXESS Media

WCNY Public Broadcasting

July 2010 - Dec 2011

Facilitated the development of long and short form videos for television, corporate use and website. Produced for Public Broadcasting Television - Design for a Lifetime (2012); America's Housing Crisis (2011); Findlay Cockerali (2011) and What Works (2011)

Director of Corporate Support

WMHT

Aug 2006 - July 2010

Regional Sales

WNYT

Apr 2000 - Oct 2005

Regional Sales

WNYT-TV

Apr 2000 - Oct 2005

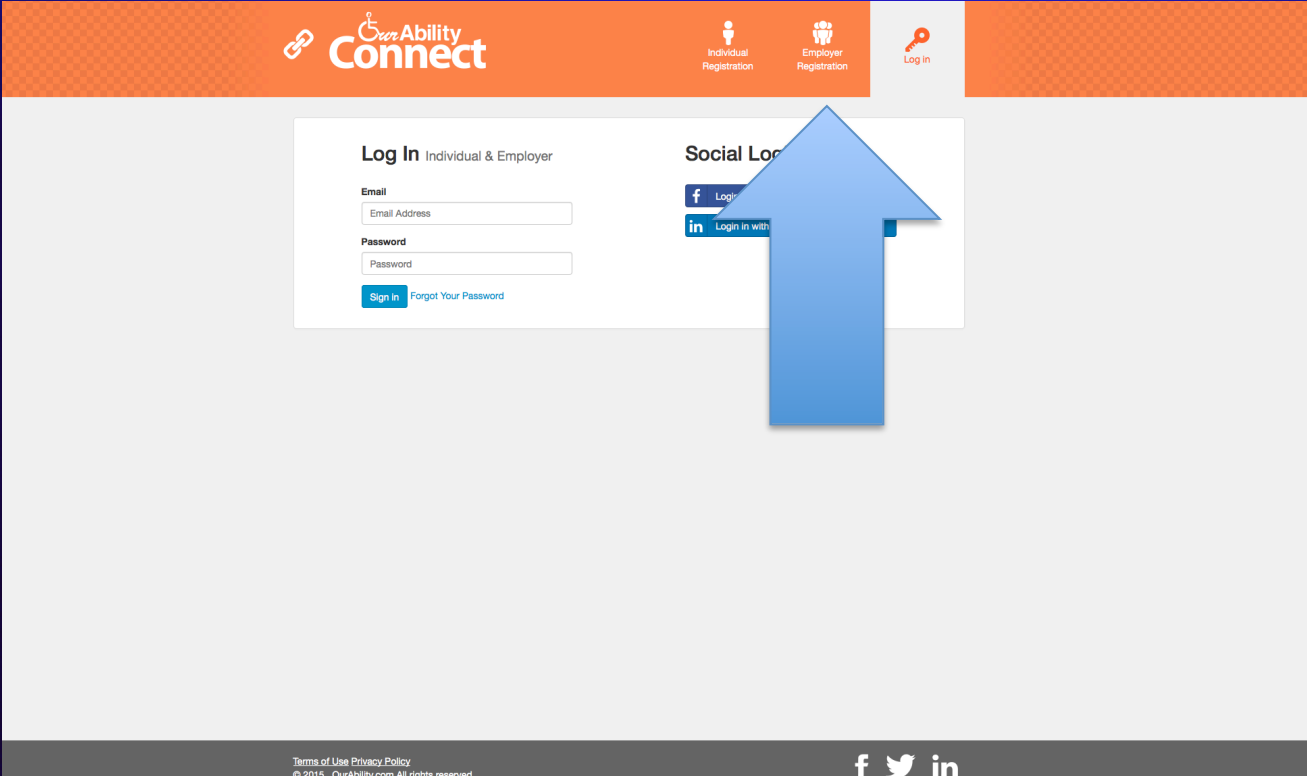
Account Executive

WSTM

OUR ABILITY CONNECT- EFFICIENCY

Employer Functionality

Employer Log-in



The screenshot shows the 'OurAbility Connect' login interface. At the top, there is an orange navigation bar with the 'OurAbility Connect' logo on the left and three icons on the right: 'Individual Registration', 'Employer Registration', and 'Log In'. The main content area is white and divided into two sections. The left section, titled 'Log In Individual & Employer', contains a form with 'Email' and 'Password' fields, a 'Sign In' button, and a 'Forgot Your Password' link. The right section, titled 'Social Log In', features Facebook and LinkedIn login options. A large blue arrow points from the bottom towards the 'Social Log In' section. The footer is a dark grey bar containing links for 'Terms of Use' and 'Privacy Policy', the copyright notice '© 2015 OurAbility.com All rights reserved', and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

OurAbility Connect

Individual Registration Employer Registration Log In

Log In Individual & Employer

Email

Password

[Sign In](#) [Forgot Your Password](#)

Social Log In

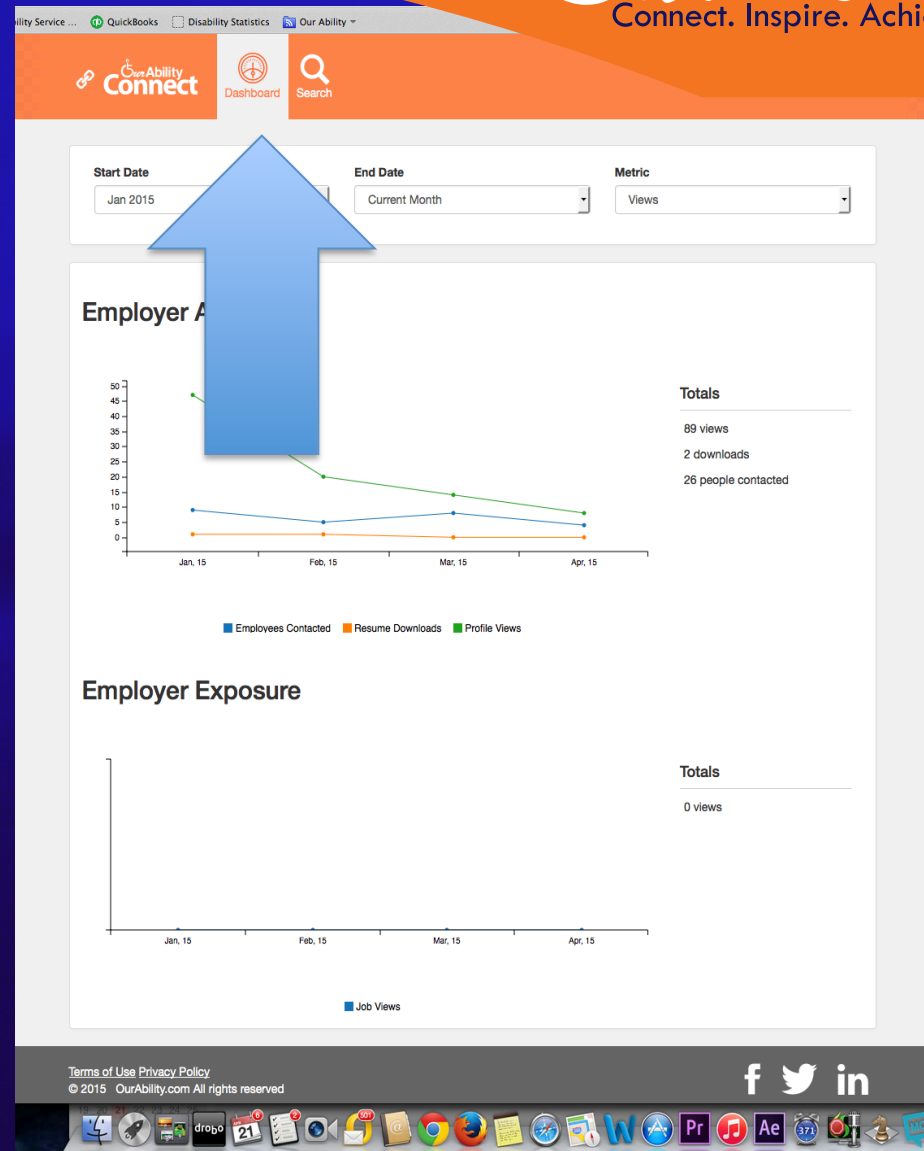
[f Login with Facebook](#)
[in Login with LinkedIn](#)

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[f](#) [t](#) [in](#)

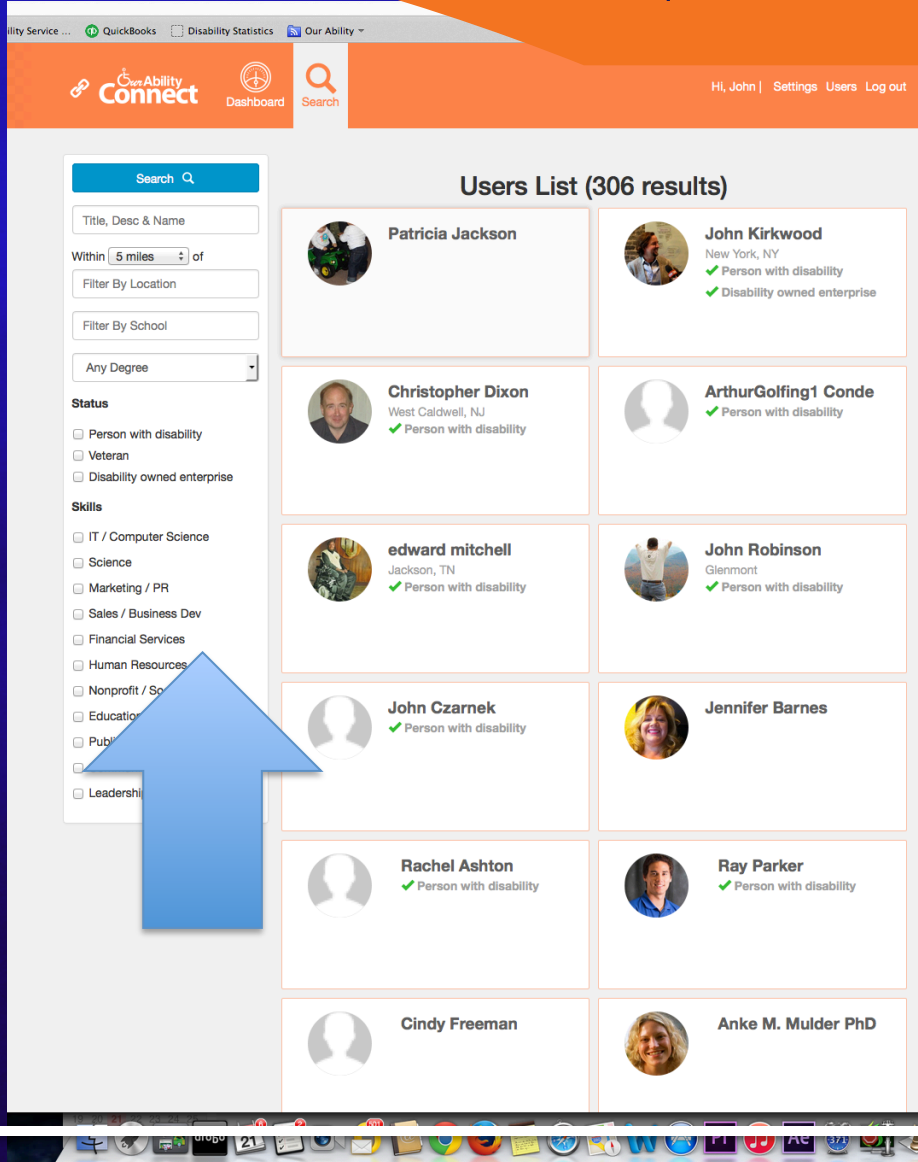
Employer Dashboard/Search

- Dashboard
- Statistics
 - Views
 - Downloads
 - People Contacted







Employer Search

- Keyword
- Location
- University/School
- Degree
- Status
- Skills



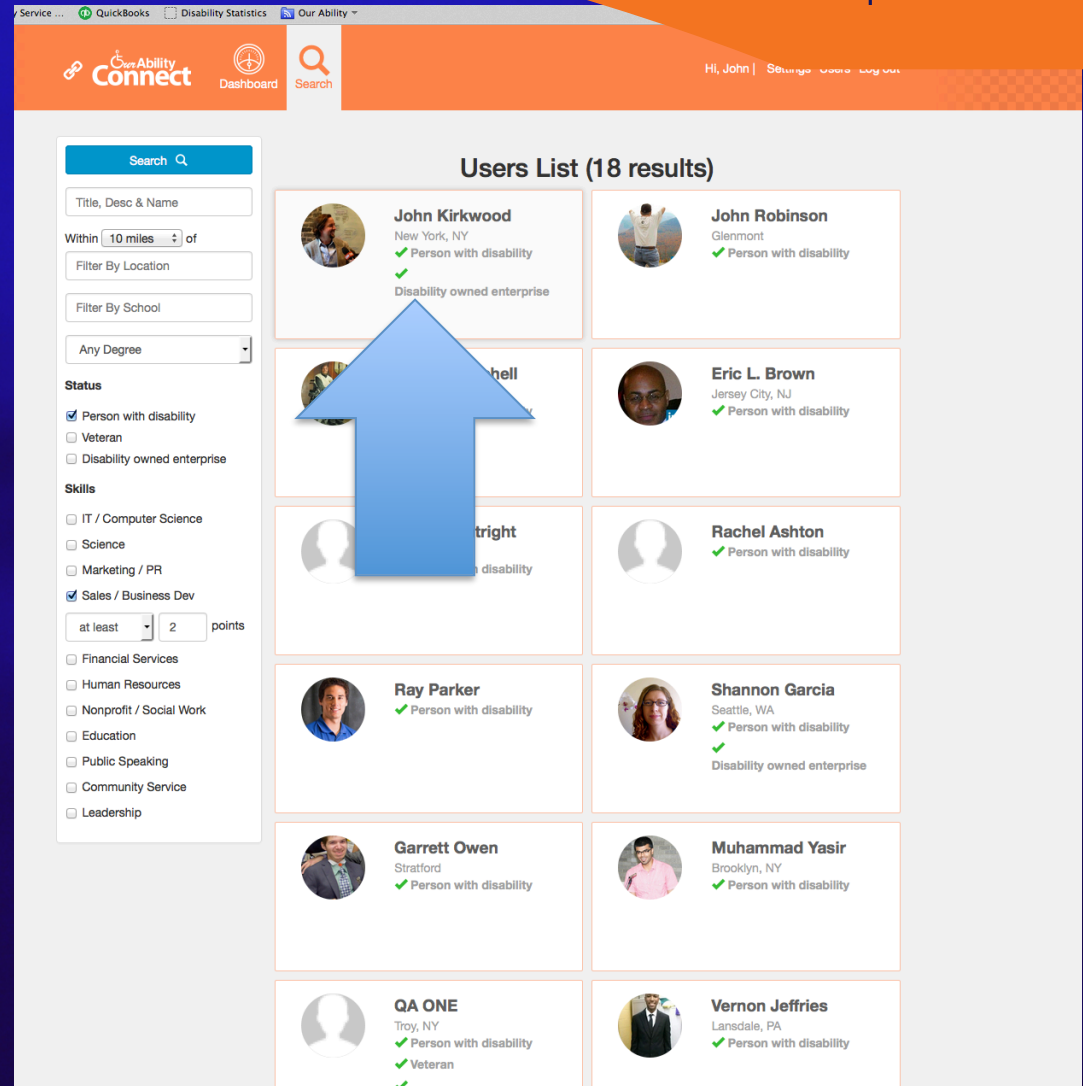
The screenshot shows the 'Our Ability Connect' website interface. On the left is a search sidebar with filters for Title, Desc & Name; Location (Within 5 miles); School; Degree; Status (Person with disability, Veteran, Disability owned enterprise); and Skills (IT / Computer Science, Science, Marketing / PR, Sales / Business Dev, Financial Services, Human Resources, Nonprofit / Social, Education, Public, Leadership). A large blue arrow points from the 'Status' section of the sidebar to the user list. The main area displays 'Users List (306 results)' with a grid of user profiles. Each profile includes a photo, name, location, and status verification (green checkmark).

Users List (306 results)	
Patricia Jackson  	John Kirkwood New York, NY ✓ Person with disability ✓ Disability owned enterprise
Christopher Dixon West Caldwell, NJ ✓ Person with disability	ArthurGolfing1 Conde ✓ Person with disability
edward mitchell Jackson, TN ✓ Person with disability	John Robinson Glenmont ✓ Person with disability
John Czarnek ✓ Person with disability	Jennifer Barnes 
Rachel Ashton ✓ Person with disability	Ray Parker ✓ Person with disability
Cindy Freeman 	Anke M. Mulder PhD 

Users shown...

Based upon Search

- PwD
- Sales
- NY Area



Service ... QuickBooks Disability Statistics Our Ability

Our Ability Connect Dashboard Search

Hi, John | Settings Logout Log Out

Search

Title, Desc & Name

Within 10 miles of

Filter By Location

Filter By School

Any Degree

Status

☒ Person with disability

☐ Veteran

☐ Disability owned enterprise

Skills

☐ IT / Computer Science

☐ Science

☐ Marketing / PR

☒ Sales / Business Dev

at least 2 points

☐ Financial Services

☐ Human Resources

☐ Nonprofit / Social Work













☐ Education

☐ Public Speaking

☐ Community Service


☐ Leadership

Users List (18 results)


 <p>John Kirkwood New York, NY ✓ Person with disability ✓ Disability owned enterprise</p>	 <p>John Robinson Glenmont ✓ Person with disability</p>
 <p>[Name obscured by arrow]</p>	 <p>Eric L. Brown Jersey City, NJ ✓ Person with disability</p>
 <p>[Name obscured by arrow] disability</p>	 <p>Rachel Ashton ✓ Person with disability</p>
 <p>Ray Parker ✓ Person with disability</p>	 <p>Shannon Garcia Seattle, WA ✓ Person with disability ✓ Disability owned enterprise</p>
 <p>Garrett Owen Stratford ✓ Person with disability</p>	 <p>Muhammad Yasir Brooklyn, NY ✓ Person with disability</p>
 <p>QA ONE Troy, NY ✓ Person with disability ✓ Veteran ✓</p>	 <p>Vernon Jeffries Lansdale, PA ✓ Person with disability</p>

John...

Owen SchoolHootSuiteUSA HockeyDisability Service ...QuickBooksDisability StatisticsOur Ability

DashboardSearch

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John Kirkwood
Location: New York, NY
Industry: Business and Financial Operations
Person with disability: ✓
Disability owned enterprise: ✓

President of CityMouse, Inc. a technology and new media consulting company that has created online campaigns since the first days of the internet.

Contact Me

kirkwood@citymouse.com

Download PDF Resume

Skills

Leadership	10+
Community Service	10+
Public Speaking	10+
Education	10+
Nonprofit / Social Work	10+
Human Resources	
Financial Services	
Sales / Business Dev	10+
Marketing / PR	10+
Science	10+
IT / Computer Science	10+

Experience

Member of the Board

BIANYS

Sept 2014 - Current