

# Jason Harris

---

## **Professional Experience:**

**Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled (LADD) – September 2020 – Present**  
Director of Strategic Operations, a leadership team position to develop and oversee innovative strategic initiatives to empower individuals with developmental disabilities to grow.

**HIVE Network – September 2020 – Present**  
Consultant to collaborate and share expertise to mission-driven technology company whose sole purpose is to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of people.

**Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University and Office of Interdisciplinary Programs and Outreach at Syracuse University – Syracuse, New York – August 2018 – July 2020**  
Project Coordinator, promoted from Research Associate in 2019, with focus on supported decision-making empowering people with disabilities receiving assistance retain legal agency.

- Research and help write journal articles on supported decision-making and self-determination for publication, including “Supported Decision-Making and the Able Act” and “Supported Decision-Making: State-by-State”
- Helped edit a book on supported decision-making titled, “Supported Decision-Making: Theory, Research and Practice to Enhance Self-Determination and Quality of Life”
- Speaker and panel participant for accessibility, disability and media, and advocacy speaking events at Syracuse University and at various self-advocacy groups, including at S.I. Newhouse School, Syracuse University Library, and RespectAbility in Washington, D.C.
- Podcast and blog contributor to Southeast ADA Center

**Summer Internship - American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) - June – August 2017**  
AAPD intern at National Disability Rights Network in Washington, D.C. Performed activities to formulate and advocate public policy to protect rights of the disabled, including conducted research, assisted in writing hearing statements and policy papers, represented NDRN at coalition and other meetings, Hill briefings, and other hearings.

**Jason’s Connection 501(c)(3) - Cincinnati, Ohio – 2013 - Present**  
Founder/Spokesperson, Chief Idea Officer, Editor and Curator for online community for resources and needs including Disability, Mental Health and Aging

- Authors Online magazine articles
- Conducts Interviews
- Partnerships with Disability Agencies and Service Providers
- Community Consultant with local organizations

**Disability Cultural Center at Syracuse University – 2018 - 2020**  
Advisory Board Member

**Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled (L.A.D.D.) – 2014 - 2020**  
Marketing Committee Member

## **Educational Background:**

### **Syracuse University – Syracuse, NY**

- M.S. in Cultural Foundations of Education – May 2018
- Certificate of Advanced Studies in Disabilities – May 2018
- Vice President of Beyond Compliance Coordinating Committee
- Clubs and Organizations: Disability Cultural Center Advisory Board; Founding Member of OTS (On the Spectrum Group)
- 3.69 GPA

### **College of Mount St. Joseph (MSJ) - Cincinnati, OH**

- B.A. in Liberal Arts with a minor in Philosophy – May 2013
- 3.2 GPA
- Academic Award – Jane Cuning Armstrong Award for Perseverance and Overcoming Adversity - 2013
- Academic Award – Department of General Studies and Philosophy Award of Excellence - 2013
- 2009 – 2013 – Dean’s List Multiple Semesters
- January 2013 – June 2013 – Semester Abroad in London AIFS

## **Speaking Engagements:**

- LADD, Inc., Cincinnati, OH – Inclusive language presentation - 2020
- Zero Project Conference 2020, Vienna, Austria – Online resources and information platforms for persons with disabilities – 2020
- Spectrum Lights Inclusion Summit - Session Self-Advocacy and Accepting Who You Are – Washington (Via Videoconference) - 2019
- American University Washington College of Law Supported Decision-Making Symposium, Washington, D.C. – 2019
- Dartmouth College Conference on Illustration, Comics & Animation, Hanover, NH- 2019
- Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Policy, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY - 2019
- Syracuse University Librarians, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY - 2019
- S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY- 2019
- RespectAbility, Rockville, MD – 2018
- Over-the-Rhine International Film Festival, Cincinnati, OH – 2018
- ReelAbilities Film Festival, JCC Manhattan, NYC, New York - 2016
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Education Outreach- Houston, TX 2016
- University of Chicago - 2016
- NCCJ Conference: Valuing Diversity Proposal Acceptance to Conference- 2015
- Ruderman Inclusion Summit, Boston - 2015
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Houston, Boston, Richmond, NYC - 2015
- St Louis University talk, Missouri - 2015
- ReelAbilities Film Festival *Invisible Disabilities* – San Francisco, CA – 2014
- ReelAbilities Cincinnati – Emcee at Teddy Cramer Event - 2014
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Education Outreach – Cincinnati, Hyde Park School - 2014
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Opening Night Festivities – New York, NY – 2013
- ReelAbilities Film Festival College of Mount St. Joseph – Cincinnati, OH – 2013
- ReelAbilities Film Festival – Columbus, OH - 2013

### **Interviews Conducted by Jason Harris for Jason's Connection:**

- Dr. Tony Atwood – British Psychologist notable for Asperger Syndrome Work - 2019
- Monty Roberts a/k/a The Man Who Listens To Horses – Helping Vets Recover from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Trauma - 2015
- Katie Guest Rose Pryal - Assistant Law Professor UNC Chapel Hill – 2014
- Richard Bernstein – Disability Activist and Michigan Federal Supreme Court Judge – 2014
- Rick Guidotti – Professional Photographer – 2014
- Larry Johnson – Blind Journalist from San Antonio – 2014
- Issac Yablonski – Film Festival Founder, NYC – 2014
- Glen Finland – Award-winning Author and Journalist, Washington, DC 2014
- Gloria Walker – Founder Urban NAMI of Cincinnati – 2014

### **Publications:**

#### **University of Minnesota Institute on Community Integration - 2019**

Published work – Impact Magazine Fall 2019 – *Jason's Connection Giving And Getting The Support We All Need*. Article for Feature Issue: Self-Determination and Supported Decision-Making for People with Intellectual, Developmental, and Other Disabilities

#### **National Resource Center for Supported Decision Making - 2019**

Published work – 2019 - *ABLE Accounts and Supported-Decision Making: Building a Pathway to Independence, Inclusion, and a "Decent Quality of Life"*

Research and Policy paper in Collaboration with Jonathan G. Martinis, for National Resource Center for Supported Decision Making, a project of Quality Trust, Burton Blatt Institute, and University of Kansas Life Span Institute

#### **The Huffington Post - 2017**

Published work – February 2017 - *On Fortune Cookies, Neurodiversity, and Accessibility*  
Article for [Huffington Post](#) in Collaboration with Diane Wiener Director of Syracuse University Cultural Disability Center

#### **The Mighty - 2015**

Published work - August 2015 - *I'm an Adult on the Spectrum, so Please Stop Treating Me Like a Child*  
Online magazine focusing on improving the lives of people facing disease, disorder and disability

#### **StoryCorps – 2015**

Personal interview of Jason Harris that is in the Library of Congress for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ADA

### **Articles:**

- [Anxiety and Depression in the Disability Community](#)
- [A Supportive Public Speaking Group. My Experience with Orange Orators](#)
- [Bullying: Is It Just For Kids?](#)
- [How Should We View Stephen Hawking?](#)
- ["I Can't Believe You Have Autism": The Compliment That Isn't](#)
- [I'm Coming Out: The Truth about Coming Out of the Closet with an Invisible Disability](#)
- [I'm Sorry for Saying "Sorry" – Breaking the "Sorry" Habit](#)
- [Letter to Myself at 17, from Myself at 27](#)
- [My Experience with Harassment – Jason's View](#)
- [Peer-to-Peer Mentoring: A New Model In Providing Support](#)

- [Sharing Perspectives For High School Students With Disabilities Thinking About College](#)
- [Self-Care: Knowing your Limits and Setting Boundaries](#)
- [Supported Decision Making in My Life](#)
- Supported Decision-Making: State by State (research and writing contributions)
- [The Frankenstein Effect- Society is Creating its Own Monsters](#)
- [The Haunted House Effect: Understanding Sensory Overload](#)
- [What if Martin Luther King was White” Why Who Leads a Social Movement is so Important](#)
- [Why Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer is about Disability Rights](#)
- [“You’re So Inspirational”: Disability and the Overall Culture of Inspiration](#)
- [Why Experiences Like Mine Show We Need More Than Autism Awareness](#)

### **Projects:**

#### **YES! Youth Employment Solutions Center – 2020**

Focus group to create manual for youth career development

#### **SUNY Upstate Medical University – 2019**

Barriers to Accessibility related to medical facilities

#### **Archie Comics – 2018 - Present**

Autism consultant to Co-CEO

#### **ReelAbilities Film Festival Speaker – 2011 - Present**

Nationwide events related to Disabilities Film Festival

#### **Active Minds – 2011 – 2012**

Co-president

#### **Active Minds – 2010 – 2011**

Media Director

### **Volunteer Experience:**

#### **Save The Animals Foundation - 2015**

Animal Caregiver

### **Honors/Awards:**

- Nomination for Social Media Influencer Award, Unicorn Children’s Foundation, Boca Raton, FL - 2019
- ["100 Best Blogs for Disabled"](#) - Stairlift Reviews - 2017
- Nomination for President’s Council on Disability, Washington, DC, by Senator Sherrod Brown, OH - 2015
- Jane Cuning Armstrong Award for perseverance and overcoming adversity - College of Mount St. Joseph - 2013
- Department of General Studies and Philosophy Award of Excellence - College of Mount St. Joseph - 2013
- Venue Media Civic Leadership Award, Cincinnati – 2014