

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



Our Ability
Alliance

ourability.com



USBLN AFFILIATE

NYBLN BUSINESS
LEADERSHIP
NETWORK
NEW YORK

DRIVING SUCCESS THROUGH **DISABILITY INCLUSION**

Sponsored by **Our Ability Alliance**

- 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



Mentoring people with disabilities towards employment

SIGN UP TODAY



The Leading National Disability Organization

Helping people see beyond differences; to see the value we all hold inside ourselves.

Born with congenital amputee, John Robinson founded Our Ability as a bridge between employment and the individual with a disability. Our goal is to mentor people in a way most meaningful in today's world. Through speaking, disability sensitivity and

Our Ability Connect.



SIGN UP TODAY



The Our Ability 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.



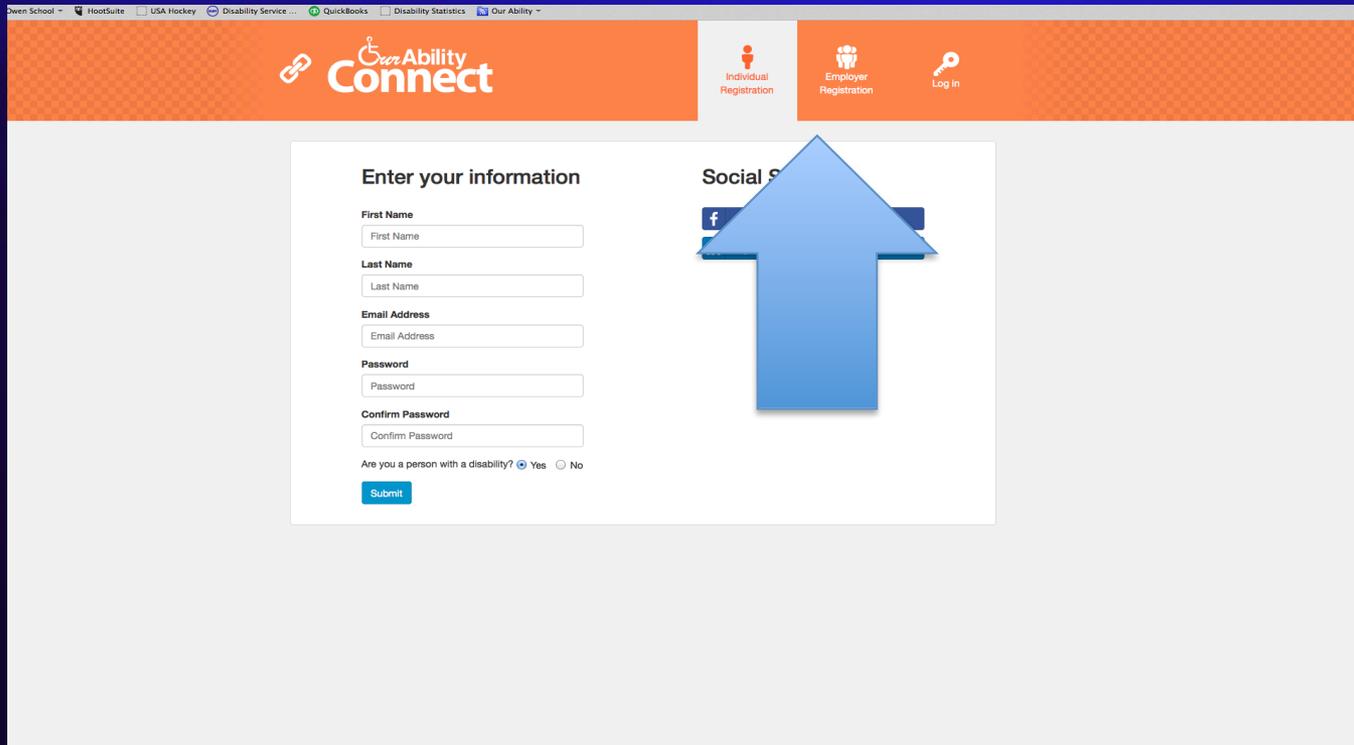
Our Ability Connect is a digital profile service created to promote future employment for people with disabilities through work-to-hire programs, helping to recruit future employees and implementing inclusion education for existing employees.

In 2015, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the American with Disabilities Act. We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Erie Canal this summer. We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Erie Canal this summer across New York State and raised awareness for every special anniversary year.

Gold Partners



Individual verses Employer



Our Ability Connect

Individual Registration Employer Registration Log In

Enter your information

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Password

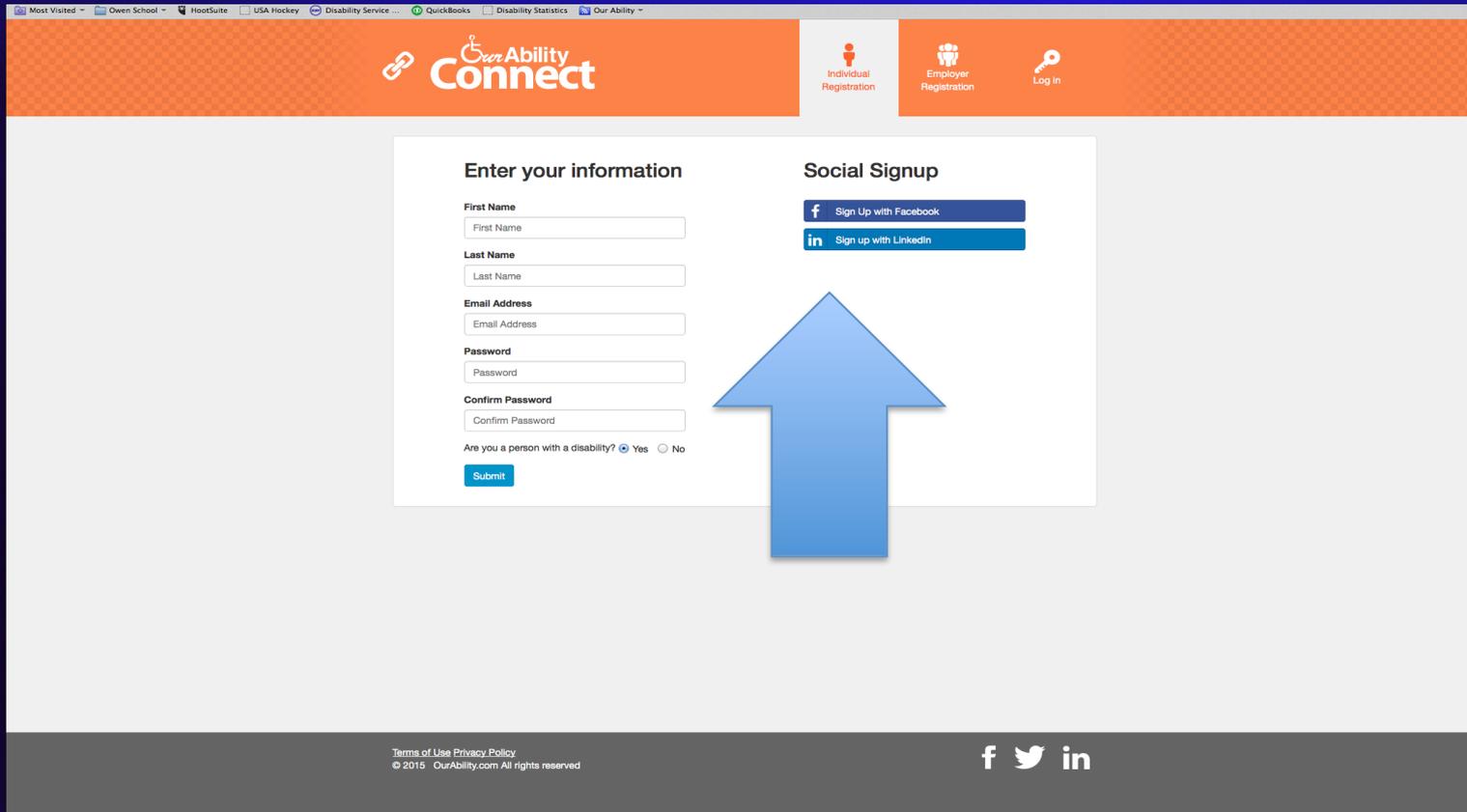
Confirm Password

Are you a person with a disability? Yes No

Social S

f

Sign on with FB, LinkedIn or...



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

Our Ability Connect

Individual Registration Employer Registration Log In

Enter your information

First Name
First Name

Last Name
Last Name

Email Address
Email Address

Password
Password

Confirm Password
Confirm Password

Are you a person with a disability? Yes No

Submit

Social Signup

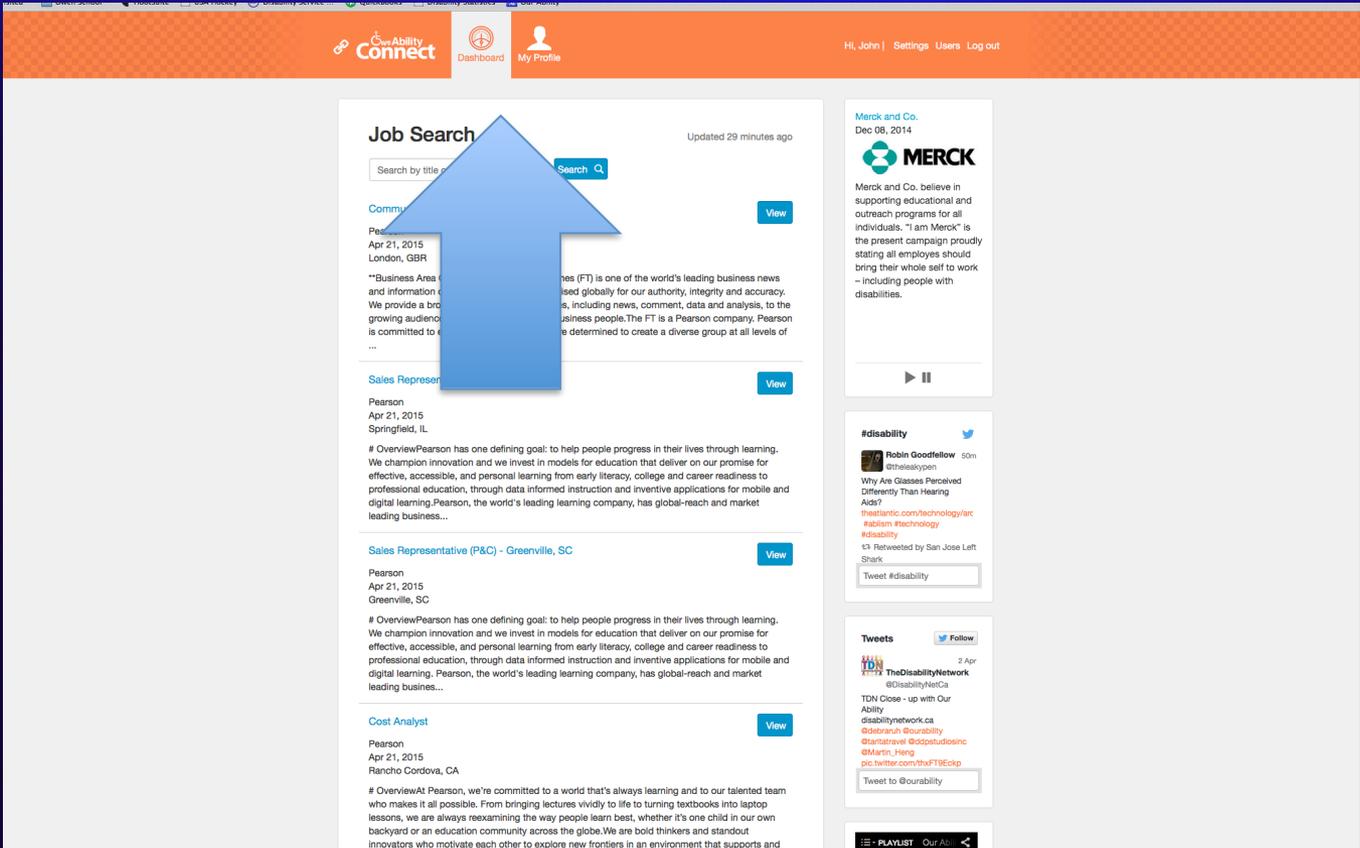
f Sign Up with Facebook

in Sign up with LinkedIn

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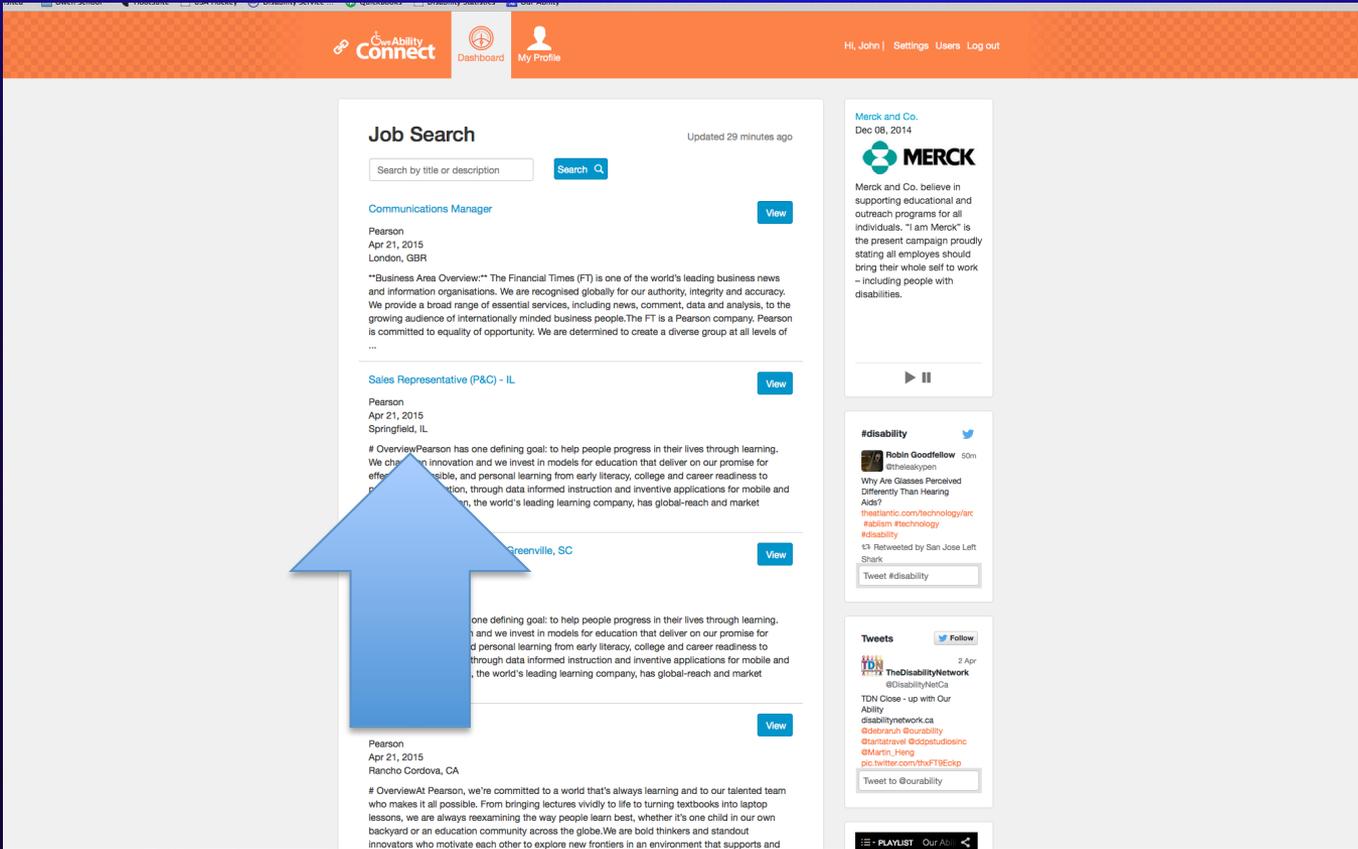
Dashboard



The screenshot shows the 'Our Ability Connect' dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo, 'Dashboard', and 'My Profile' links. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Job Search:** A section titled 'Job Search' with a search bar and a 'Search' button. A large blue arrow points to this section. Below the search bar, there are three job listings:
 - Commentary:** Posted by Pearson on Apr 21, 2015, London, GBR. The text mentions 'Business Area' and 'FT is one of the world's leading business news and information...'
 - Sales Representative (P&C) - Greenville, SC:** Posted by Pearson on Apr 21, 2015, Springfield, IL. The text mentions 'OverviewPearson has one defining goal: to help people progress in their lives through learning...'
 - Cost Analyst:** Posted by Pearson on Apr 21, 2015, Rancho Cordova, CA. The text mentions 'OverviewAt Pearson, we're committed to a world that's always learning and to our talented team who makes it all possible...'
- Merck and Co.:** A post from Dec 08, 2014, featuring the Merck logo and text about supporting educational and outreach programs for individuals with disabilities.
- #disability:** A tweet from Robin Goodfellow (@theraskypen) asking 'Why Are Glasses Perceived Differently Than Hearing Aids?' with a link to a TechCrunch article.
- Tweets:** A tweet from TheDisabilityNetwork (@DisabilityNetCa) mentioning 'TDN Close - up with Our Ability' and listing several users.

Dashboard: Jobs



The screenshot shows the 'Our Ability Connect' dashboard with a 'Jobs' section. A large blue arrow points to a job listing for 'Sales Representative (P&C) - IL' at Pearson. The dashboard includes a search bar, navigation tabs for 'Dashboard' and 'My Profile', and a sidebar with social media feeds for Merck and #disability.

Our Ability Connect Dashboard My Profile HI, John | Settings Users Log out

Job Search

 Updated 29 minutes ago

Search by title or description

Communications Manager

Pearson
Apr 21, 2015
London, GBR

“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

Pearson
Apr 21, 2015
Springfield, IL

Overview Pearson 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... the world’s leading learning company, has global-reach and market

Greenville, SC

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

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

Merck and Co.
Dec 08, 2014

 **MERCK**

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.

#disability

Robin Goodfellow 50m
@thereskylen
Why Are Glasses Perceived Differently Than Hearing Aids?
theatlantic.com/technology/arc
#atlantic #technology #disability
Retweeted by San Jose Left Shark
Tweet #disability

Tweets

 **TheDisabilityNetwork**
@DisabilityNetCa
TDN Close - up with Our Ability
disabilitynetwork.ca
@disabilitynetwork.ca
@startatravel @dpsstudioinc
@Martin_Hiang
pic.twitter.com/theFT3Eckp
Tweet to @ourability

PLAYLIST Our Ability

Profile


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



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

Skills

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

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.

Your profile is



100%
complete.

[How is this calculated?](#)

Download PDF Resume

My Profile Information


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



[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

Your profile is

100%

complete.

[How is this calculated?](#)

[Download PDF Resume](#)

Save [Cancel](#)

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	

Skills



Industry: Education, Training and Library

Person with disability: ✓

Public speaking and advocacy.

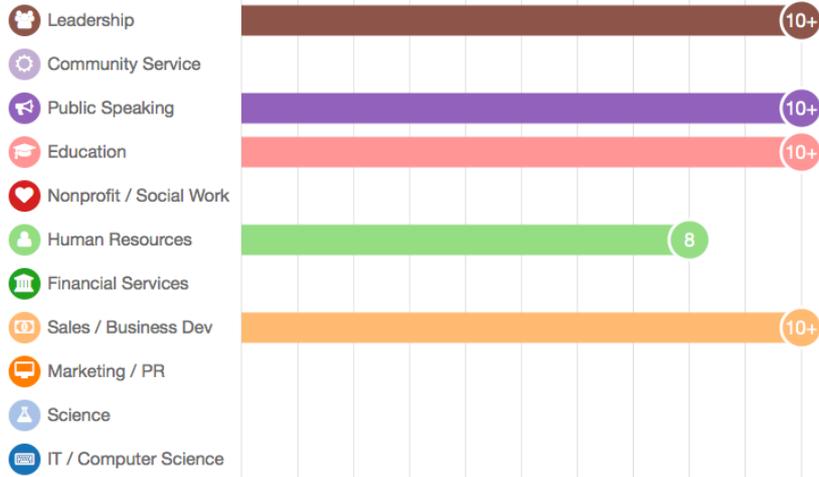


complete.

[How is this calculated?](#)

[Download PDF Resume](#)

Skills



Experience +

Experience

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.

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 Cockeral (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

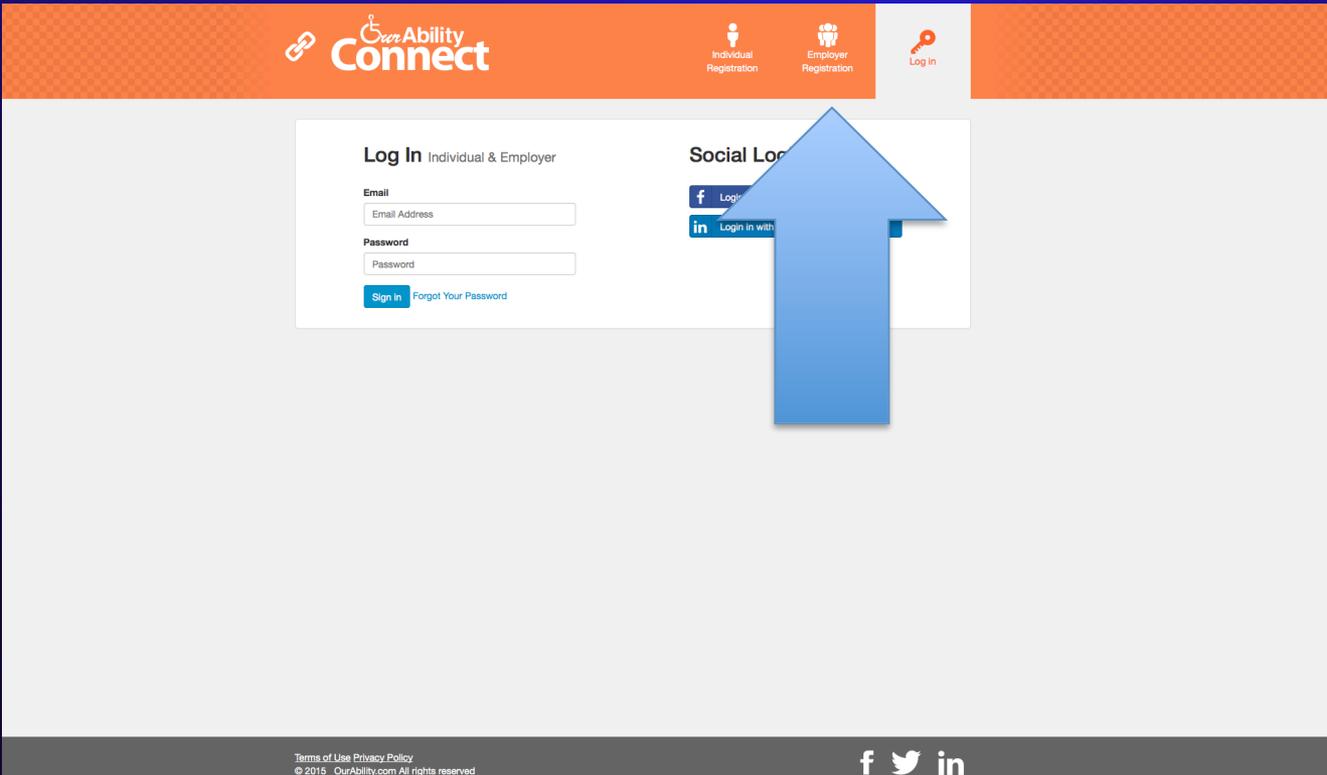
Account Executive

WSTM

OUR ABILITY CONNECT- EFFICIENCY

Employer Functionality

Employer Log-in



Log In Individual & Employer

Email

Password

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

Social Log In

 Log in with Facebook

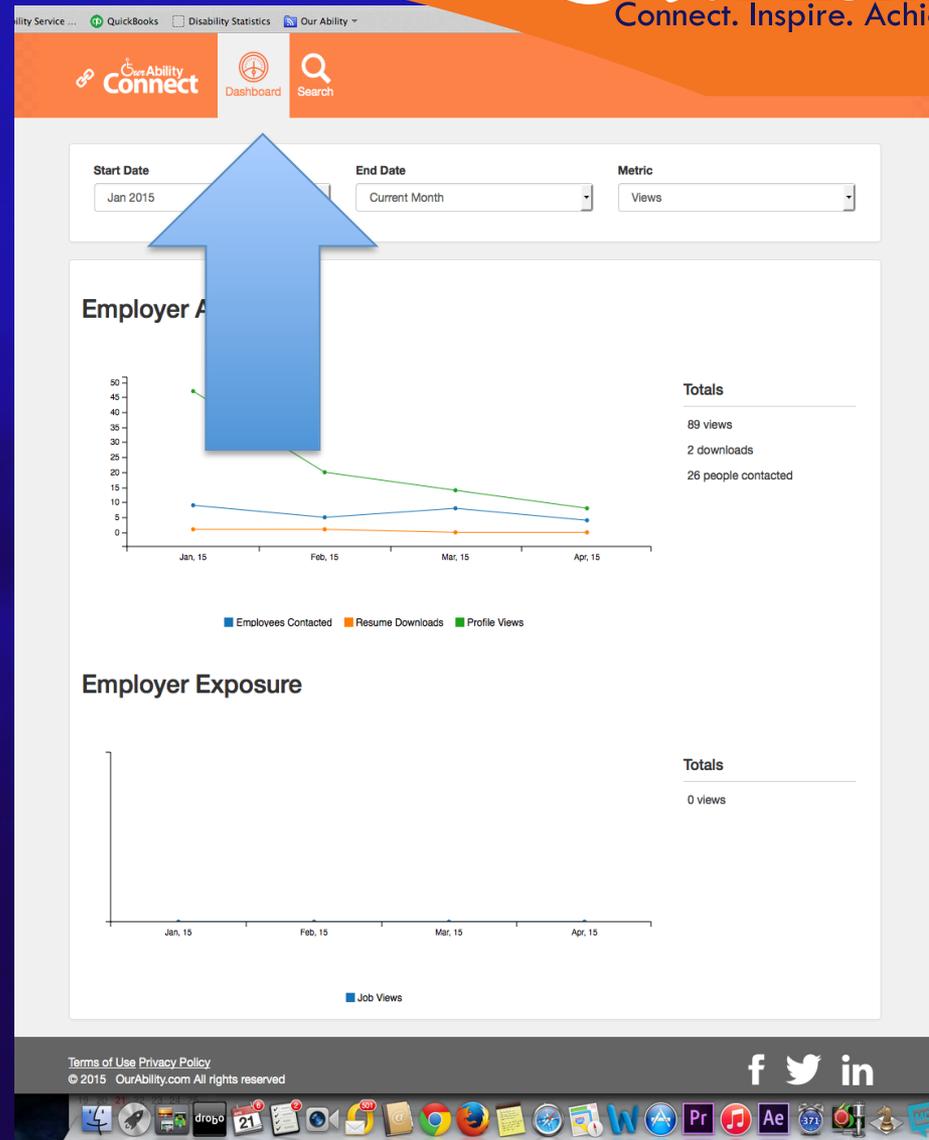
 Log in with LinkedIn

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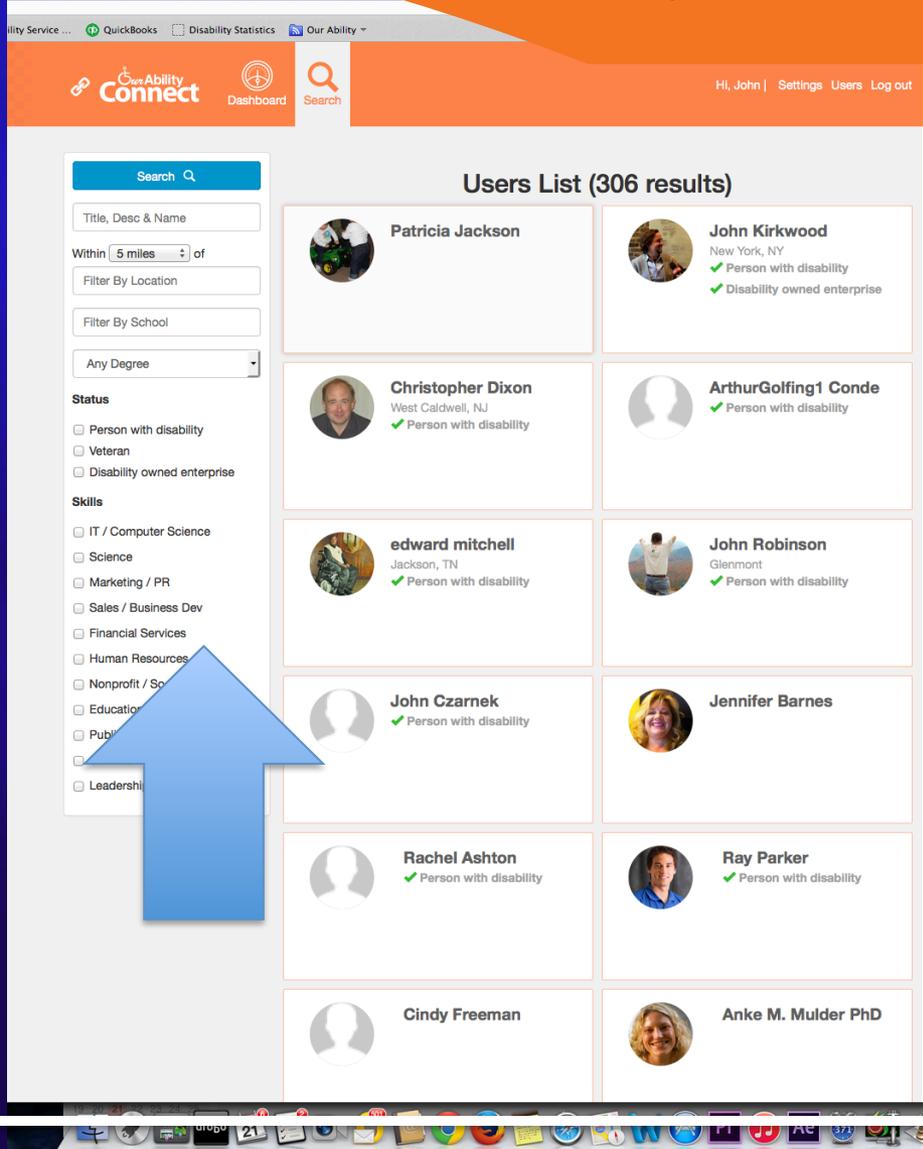
Employer Dashboard/Search

- Dashboard
- Statistics
 - Views
 - Downloads
 - People Contacted



Employer Search

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



The screenshot displays the 'Our Ability Connect' web application. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo, 'Dashboard', and 'Search' options. The user is logged in as 'John'. The main content area is titled 'Users List (306 results)'. On the left, a search sidebar includes a search bar, filters for location (5 miles), school, and degree, and checkboxes for 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 'Person with disability' checkbox to the user list. The user list consists of a grid of user profiles, each with a profile picture, name, location, and status indicators (green checkmarks for 'Person with disability' and 'Disability owned enterprise').

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

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>[Redacted] hell</p>	 <p>Eric L. Brown Jersey City, NJ ✓ Person with disability</p>
 <p>[Redacted] tright 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 School | HootSuite | USA Hockey | Disability Service... | QuickBooks | Disability Statistics | Our Ability

Our Ability Connect | Dashboard | Search | Hi, John | Settings | Users | Log out



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