# Lessons Learned Using Technology in A Rural Setting

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"This gives me the chance to feel connected to others in the state who have similar issues." RW case manager



## Session Objectives: By the end of this session:

- The participants will be able to discuss lessons learned incorporating the use of distance based technology to cover a rural/frontier state.
- The participants will be able to compare the effectiveness and cost benefits for training utilizing a webinar versus live presentations.
- The participants will be able to identify programming options and collaborations available across Federal and State programs.

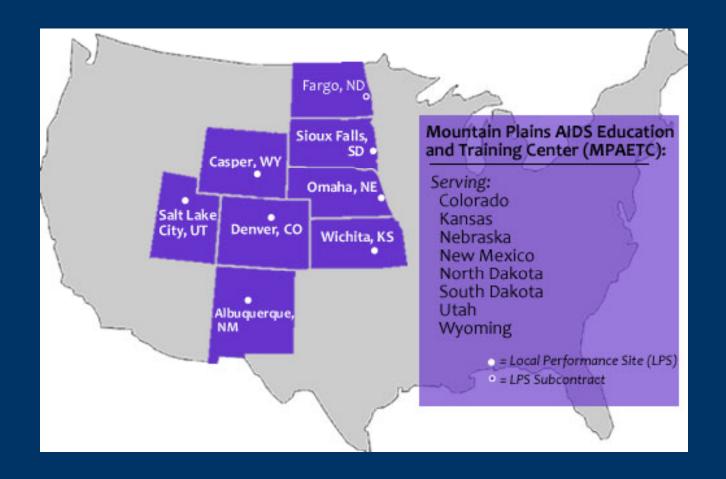


#### **Disclosure**

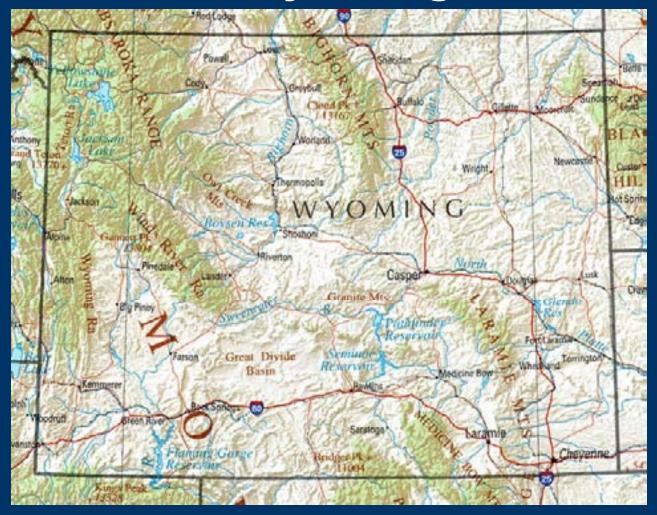
We have no financial ties to disclose.



#### **Mountain Plains AETC**



## Welcome to Wyoming....









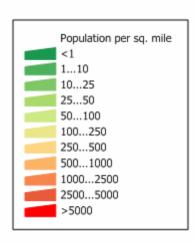




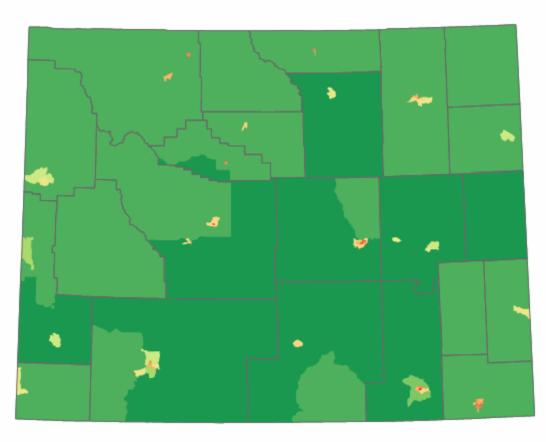




## Welcome to Wyoming....



Source: U. S. Census Bureau Census 2000 Summary File 1 population by census tract.





### How it all began...

- Travel restrictions imposed in 2009
- Cost containment of the grant
- Traveling to "larger" cities, only reaching small percentage
- OPR/ORO visit recommendation to raise the level of "expertise" among case managers - limited availability of health care providers/low access to care

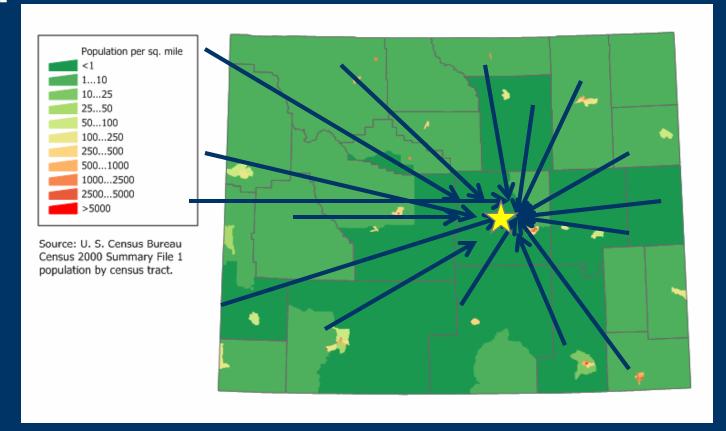


#### The Problem

- Needed stronger network with Ryan White state nurse-case managers
- Nurse-case managers needed increase in HIV knowledge and skills
- Needed a new "hook"
- Needed to keep HIV on the "radar" (quick and easy)
- Justification WyAETC travel to all 22 case managers individually or all-day semi-annual event



# Before: Annual Training in Casper





#### **Benefits**

- Putting the "face to the name" very important in rural culture
- Make connections and relationships for support
- Identify consultation and referral networks
- Instant "feedback" and understanding of message
- Human connection
- Paperwork/documentation PIFs!



## **Show Me the Money – Annual Conference**

- Annual Extreme ID Conference
- One-day conference in Casper, WY
- Direct Costs Roughly \$4000
- 70 participants
- \$57 per trainee for WyAETC



### Case Manager Annual Training

- Average drive to Casper, WY: 140 miles one way
  - To Casper from: Jackson = 329 miles; Cheyenne = 178; Riverton = 128; Laramie = 149
- \$.50/mile rate
- Time: typically a day travel (~2.5 hours one way)
- If longer, hotel for one-day training: \$75/night
- TOTAL: \$215 per trainee + *time away from work*

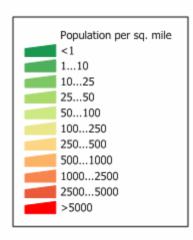


## Show Me the Money – Other "Costs"

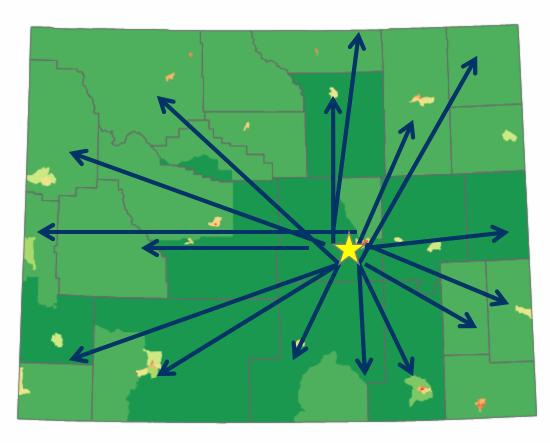
- Logistics and Planning Time & effort
- TIME!
- HIV isn't priority so may need to take vacation time to attend; expenses aren't paid by facility
- Only provider, so offices must be closed to attend training
- IHS and VA limited training dollars



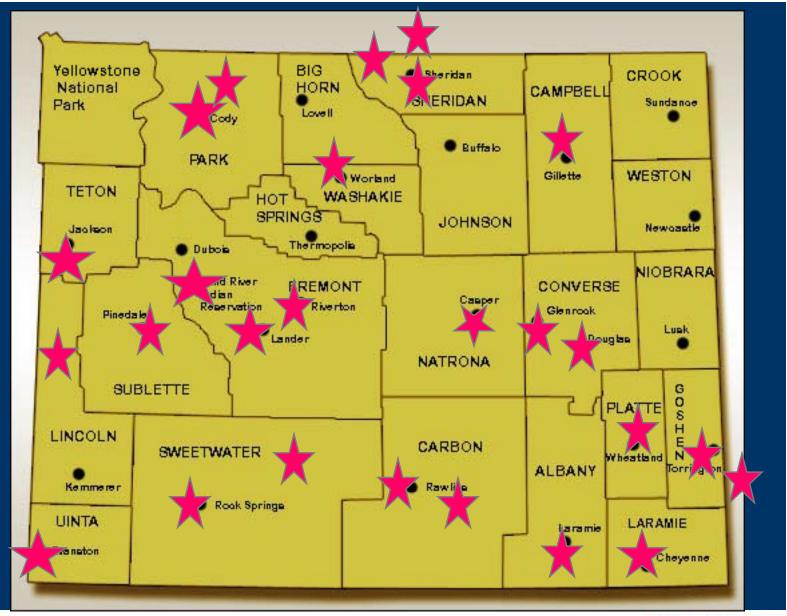
#### **Webinar Solution:**



Source: U. S. Census Bureau Census 2000 Summary File 1 population by census tract.









## **Technology**

- Adobe Connect
- Used phone and web (depending on connection speed)
- Sychronous learning
- Live Q&A
- Slides/web share



#### **Webinar Benefits**

- TIME! Only ~90 minute commitment
- Consistency checking in monthly vs. annually
- Zero speaker travel
- Zero trainee travel
- Group discussion at site
- Opens time for other trainings (other priorities)
- Reaching more people can train 3 people in one offices versus only allowing one to travel



## **Show Me the Money – Web Conferences**

- Phone Line \$.09/min/line \$5.40/participant/webinar
- Webinar "service"
  - Through regional office at University of Colorado:
  - \$1.00/participant + \$25 setup fee
  - Adobe Connect prices range from \$35K\* \$6K per year
  - Wyoming Direct Cost (average sessions:
  - CMC: 16.4 average attendance = \$7.92/trainee
  - STD: 49.5 average attendance = \$6.91/trainee



## Show Me the Money – Other "Costs"

- Logistics and planning time & effort
- Web coordinator time
- Web upkeep
- Paperwork logistics/Administration time



Live Event in Casper	Webinar
Once-Twice per Year	Monthly
In-person	Via web
Limited attendance (\$, availability)	Unlimited attendance
Sporadic connection/contacts	Consistent contact
\$60-\$250+	\$7-\$10
Higher cancellation fee/risk	Low risk/cancellation fee
Weather restrictions!!	No weather factors
No technology/internet requirements on end-user	Needs high-speed internet connection and/or phone
Meet WyAETC and brand	Less "brand identity" to WyAETC
Coordination & event logistics	Learning curve for coordinator
Travel for speaker(s) and trainee	No travel
Can "count" actual trainees	More than one trainee per site

#### **Lessons Learned**

- Technology issues have a partner
  - New/Different system
  - Use of phones
  - Typical computer issues
  - Chaos when participating onsite
- Attendance tracking use online registration
- Insecurity of trying something new (coordinator and speakers) – get over it, find a "mentor"



## **WyAETC Start and Success**

- Partnered with the Wyoming Dept. of Health for training with the RW case managers, monthly webinars
- Live conference scheduled for August of 2009 in collaboration with Wyoming Dept of Health and the Denver PTC, only 17 people registered.
- Canceled conference and discussed moving to a webinar format
  - 4 months later first WyAETC/Denver PTC webinar 76 participants!
- Attempting to bring in the RTC, other states, and across all disciplines



### On the Fly

- National expert in Casper for ID/HIV update and small local training
- Set up a webinar while person was in town
  - Set up within one week
  - Reach places and people that have never been able to reach before (VA Dental Clinic)
  - Able to provide 3 trainings instead of two an additional 16 participants



#### **Observations**

- While offices/teams participate, there is topicspecific dialogue and collaboration
  - IDEAS: provide follow-up cases and discussion points
- Participants are asking questions or attempting to clarify a situation live and engaging the webinar community
  - IDEAS: mix in an "open forum" or case presentation style webinar for enhanced participation



### **Topics Range**

- Specific RW programming information
- HIV Counseling and Testing Update
- HIV Medication Updates
- HOPWA
- Oral Health and HIV
- Prevention for Positives
- Sexual History and Risk Assessment Taking
- Chlamydia, HPV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea, Herpes, HCV



#### **Case Manager Connections**





## **HIV/STD Update**





## Range of participation

- Nursing
- Administration of Wyoming Department of Health
- Social Work
- Advance Practice Nursing
- Health Educators
- CMA, CNA
- PA
- Dental
- Pharmacy



## **Types of Work Sites**

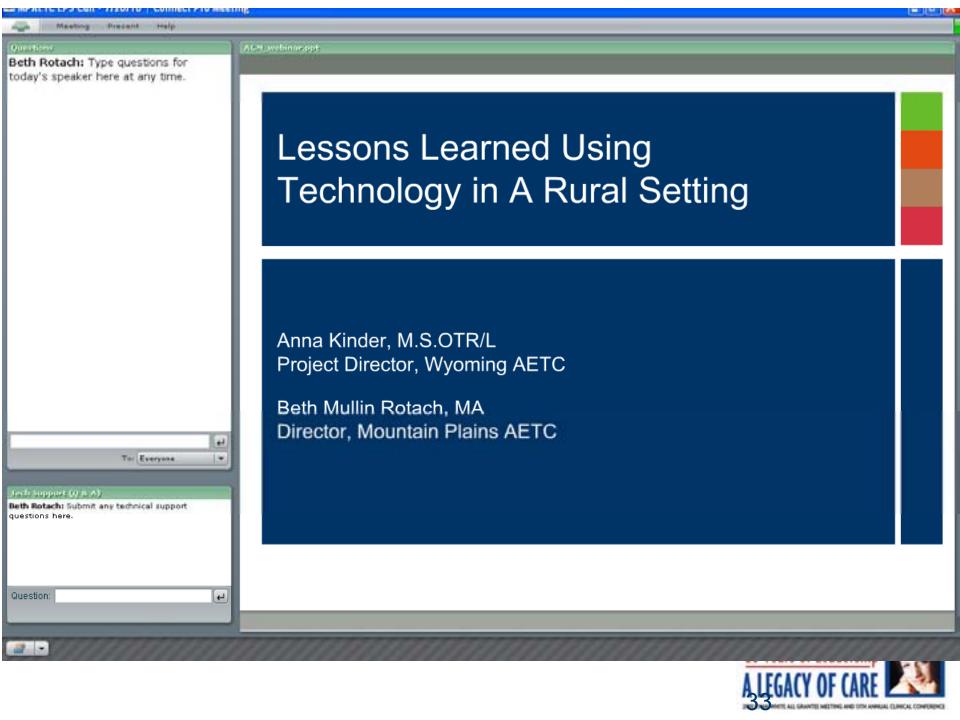
- Public Health Offices
- Family Planning Offices
- VA Clinics
- Private Practice Offices

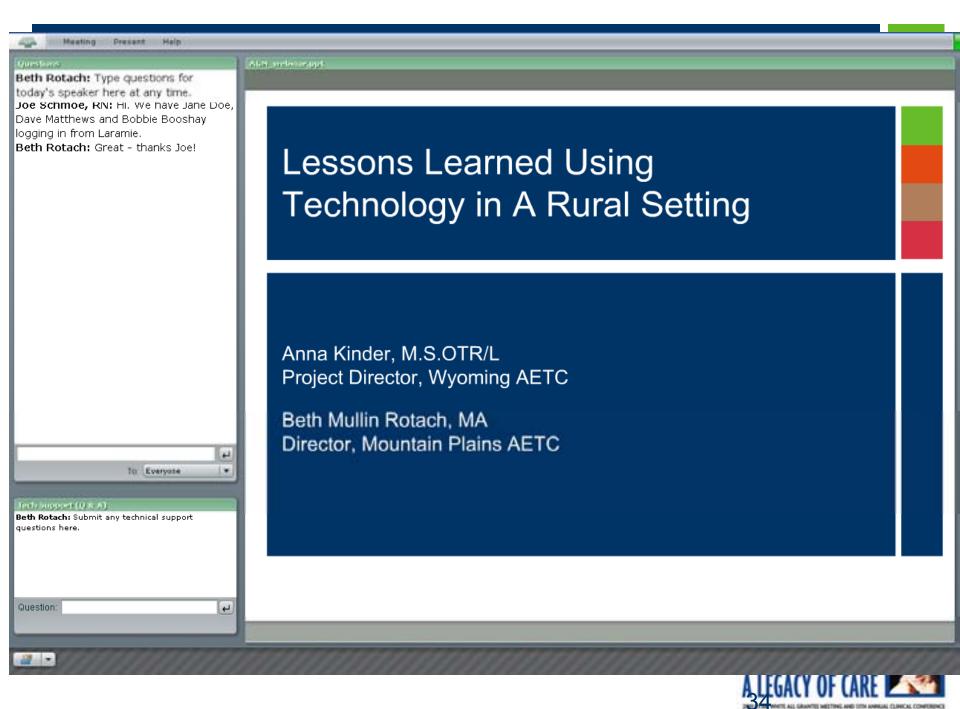


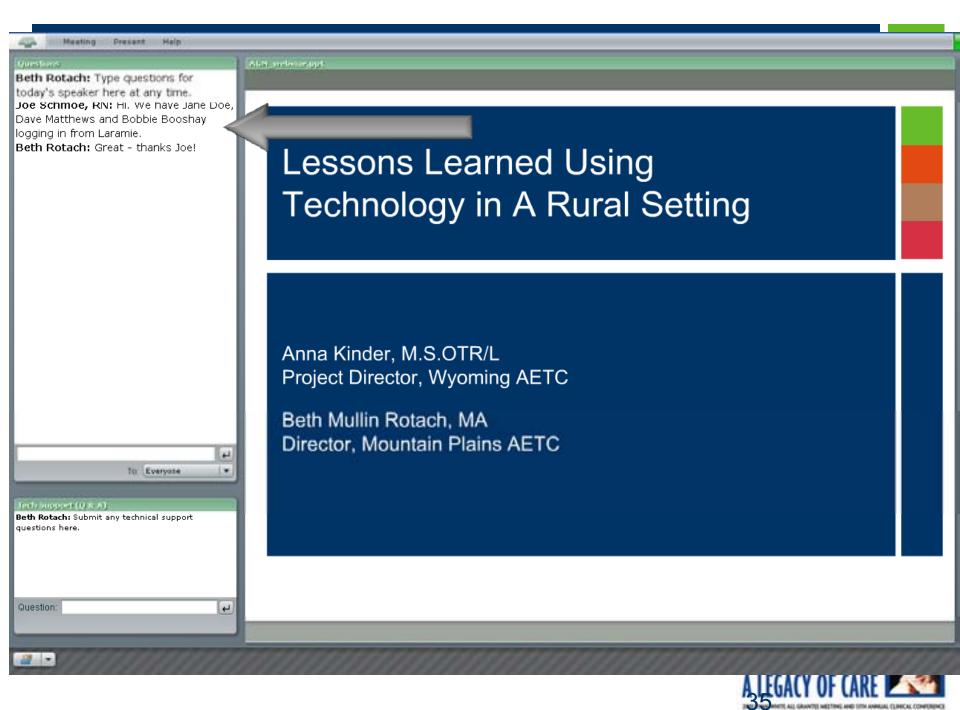
### **How the Webinar Works**

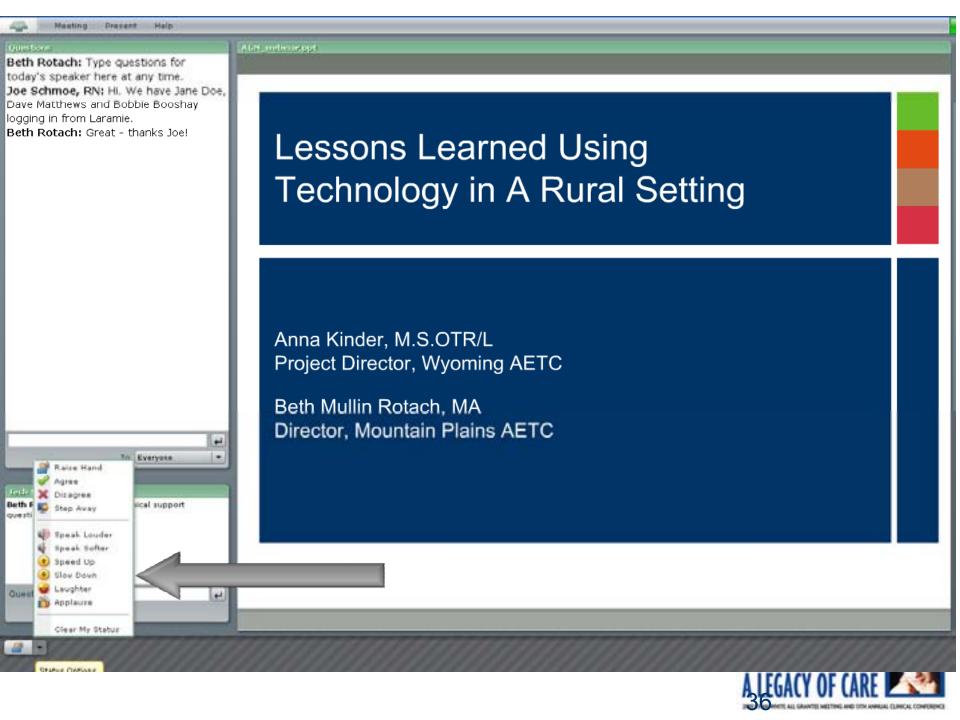
■ Beth takes us on tour

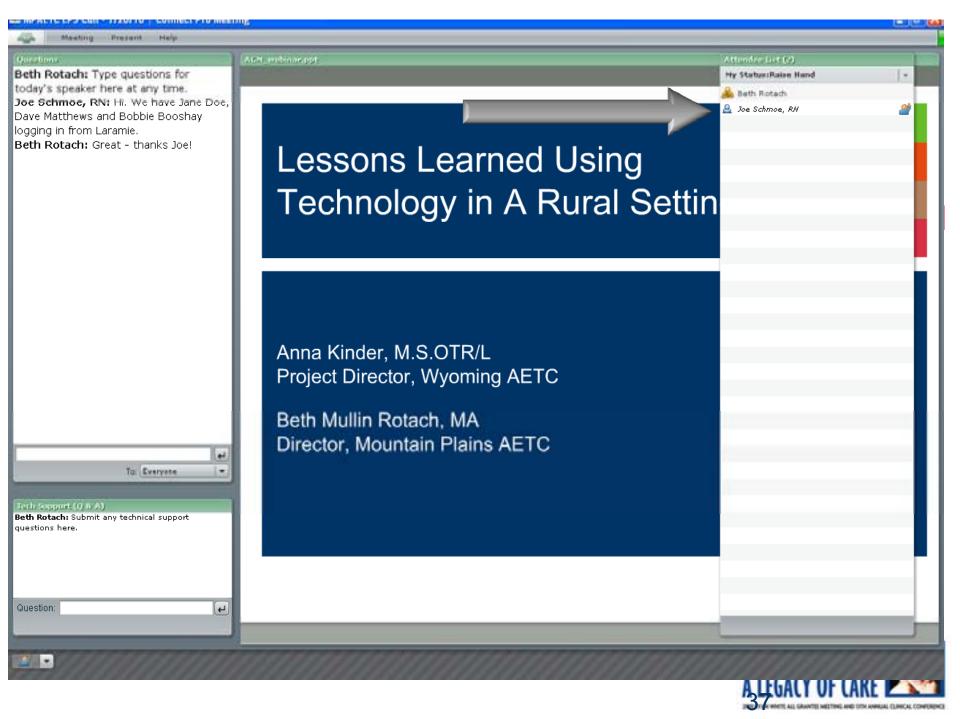


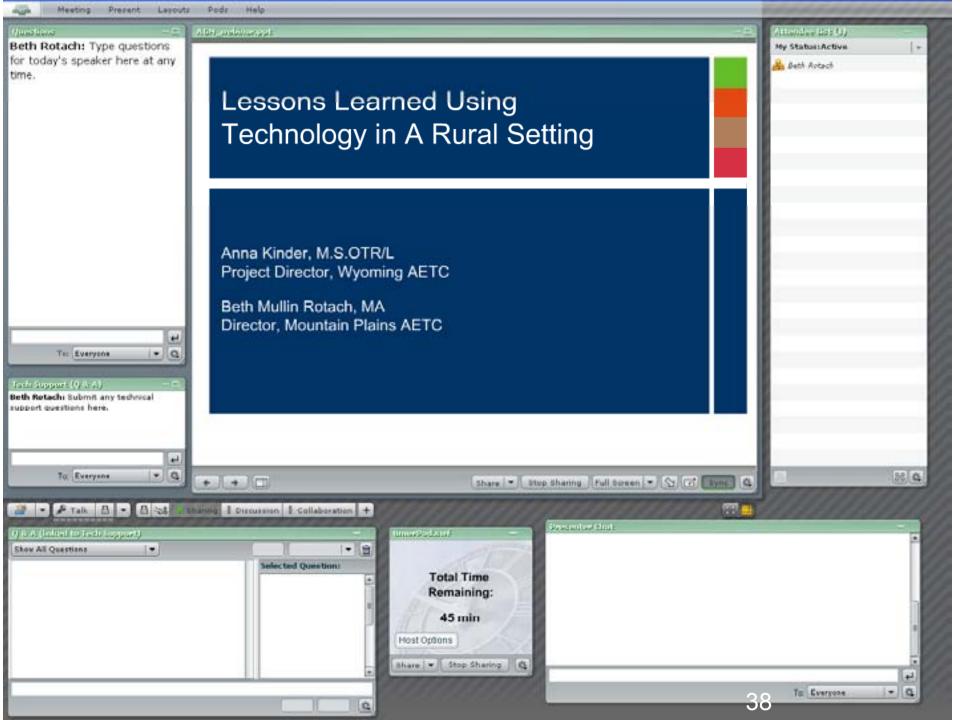


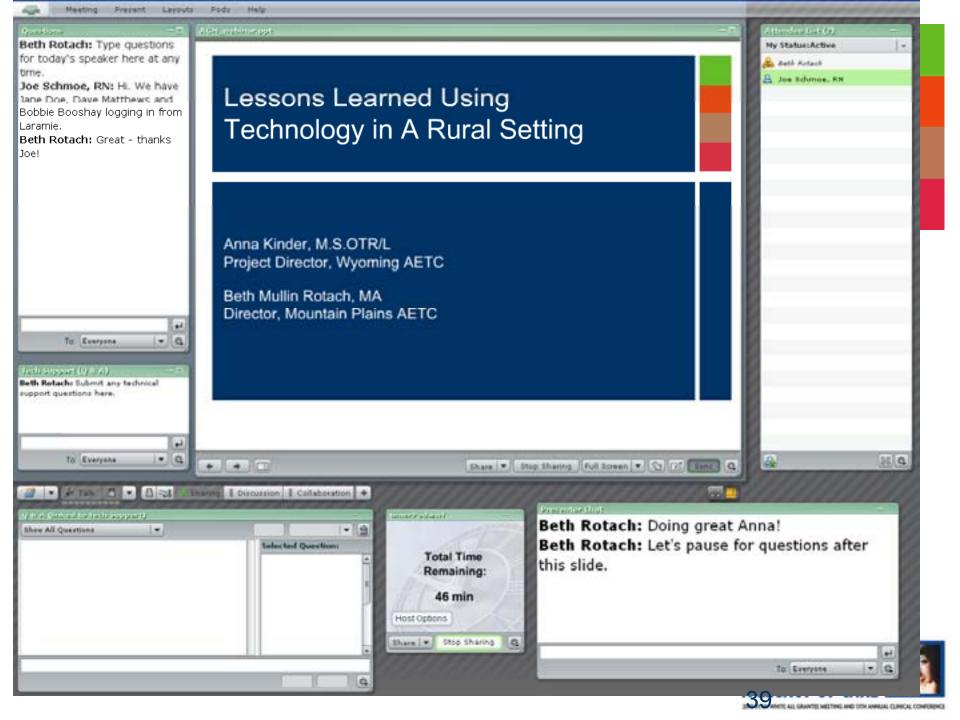


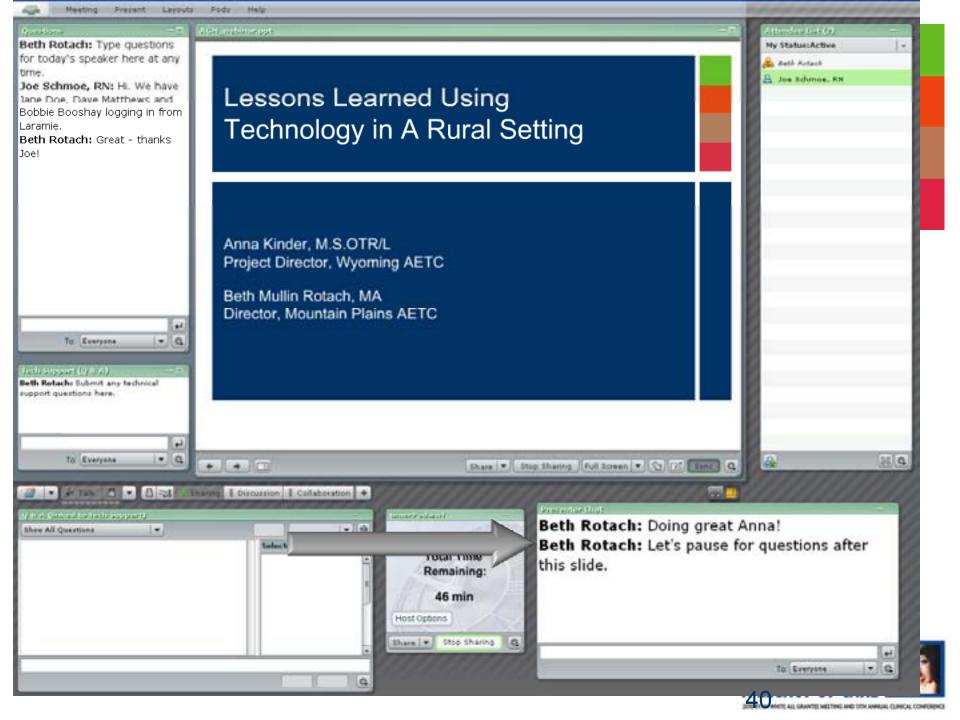


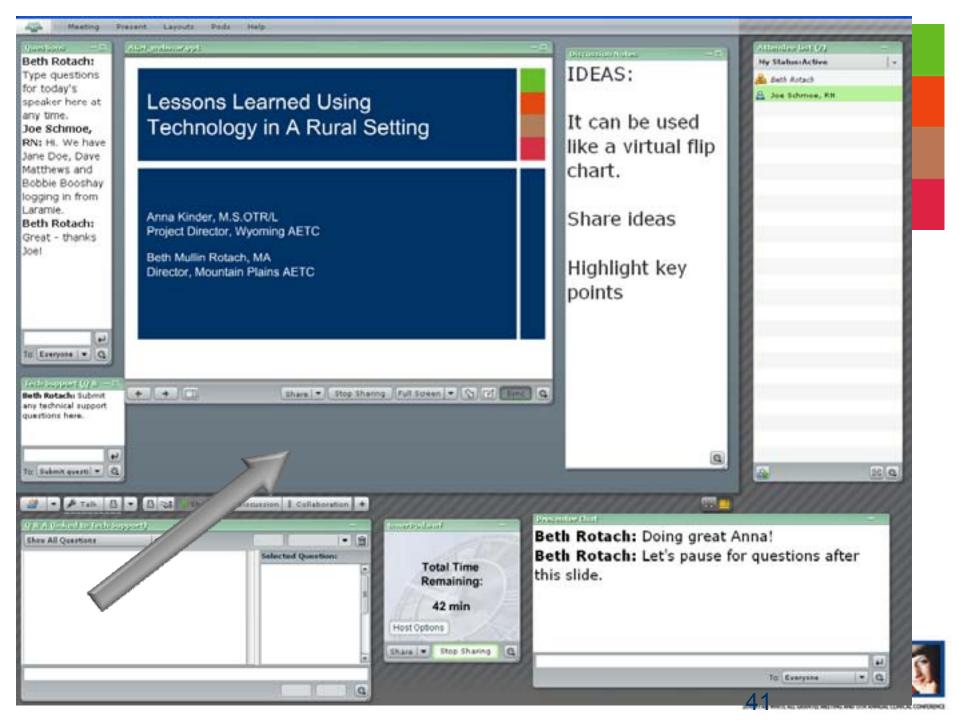


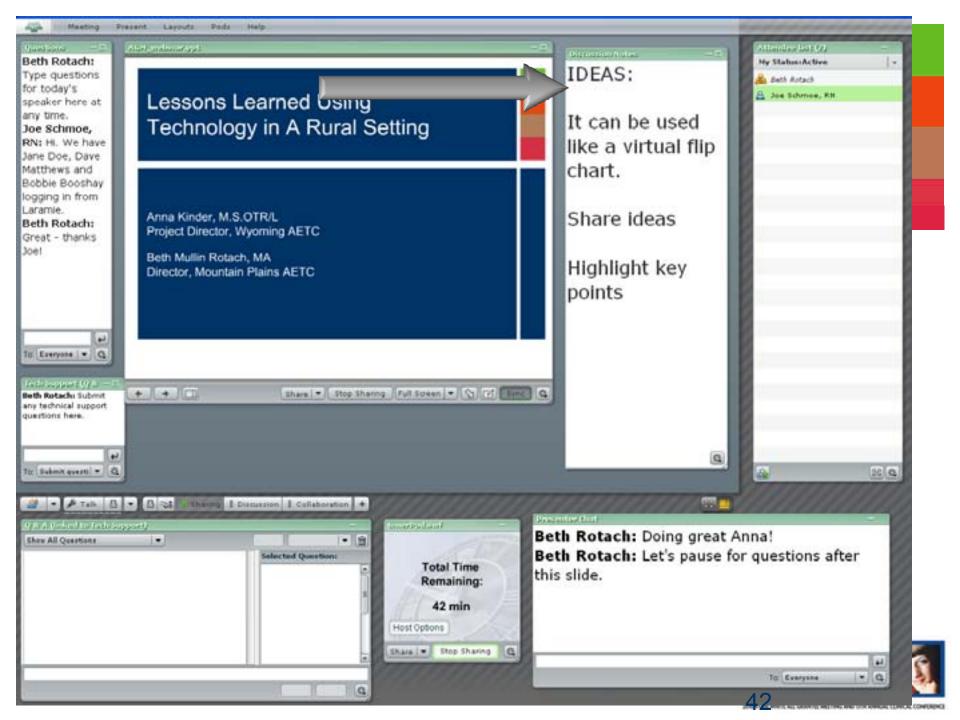


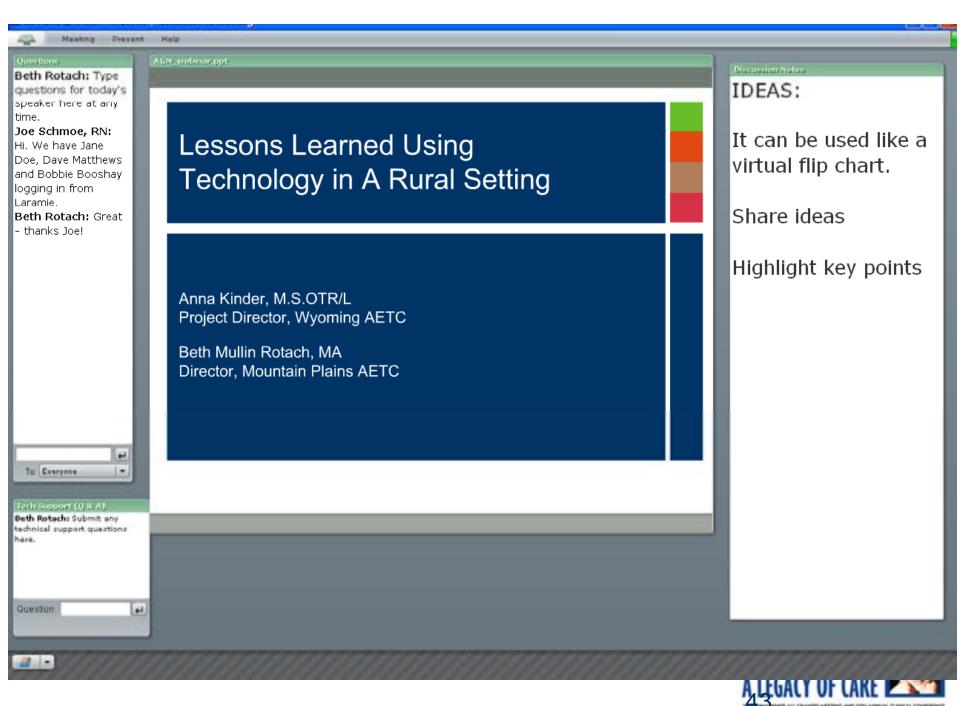




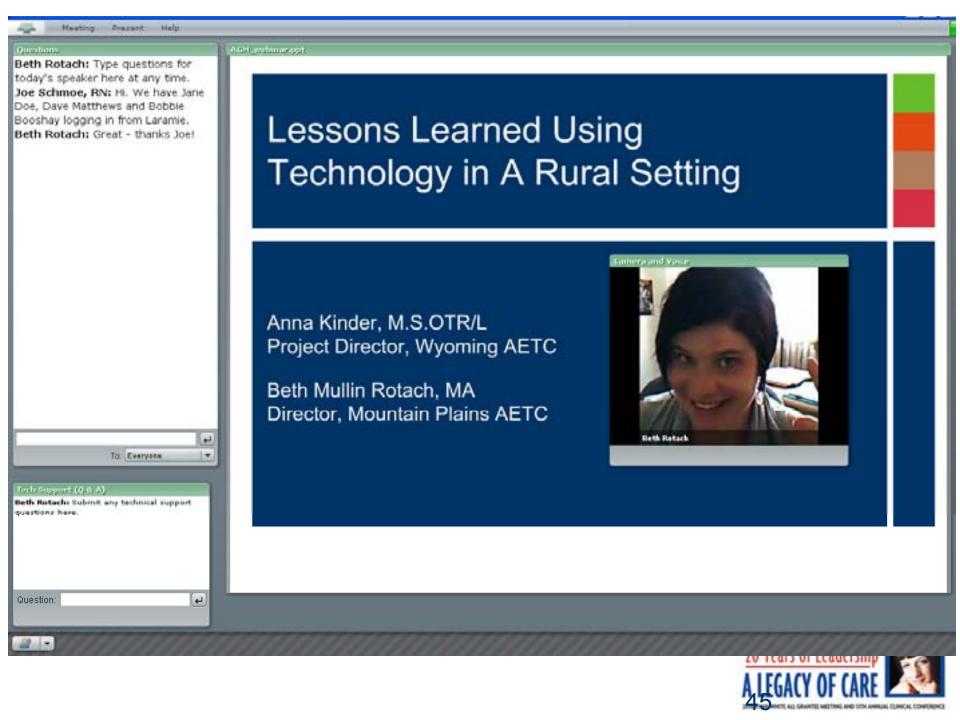












#### **Next Steps**

- Learning to make the presentations consistently a "Level II"
  - Training of presenters
  - Increase comfort level of participants
  - Allowing the "right" time to decide on an answer
  - Incorporate ideas discussed before



## **Key Takeaways**

- You never know until you try challenge assumptions (participation, internet access)
- Great way to reach trainees otherwise may not be able to
- Noticing more engagement in HIV care issues outside of "core" audience



## **Key Takeaways**

- Seen as a platform for other disease/co-morbid conditions (Hepatitis, STDs)
- Greater visibility for WyAETC and services
- Bring in National/Regional experts easily (not a lot in Wyoming)



# **Questions?**



#### **THANKS!**



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