

**Greetings from the Executive Director**

As Envisioning Access hones in on innovative technologies we are thinking inclusively about persons with disabilities to fully embrace older adults. We know that nobody should be left out when we discuss innovative technology making life more accessible.



While we are engaging with tech start-ups and universities to develop innovative technology to provide enhanced quality of life and opportunities for individuals and communities living with physical disabilities, we need to work as fast as possible to keep up with the needs of the aging and disability population that are changing daily.

Millions of individuals 65+ are healthy, fully engaged in full time employment, and living life to the fullest. However, there are also millions who are older and need assistance. At Envisioning Access, we are working to develop technology that is appropriate for persons with disabilities of all ages. For instance, we are testing the glove from [Cognimate](#) that improves hand/motor skills for those living with neurological impairments. Our first testers were over 65. Our work in the Augmented and Virtual Reality realm, as the articles below point out, may assist those of any age. While VR may be used to play games or for employment training in a variety of fields; it may also be used to transport one back to their childhood home or on a trip to an exotic location that is now impossible to visit due to physical limitations.

[VISORS](#), the project we are working on with tech start-up Waipoint to assist those with low vision/blindness, is for any adult who needs to get around space at home. When perfected, VISORS will allow an individual to go outside of their home, and provide freedom to someone who needs to get to work or school, as well as leave home to travel, shop, or enjoy daily activities.

The excitement at Envisioning Access, as we work with tech start-ups and universities, is our ability at having our recipients advise and directly work with developers to tell them what is working and not working in the technology being developed.

All of us at Envisioning Access can never tell all you enough how much we appreciate your support of all our work. Without you we could not support the disability community. We hope you will continue to support the projects we are undertaking.

I do have one HUGE FAVOR to ask of all of you. Many of you send your very generous donations to us by check. When you make out your check, please make out the checks to: ENVISIONING ACCESS. As we have legally changed our name, the bank will eventually stop allowing us to deposit checks made out to Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers. Thank you so much for your support—we could not do this exciting work without you!

Please enjoy the articles below discussing issues around how we see working with disabilities, aging, and technology—now and in the future.

**Technology Corner: Technology and Aging**

**Augmented Reality (AR) can add another dimension to seniors' smartphone literacy, researchers show**



AR is similar to Virtual Reality, but instead of creating a purely digital world, Augmented Reality instead adds three-dimensional objects or text to one's regular field of vision.

Smartphones are no longer mere tools for texting, but are an essential part of seniors' care management, from electronic health record portals to telehealth visits.

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**How Virtual Reality could be the key to preventing falls and easing chronic pain**

Venturing into the immersive landscape of Virtual Reality is not just a thrilling escape; it could also serve as a groundbreaking solution for health-related issues.

Recent research suggests that delving into virtual experiences might be a key factor in preventing falls and mitigating the persistent burden of chronic pain.

[READ MORE](#)



**America's health system isn't ready for the surge of seniors with disabilities**



The number of older adults with disabilities — difficulty with walking, seeing, hearing, memory, cognition, or performing daily tasks such as bathing or using the bathroom — will soar in the decades ahead, as baby boomers enter their 70s, 80s, and 90s.

But the health care system isn't ready to address their needs.

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**We're Hiring: Part-time Database Coordinator**

*15 hours per week*

This position is an excellent opportunity for an individual who wants to participate in a mission-driven organization and have an impact on its fund development as we enter into a new phase of our organization's growth.

The Database Coordinator's primary responsibilities include gift processing, building reports, database clean-up, list building, working with the current database (Blackbaud Raiser's Edge/NXT) as we transition into our new database (Bloomerang), and establishing systems and procedures within the database.

[LEARN MORE](#)



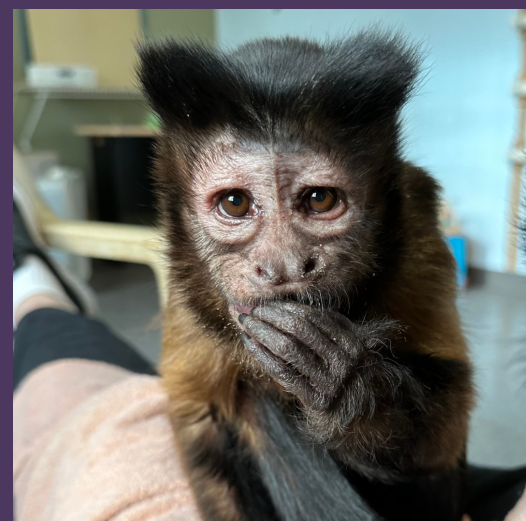
**Birthday Round-up at the Monkey Living Center!**

Happy Birthday to our monkeys born in February: Robin and Sharon!

Don't forget — Whether you want to honor a person or pet for their birthday, a holiday, or some other occasion...your "In Honor of" gift will show them how much you care for them. And if you give us their address, we will even send them a card on your behalf!



Robin



Sharon

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