

Creating a Program to Educate OTs & PTs on Rehabbing Farmers & Ranchers

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Our Why

- In Nebraska, very few Occupational Therapists (OTs) & Physical Therapists (PTs) come from rural areas. They do, however relocate to these rural areas for jobs.
- **Goals**
 - To give these therapists a background in agriculture
 - To create a mindset for treating farmers/ranchers in clinic
 - To learn about resources in the state that are offered to farmers/ranchers with disabilities & disabling health conditions



Initial Steps

- **Find an OT/PT involved in agriculture and passionate about finding solutions for farmers/rancher**
 - **This person will help to create your content & lead the training**
- **Create content for a full 8-hour training course**
- **Look into getting Continuing Education Hours**
 - **American Occupational Therapy Association**
 - **American Physical Therapy Association**
- **Find an AgrAbility farmer that you can do a site visit with**
- **Find a date to host this in a location near your farmer/rancher**
 - **Nebraska rotates this throughout the state and also changes the date from fall to spring. This helps to meet our state CEU requirements for the different disciplines**
- **Learn how you can contact your OT's & PT's in the state (How will you promote)**

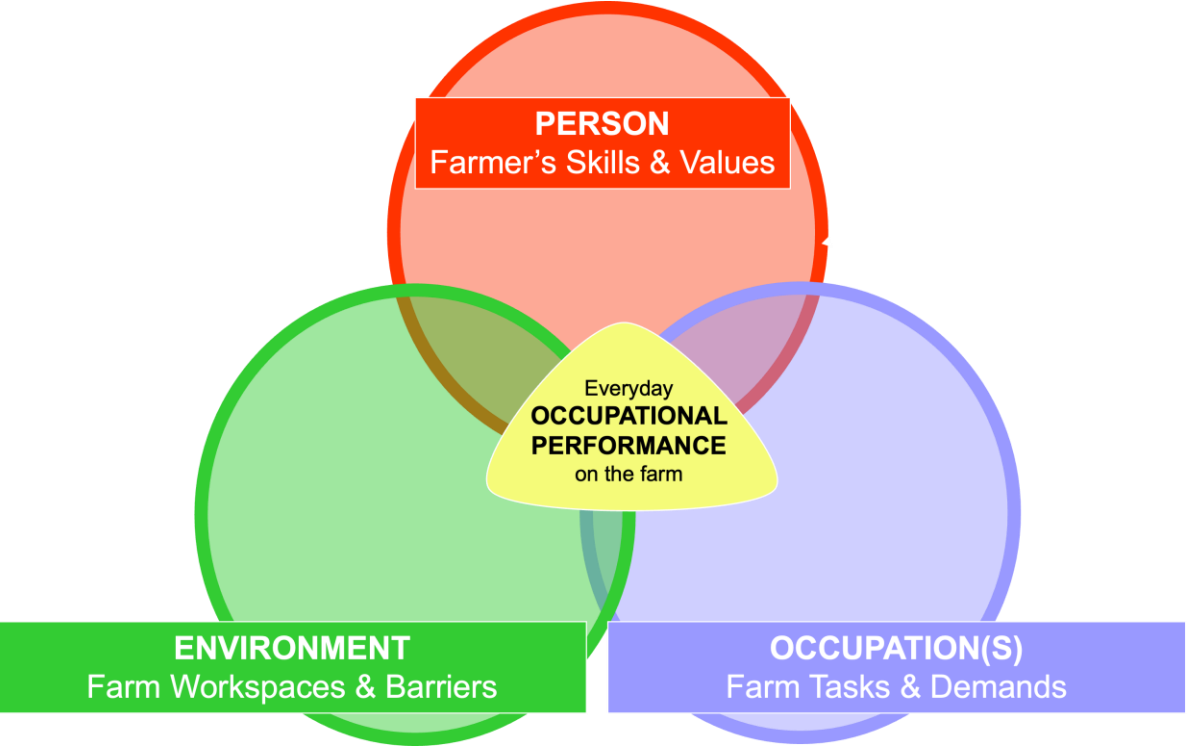


Educational Models & Frameworks Used

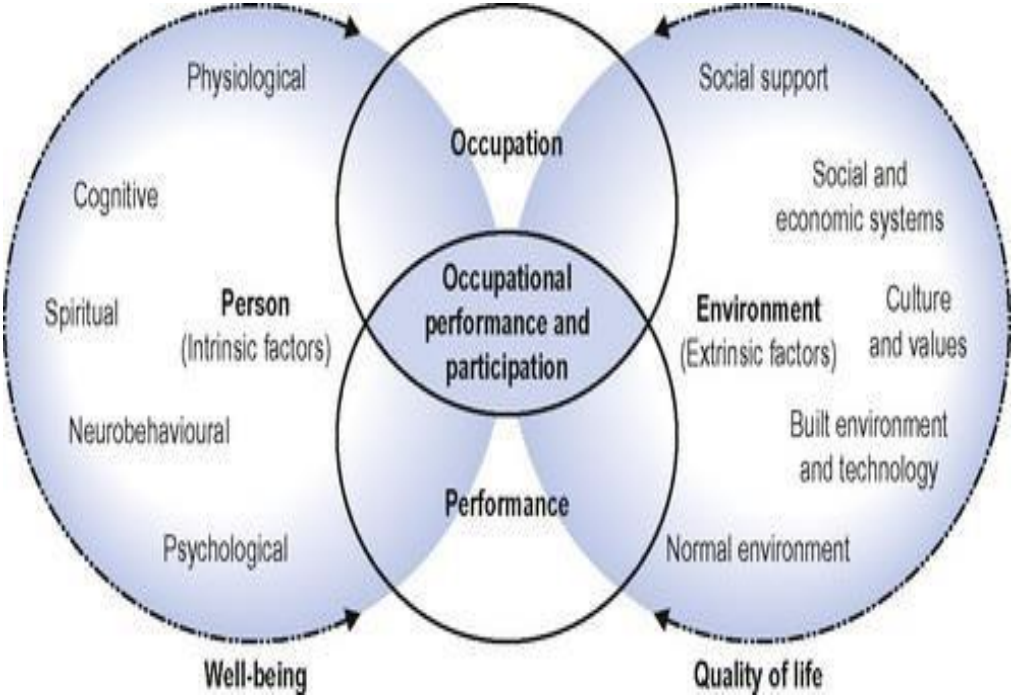
- **Person-Environment-Occupation Model (PEOP)**
 - AgrAbility Staff & Lead PT use this model
- **Human Activity Assistive Technology Model (HAAT)**
 - AgrAbility Staff Use this model
- **International Classification of Functioning, Disability & Health Framework (ICF)**
 - Lead PT Uses this framework



Person Environment Occupation Model



Everyday Life on the Farm



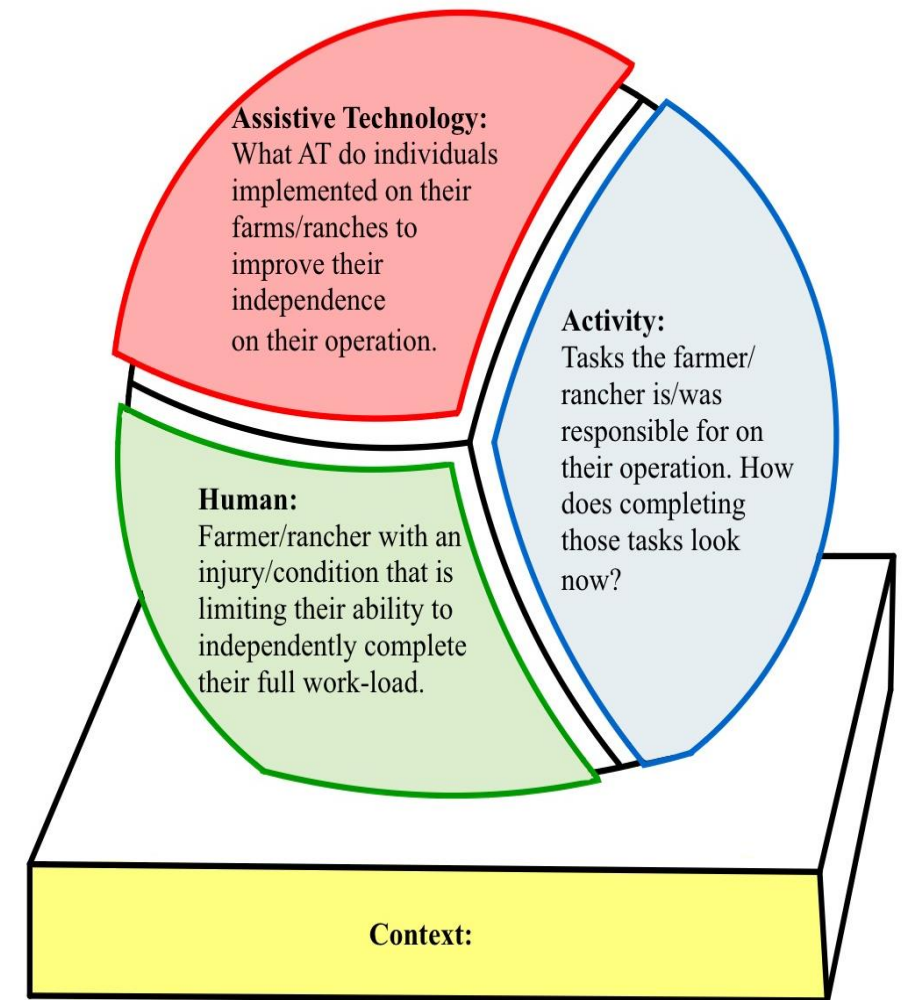
M. Law, et. al. "The Person-Environment-Occupational Model of Occupational Performance: A Transactive Approach to Occupational Performance". Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy, 63, pp 9-23.

Human Activity Assistive Technology

The HAAT Model will allow specialists to consider the following:

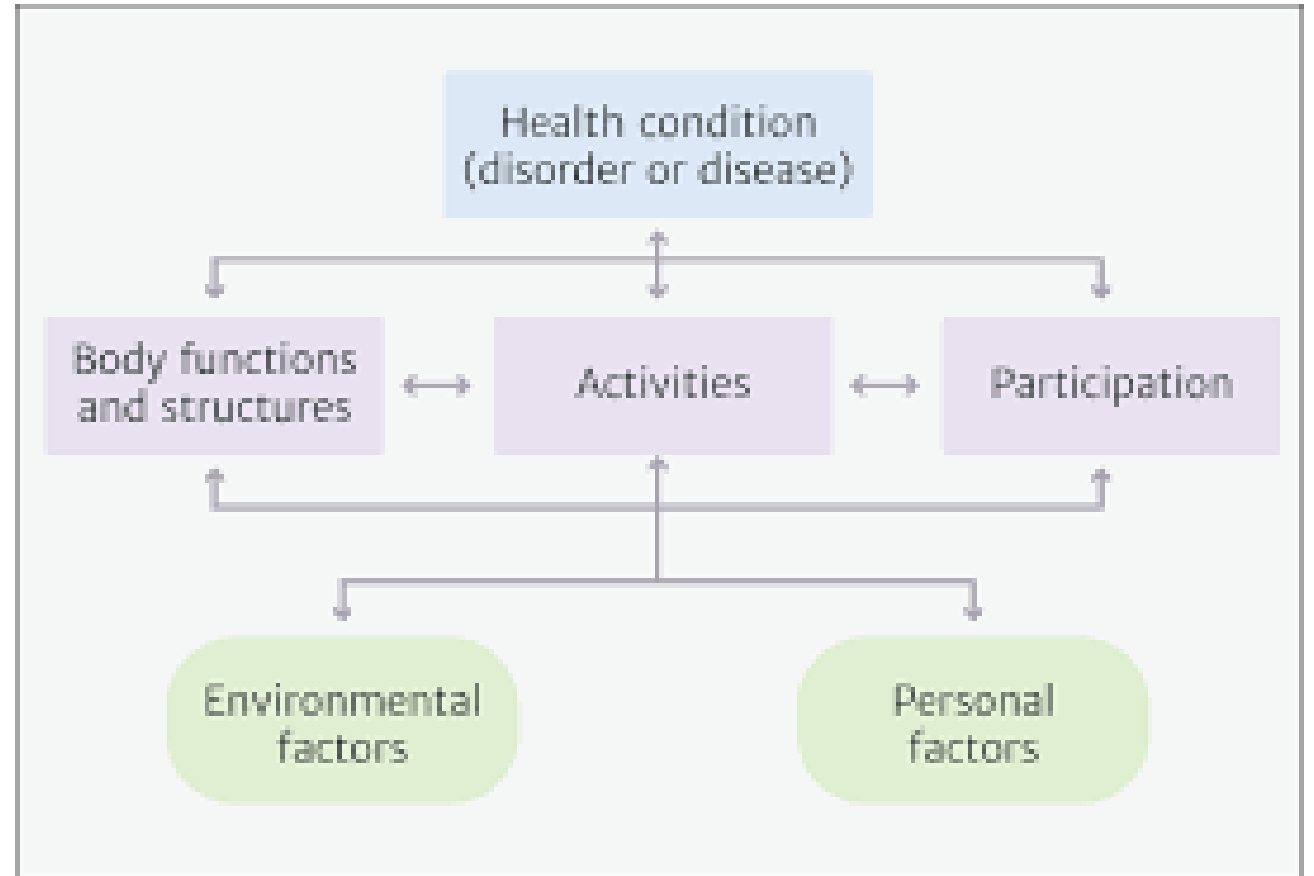
- What movements and abilities are available?
- What the client wants to achieve?
- The client's level of expertise.
- What environments the client wants to have control in.
- What the client's priorities are.

Graphic Created by Occupational Therapy Student: Jesse Coble, College of Saint Mary (Omaha, Nebraska)

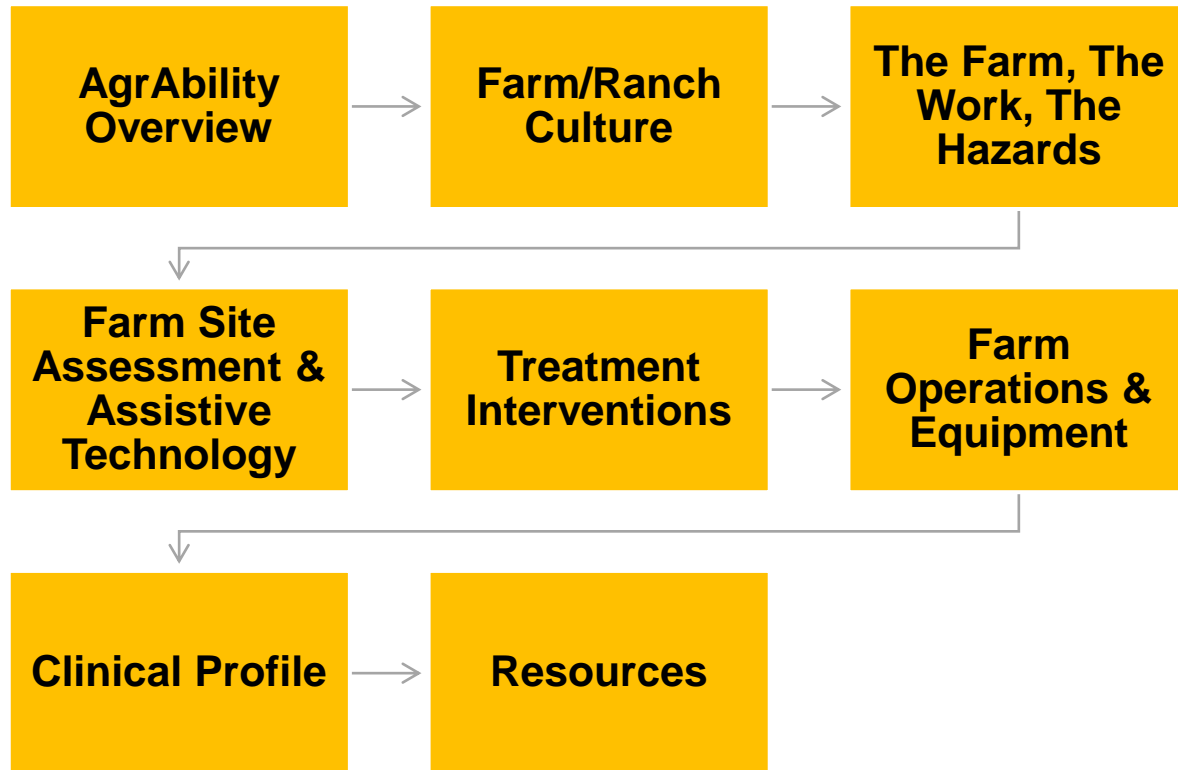


- **Physically:** What is the physical farm or ranch environment like?
Strengths/weakness
- **Socially:** What roles and responsibilities are expected of the individual on the farm/ranch?
- **Culturally:** What are the cultural expectations and norms of the farmer or rancher?
- **Institutional:** What agricultural institutions does the farmer or rancher belong to and how does this impact their roles.

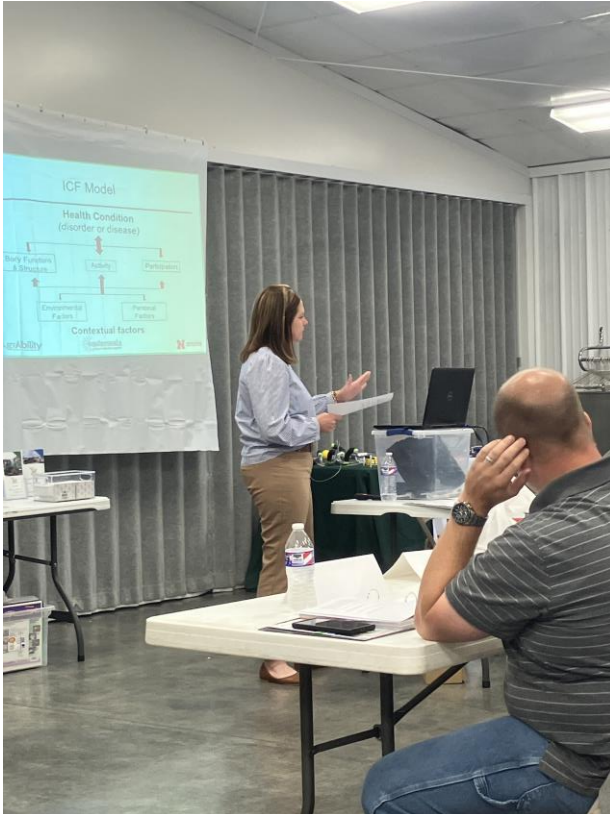
ICF (International Classification of Functioning, Disability & Health Framework)



Nebraska's Content



AgrAbility Overview



Goal

- **Participants will demonstrate an understanding of the history of AgrAbility and the national, state and regional AgrAbility project's service**

Learning Objectives

- **Participants will be able to:**
 - **Describe the origin of AgrAbility and its congressional authorization**
 - **Identify the Nebraska AgrAbility partnership**
 - **Explain the Nebraska AgrAbility services available to consumers**

Farm & Ranch Culture

Goal

- Participants will gain a basic understanding of farm culture and its lifestyle

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to:
 - Understand the difference between a farmer and a rancher
 - Distinguish between agrarian myth and agrarian reality
 - Recognize the stressors that impact farm living
 - Identify rural health care barriers
 - Understand the perception of disability within the farm culture



The Farm, The Work, The Hazards

Goal

- Increase understanding of the farm environment, farm work and the associated hazards in order to facilitate development of effective and relevant treatment interventions

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to:
 - Identify components of the farm, farm tasks, performance activities and the physical environment
 - Recognize the risks and hazards associated with farming.
 - Understand the regulations governing the agricultural industry.



Farm Site Assessment & Assistive Technology

Goal


- **Increase understanding of how to identify occupational performance barriers around the farmstead and how to develop strategies and solutions to eliminate those barriers for the farmer/rancher with a disability.**

Learning Objectives

- **Participants will be able to:**
 - **Understand the process of conducting a farm site assessment and assessment tools that may be used.**
 - **Describe the decision hierarchy for barrier removal.**
 - **Increase knowledge of strategies and solutions to work barriers.**

Using the Decision Hierarchy

Solution	Complexity	Expense
1. Eliminate the task	Low	Low
2. Assign the task to someone else		
3. Find an alternative method		
4. Find a commercial product		
5. Modify a commercial product		
6. Design a new device	High	High



EXAMPLE

Find a Commercial Product & Modify a Commercial Product

- Example

- Add steps to a tractor



Treatment Interventions

Goal

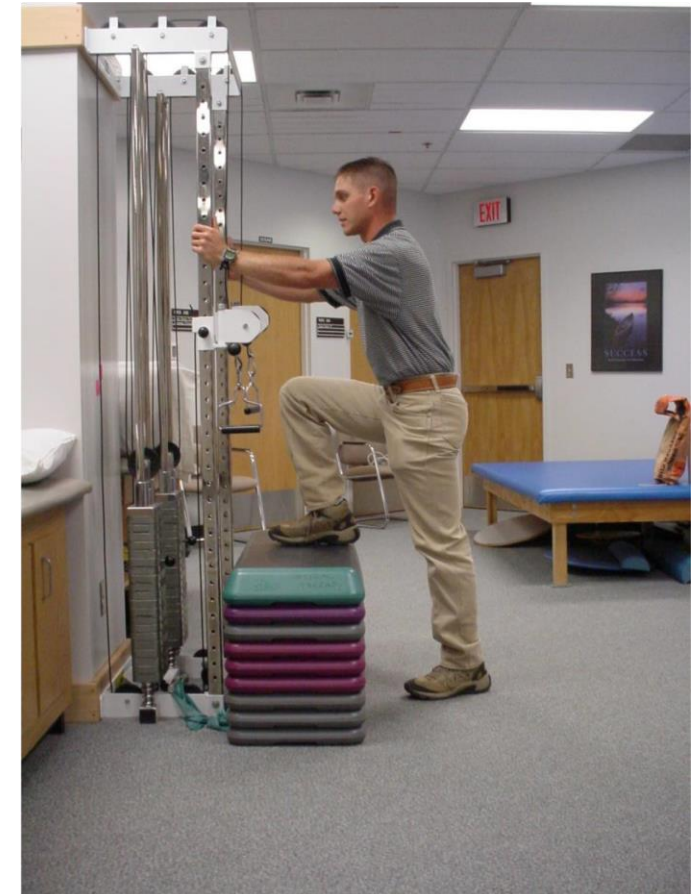
- Assess the therapy needs of farm workers who are served in their clinical setting

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to:
 - Understand the need for client-centered goals and functional treatment strategies.
 - Identify and use assessment tools and techniques to determine the farmer's needs and functional goals.
 - Accurately assess the farmer through interview, observations, and clinical measurements.

How would you help a farmer safely mount/dismount his tractor with steps and handrails?

- Knee replacement
- Hemiplegia



Farm Operations & Equipment



Goals

- Increase understanding of agricultural equipment and facilities
- Recognize potential barriers the farmer with a disability may encounter with the equipment and facilities

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to:
 - Identify farm equipment and facilities used with crops and livestock.
 - Identify accessibility concerns associated with equipment and facilities

Clinical Exercises

Goals

- Gain an understanding of how to review a case file, ascertain accessibility barriers, and make assistive technology recommendations for barrier

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to:
 - Discuss the clinical profile of a farmer with a disability, within the ICF framework
 - Develop a plan of care after reviewing a client's case (narrative history, diagnosis, work goals, etc.)
 - Define advocacy role as health care provider



Participant Feedback

Each OT/PT is given a PRE & POST Test to gauge information gained throughout the day

Use the information from this to change our approach for each training.

**RESOURCES!!!
RESOURCES!!!
RESOURCES!!!**

Share as many as you can, because in their settings they don't get a lot of this.

Other Resources We Share

National AgrAbility Toolbox

Beginning Farmer/Rancher Programs

Veteran Programming – local and nationwide

Farm Rescue

Nebraska Rural Response Hotline

Nebraska 211

Local Health Departments

Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska

Nebraska Client Assistance Program

Job Accommodation Network (JAN)

Nebraska Resource & Referral System

Assistive Technology Partnership

Loan AT for in the Home

Nebraska's Aging & Disability Resource Center

Easterseals Nebraska

League of Human Dignity

Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Central States Center for Agricultural Safety & Health

Nebraska Extension – ATV Aware, Sleep, Disaster Preparedness

Legal Aid of Nebraska

Nebraska AgrAbility Education Survey

We'd love to know
how you think we did!
Please scan our code
and take this survey!



Nebraska AgrAbility Education Survey

THE END!



**THANK YOU FOR JOINING
TODAY!**



QUESTIONS??



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