

# VR in Senior Living

## Building Communities to Thrive

Arizona LeadingAge  
5/17/2023  
2:15pm - 3:15pm



# Nice to meet you!

- Growth Manager at Rendever
- University of Minnesota – 2017
  - *B.S. Family Social Science*
  - *Leadership Minor*
- Am fortunate to have all four grandparents still with me
- Green Bay Packers owner



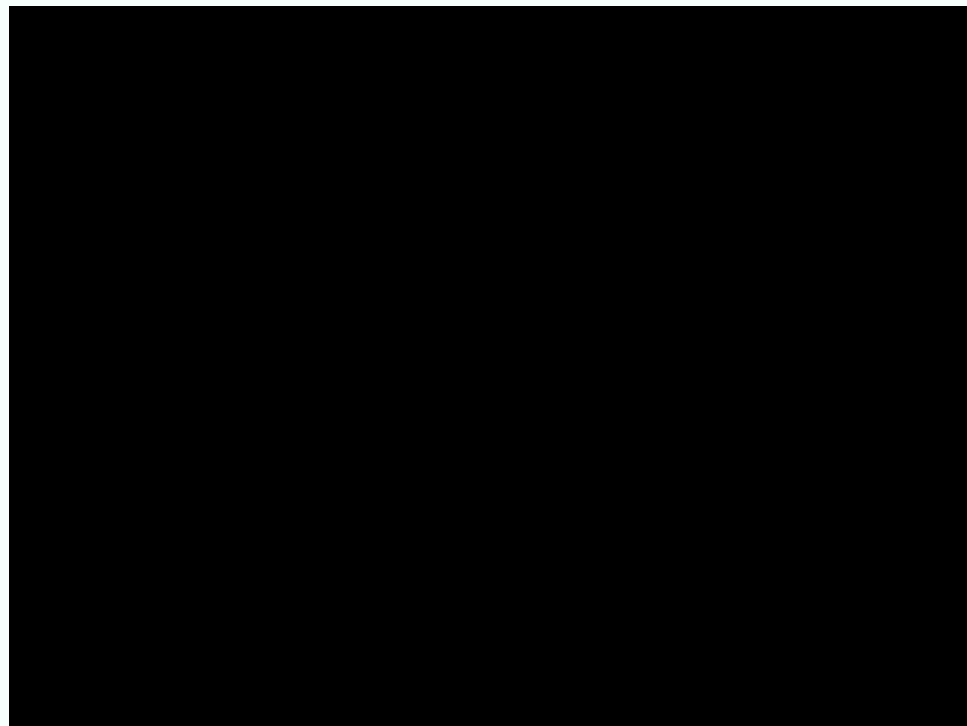




# Rendever 's Arizona







## TikTok: Magical Moments

# Who uses TikTok or IG/fb REELS for their community?

**33**

Following

**106.1K**

Followers

**1.8M**

Likes

**Who has tried VR?**



**Who has tried VR  
with their residents?**

# Session at a Glance

1. Celebrating where we're going: a review of AgeTech
2. Technology Driven Wellness
3. Virtual reality, a brief history
4. Social isolation - before, during, and after the pandemic stage of COVID-19
5. Building community dynamics through the power of shared experiences
6. Making a commitment to modern virtual family engagement
7. The future: Thriving communities through thriving individuals
8. Story sharing/Demo!

Let's talk about:

# AgeTech

# Technology in senior living is not new

# The AgeTech Industry

“**AgeTech** is the growing category of technology solutions designed to meet the needs of the 50-plus audience and the \$8.3 trillion-dollar market it represents. Sitting at the intersection of longevity and technology, AgeTech includes products, services and experiences across industries that contribute to longer, healthier lives and empower people to choose how they live as they age.”

- AARP

# The AgeTech Industry

Today, there are ~1 billion people over the age of 60 living on this planet, many of them are healthy and active and have discretionary income. Since the population over the age of 60 is growing faster than any other age group, **by 2050, 20% of the world's population (~2 billion people) will be over the age of 60.**

A [recent AARP study](#) found that older adults are adopting technology more than ever before. Internet, smartphones, tablet, wearables, and even smart TVs and speakers, are being used by an increasingly growing number of older adults.

It has also been found that demand for health and wellness technology to enhance provider care is increasing among older adults. If offered a choice, **over half (53%) would prefer to have their health care needs managed by a mix of medical professionals and health care technology.**



# AgeTech Industry Highlights

**2015:** AARP launched its own innovation lab, [The Hatchery](#), with a mission to bring together the best, most creative entrepreneurs to share ideas for keeping people 50 and older top of mind as they design new products and services.

**2019:** Aging 2.0 announced the launch of [The Collective](#) initiative, a global, mission-driven initiative to accelerate innovation in aging.

**2022:** Rendeвер is the first AgeTech company to be featured on the [TIME 100 Most Influential Companies List](#)

**2012:** Stephen Johnston and Katy Fike founded [Aging2.0](#), a global organization that strives to accelerate innovation to address the biggest challenges and opportunities in aging.

**2018:** GreatCall's acquisition by Best Buy. This was both Best Buy's largest acquisition to date, as well as the biggest exit in Gerontech history. PillPack was acquired by Amazon for just under \$1B.

**2020:** >\$368 million was invested in >40 age tech companies in 2020 ([Crunchbase](#))

**2021:** AARP launches [AgeTech Collaborative™](#), a community connecting the leading AgeTech startups, most forward-thinking venture capitalists, enlightened enterprises and creative testbeds in a communal space.

The world is looking for an aging experience that is fun, social, and focused on authentic connection.

**No matter where you age.**



Let's talk about:

# Technology Driven Resident Wellness

# Importance of Broadcasting Proof

Residents lead the way for a change in engagement

Demonstrate how technology provides missing links in everyday connection

- Hearing, speaking, memory revival
- Resident-led engagement through use of technology
- Empowerment
- Education of use
- Connection
- Value proposition of hybrid programs and program set-up
- Committing to a changing idea of “community” and how to strengthen its impact
- Engagement is not the afterthought

Deep dive:

# Virtual Reality

View-Master makes its debut at the 1939 New York World's Fair

**1939**



**1942**

The US military purchases 100,000 View-Masters and ~6m photo reels for military training during WWII

Ivan Sutherland creates the first head mounted display (HMD)

**1968**



**1962**

Morton Heilig's "Sensorama" prototype set forth the notion of modern day 4D theaters

**1970**

**1979**

LEEP optical system designed by Eric Howlett, the first modern-day headset

**1980**

**1982**



**1984**



**1985**

Mattel purchases technology from Jaron Lanier's VPL Research to create the Power Glove

**1990**

**1991**



Nintendo launches "Virtual Boy" for \$179.95

**1995**



Virtual Boy is discontinued

**1996**

**2000**

**2012**

Oculus kickstarter is launched

**2014**

Facebook acquires Oculus for \$2b

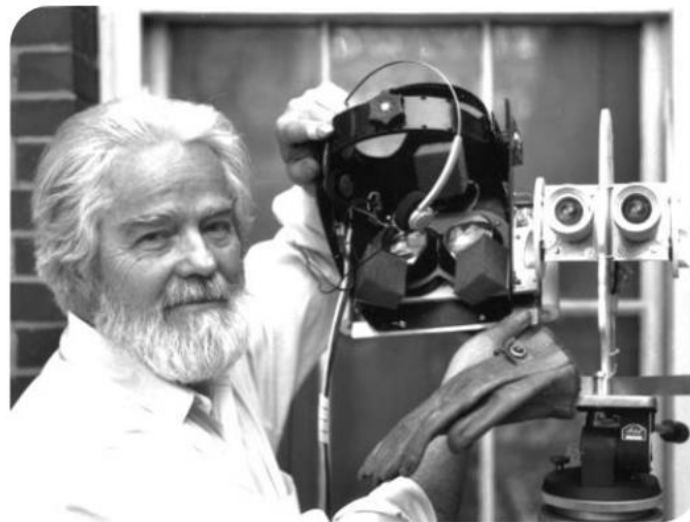






Ivan Sutherland's 'Sword of Damocles',  
attached from the ceiling

1969



Eric Howlett's LEEP Panoramic Stereo  
Photography System



The Original  
View-Master

1939



Nintendo's  
Virtual Boy

1995



Mattel's View Master  
(Google Cardboard)

2015



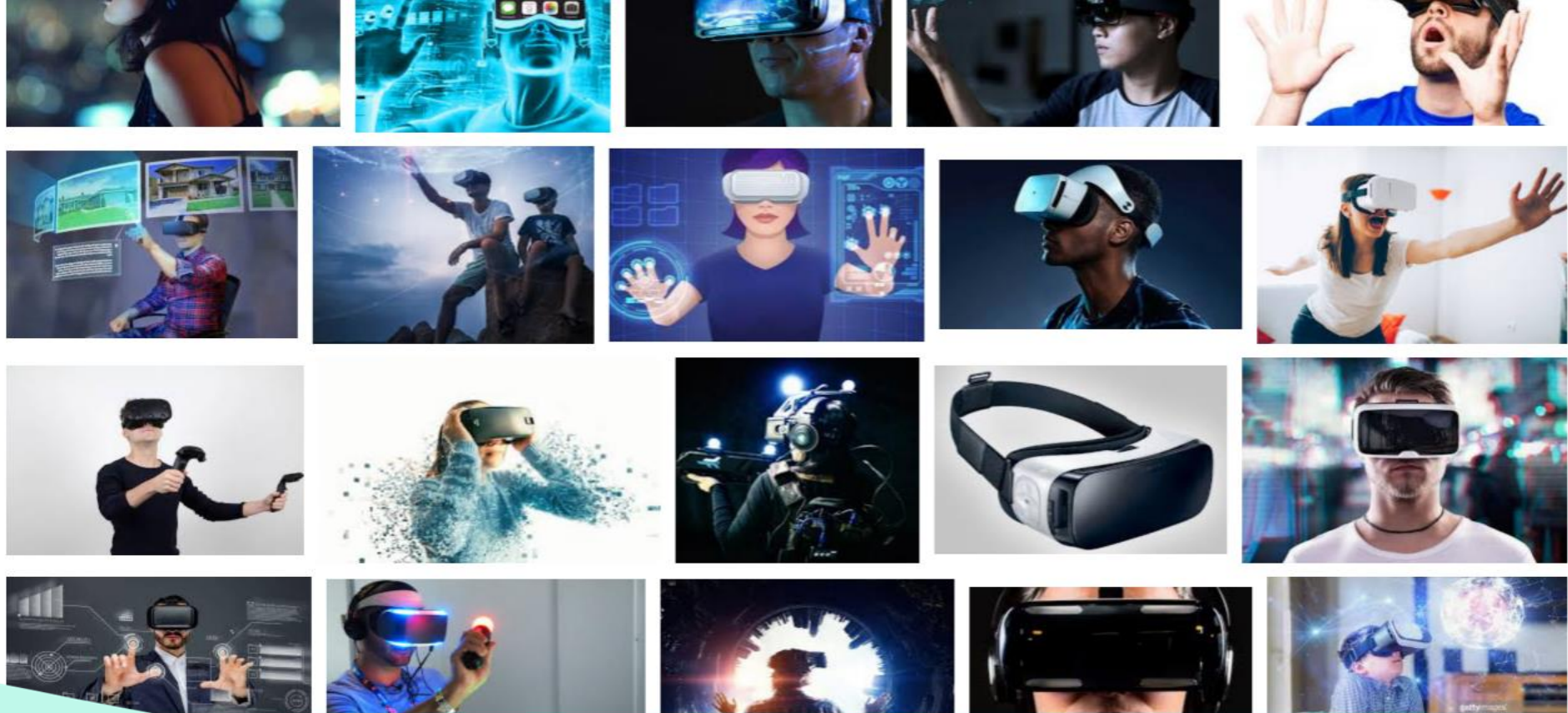
Oculus Quest 2

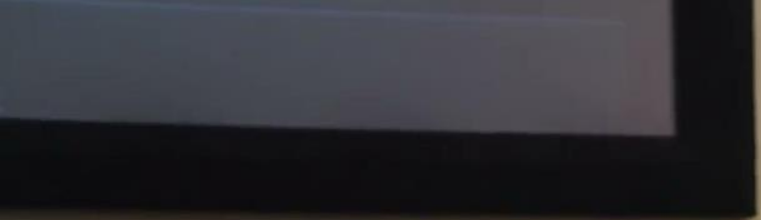


HTC Vive Flow



Pico G2 4k







Let's talk about:

# Social Isolation



**As much as 43% of adults age 60 and older  
experience frequent or intense loneliness**


**Lonely seniors are at increased risk for cardiovascular disease, hypertension, infections, and premature cognitive decline.**

**Research has shown that social isolation is as detrimental to one's health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.**

**Separate studies have found social isolation to correlate with a 30% increase in mortality.**

**Social isolation is associated with \$6.7b in additional Medicare spending each year.**

(an average additional \$1,608 per socially isolated senior)



Social isolation is reaching epidemic level numbers across the world, especially in the senior population.

## 30% increase in mortality

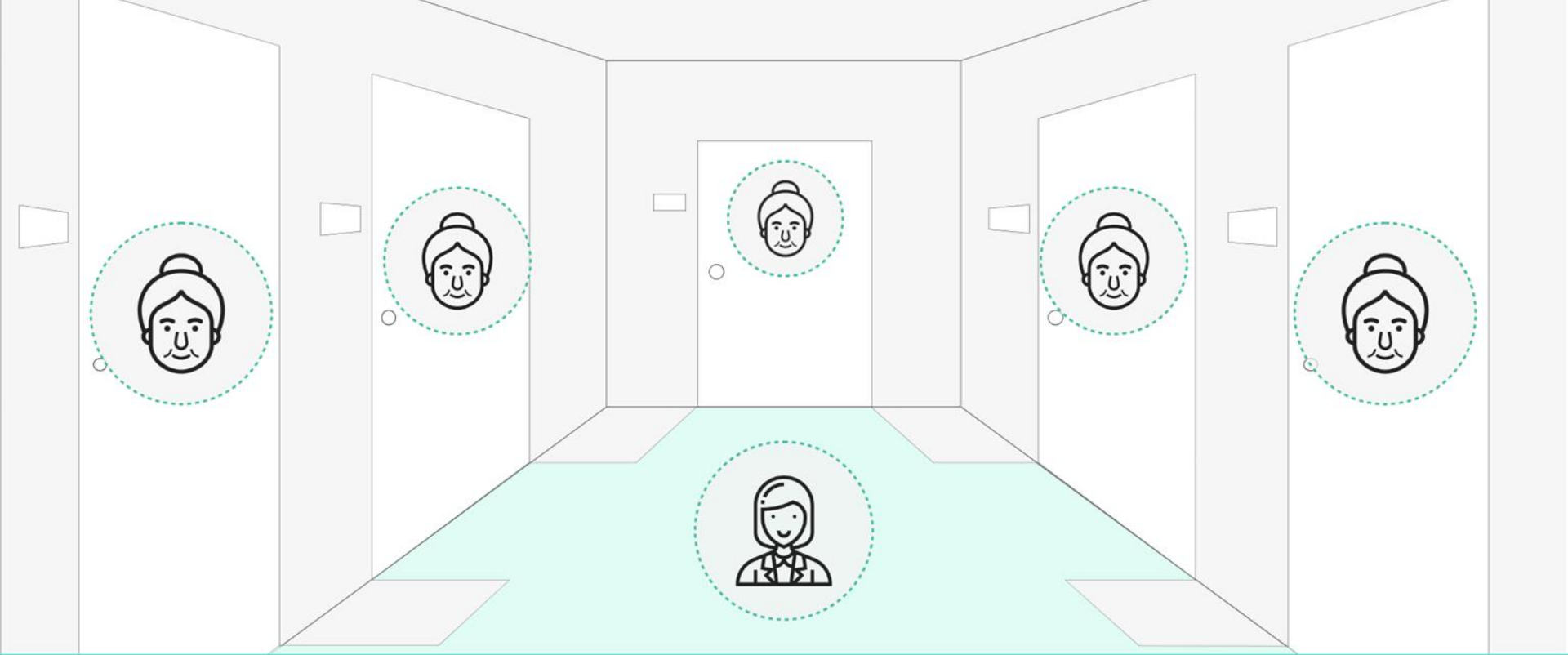
**50%** Increased risk of dementia

**29%** Increased risk of heart attack

**32%** Increased risk of stroke

Why does technology matter here?

**Pandemic** → **Physical\***  
**Distance**



# Voice Communication

Enabling Programming at a Distance



# RendeverLive™

## Themes to fit modern community lifestyle

With new programming options being added quarterly, there's always something for your community to jump into:



### World Travel

Join us each Tuesday and Thursday as we journey around the globe from Mexico to Australia, and even to outer space!



### Intercommunity Trivia

Work together as a team and compete against other Rendever communities. These sessions are a great way to get residents engaged!



### Move & Groove

Tap your toes and hum along to live musical performances and sing alongs. From classic hits to original compositions, these fun sessions will be swinging!

# RendeverLive™ April 2023

Rendever offers a variety of live programming every weekday for you to enjoy and connect with the Rendever community all over the world. Add these events to your calendar and tune in at the scheduled time by simply tapping [Join RendeverLive™](#) on your tablet or visiting [live.rendever.com](#) and entering your credentials.

## Monday

3  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Book Club** 📖  
Ernest Hemingway  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**News Roundup**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

## Tuesday

4  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Travel & Culture** 🌍  
Medieval Paris  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Guess Where?** 🗺️  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

## Wednesday

5  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Primetime Rerun**  
Broadway Magic  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Trivia!**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

Passover Begins

## Thursday

6  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Travel & Culture** 🌍  
History of Golf  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Life Story** 📖  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

The Masters (Golf) Begins

## Friday

7  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Tea & Talk** 🍵  
Traditions & Beliefs  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Jazzy Bingo**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

Good Friday

10  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Book Club** 📖  
Parables  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**News Roundup**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

Easter Monday

11  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Travel & Culture** 🌍  
Famous Artists  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Guess Where?** 🗺️  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

12  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Primetime Rerun**  
Meet a Toymaker  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Trivia!**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

13  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Travel & Culture** 🌍  
Book of Exodus  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Life Story** 📖  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

Passover Ends

14  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Tea & Talk** 🍵  
Swinging 60s  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Jazzy Bingo**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

17  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Book Club** 📖  
Beauty & the Beast  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**News Roundup**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

18  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Travel & Culture** 🌍  
New Zealand  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Guess Where?** 🗺️  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

19  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Can't Miss Session**  
Gardening 101  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Trivia!**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

20  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Travel & Culture** 🌍  
Animals at Work  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Life Story** 📖  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

21  
**Mindfulness**  
11:00am ET (8:00am PT)  
**Tea & Talk** 🍵  
Nature  
2:00pm ET (11:00am PT)  
**Jazzy Bingo**  
4:00pm ET (1:00pm PT)

Earth Day is Tomorrow

RENDEVER

# Family Connection

“94% [of families are] more likely to select a community that offered some kind of technology that **kept them up to date and engaged** in the lives of their loved one.”

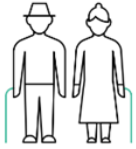
# Family Connection

“Despite family members’ best intentions or desires, **41%** of the 1.7 million Americans in assisted living communities **don’t receive a weekly family visit.**”

Let's talk about:

# Reframing the definition of “community”

## GOALS



Feasibility of long distance component of VR with family (adult child or sibling)



Feasibility of VR with residents with dementia and MCI

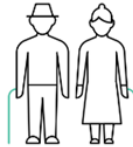
## PURPOSE



Relive



Reinspire



Reconnect



National Institute  
on Aging

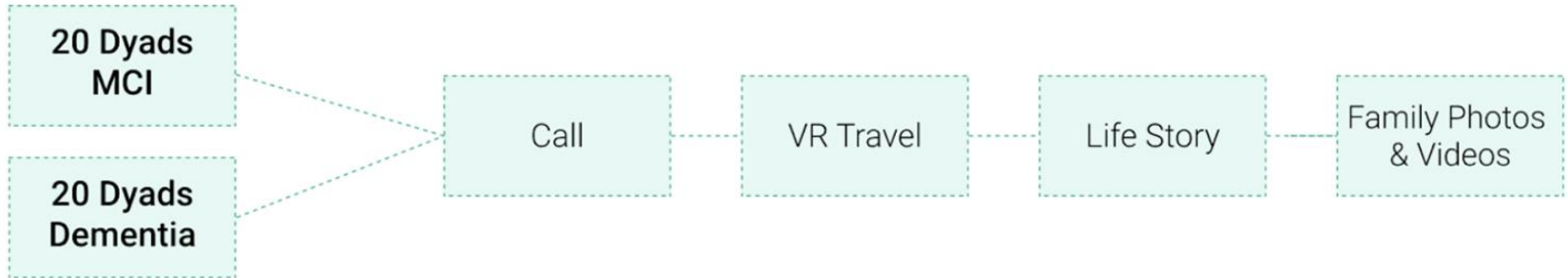
- 2+ year application process
- Grant received in September, 2019
- Research paused due to COVID-19 in March, 2020
- Received green light to accelerate and apply for next phase
- Phase II Clinical Trial began in September 2021

# RESEARCH DESIGN

Family member at home receives a networked RendeVer VR headset to use throughout study



Researchers visit community to assist residents with sessions and conduct interviews



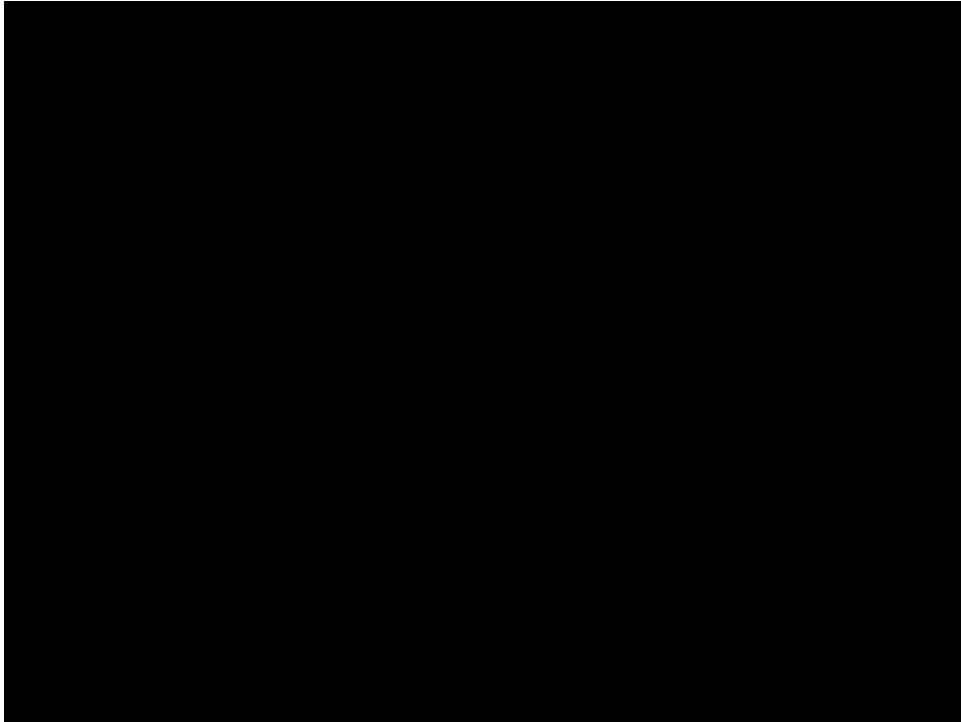
## MEAN QUALITY OF LIFE / RELATIONSHIP WITH FAMILY MEMBER

	Baseline	T2	T3	T4	Baseline to VR	Scale
Positive Emotions	3.37 <sub>a</sub>	3.88 <sub>b</sub>	3.54	3.91 <sub>b</sub>	p=.003	1-5
Negative Emotions	1.72 <sub>a</sub>	1.34 <sub>b</sub>	1.38 <sub>b</sub>	1.26 <sub>b</sub>	p < .001	1-5
Quality of Life	3.11 <sub>a</sub>	3.28 <sub>b</sub>	3.31 <sub>b</sub>	3.14	p = .006	1-4
Emotional Closeness With Family Member	4.18 <sub>a</sub>	4.71 <sub>b</sub>	4.57 <sub>b</sub>	4.67 <sub>b</sub>	p = .004	1-5
Isolation From Family Member	1.54 <sub>a</sub>	1.21 <sub>b</sub>	1.27 <sub>b</sub>	1.22 <sub>b</sub>	p = .006	1-4
Satisfaction in Relationship w/ Family Member	5.00 <sub>a</sub>	5.40 <sub>b</sub>	5.37 <sub>b</sub>	5.33 <sub>b</sub>	p = .057	1-6



# Today's prospects are looking for a lifestyle

\*throughout the full aging process

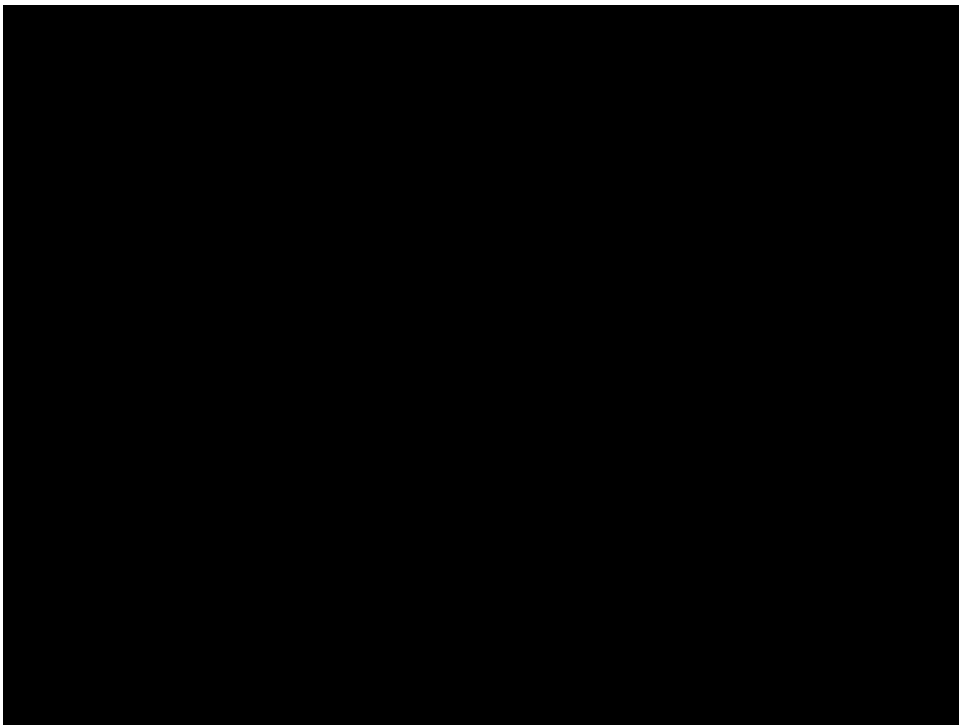


## Remote Family Engagement

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The technology is facilitated by researchers

The conversations are led organically by the family members



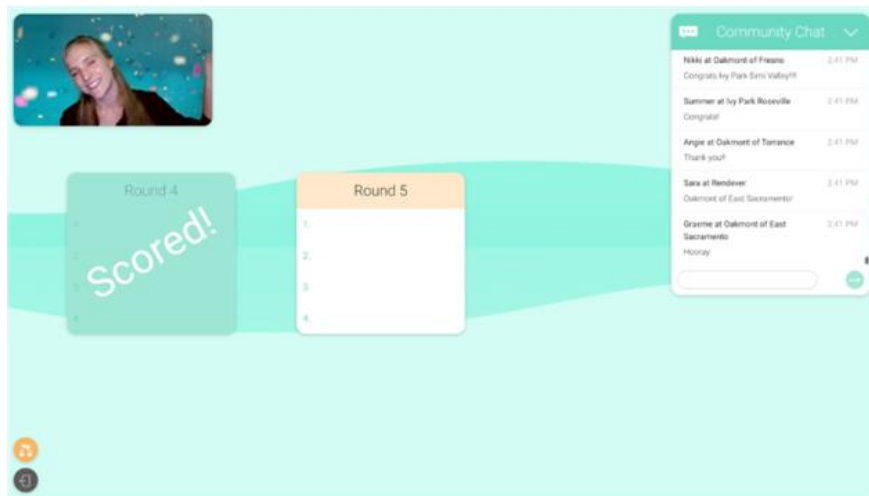
## Computerized Coding of Kinesics

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We found the highest level of kinesic engagement with residents with dementia while viewing their life story (e.g. revisiting their childhood home)

# Other Ideas: Hybrid-Engagement Program Through Technology





11/2: 26 communities together!

Let's talk about:

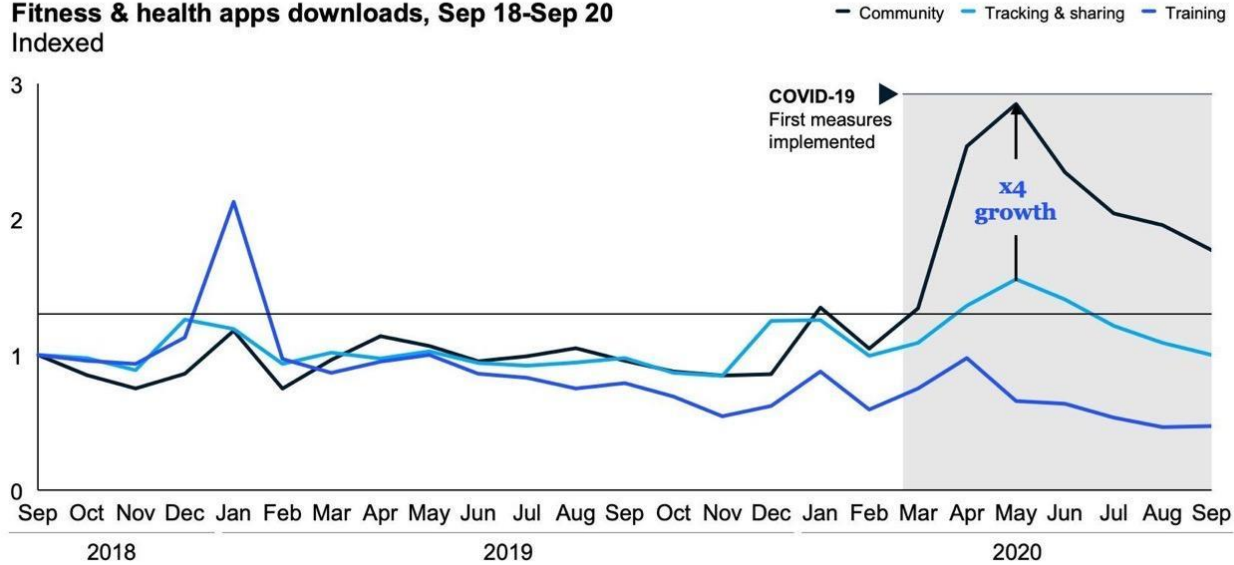
# **Communities Depend on Thriving Individuals**

Exhibit 21

## The most successful fitness apps offer a community

Downloads of health and fitness apps spiked in Q2 2020

### Fitness & health apps downloads, Sep 18-Sep 20 Indexed





# Questions?

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