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NAATW 2024

Technology in Corrections

Reaching People in Custody (Insiders) Using Technology

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Corrections Jargon

- **DOC** Department of Corrections
- **VIC** Volunteer in Corrections is status required to facilitate inside meetings in Missouri DOC facility. Requirements: Annual DOC training, not on probation or parole, no pending charges, 2+ years of sobriety. Some institutions call them **PIC** (Partner in Corrections)
- **IAC** Institutional Activities Coordinator is the VIC/PIC supervisor in correctional facility
- **Clearance** permission to enter correctional facility based on background check
- **P&P** Probation and Parole
- **Insider** person in custody inside the correctional facility
- **Outsider** AA volunteers outside correctional facility
- **CCS** AA Corrections Correspondence Service
- **Prerelease** Prerelease Outside Contact program (longer term than Bridging the Gap — contact made 3-6 months before release)

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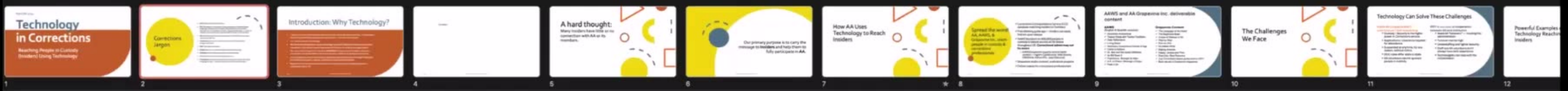

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Introduction: Why Technology?

- I realize I know only a little but hope to learn from all of you this workshop. I have always shared my technology experience in AA service — but am not an expert!
- I am here to ask for YOUR help!
- My Corrections experience using technology centers in Missouri and may not be useful elsewhere. Other Areas may be way ahead of Missouri in using technology! Great!
- The use of technology in Corrections **DEPENDS** on the rules of the state, institution, cooperation of administration and staff, security, platforms & equipment available.
- Are you willing to help a Corrections committee implement new technology? Meet with Corrections volunteers, warden, and staff to ease implementation?
- Many of us in Corrections service have a vision that people in custody deserve to participate fully in AA.

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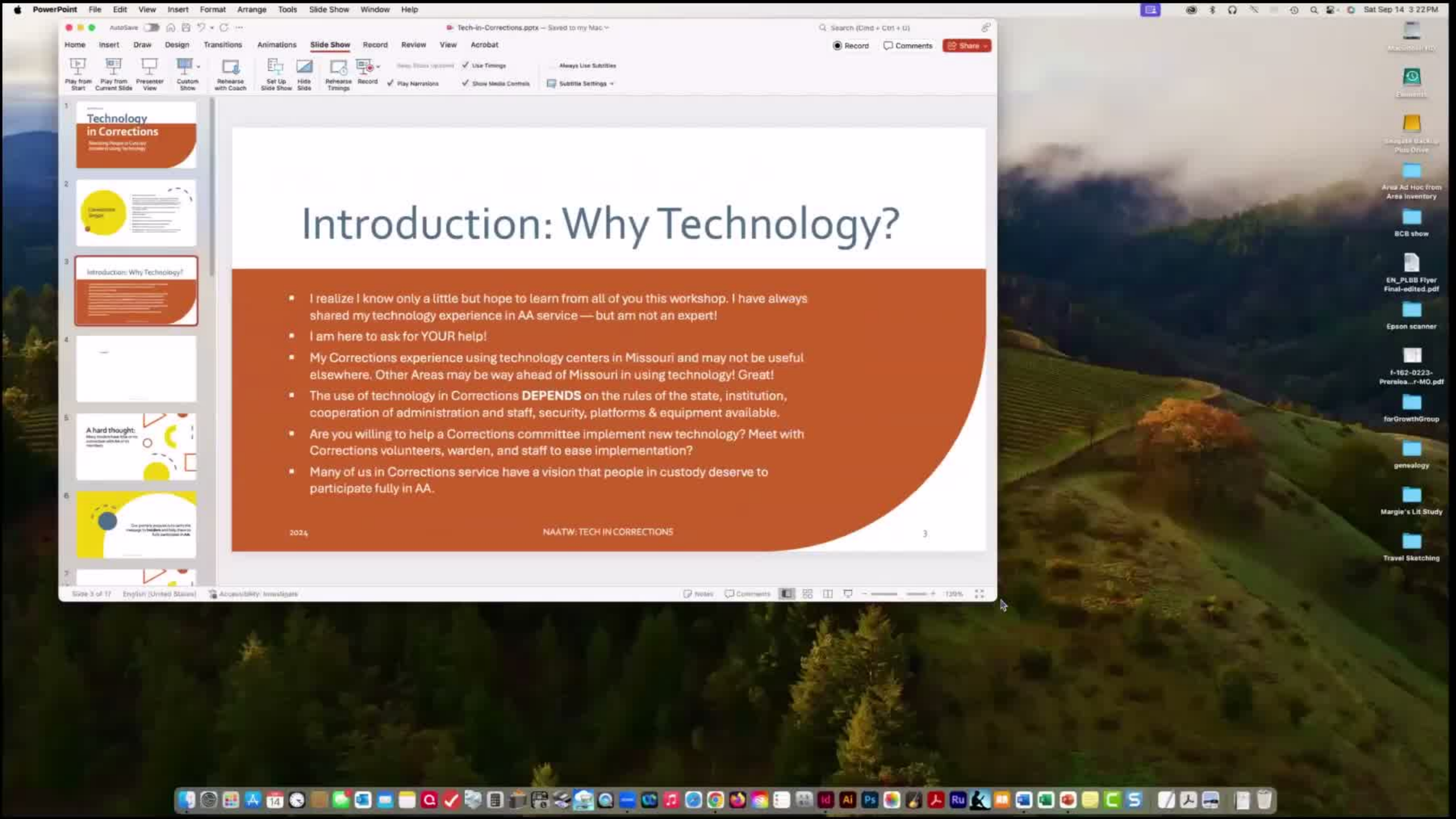
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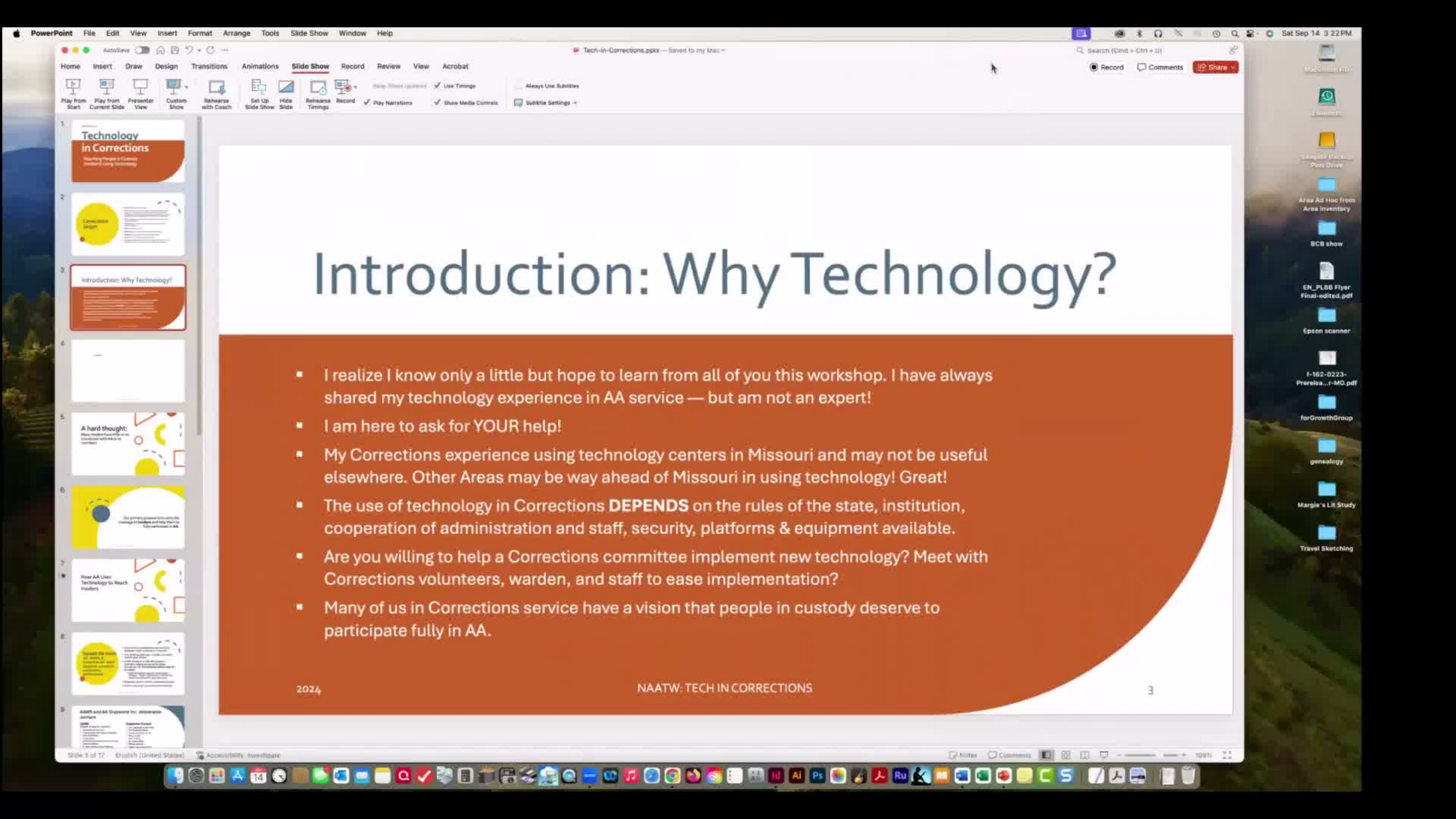
Area Ad Hoc from Area Inventory
BCB show
EN_PLBB Flyer Final-edited.pdf
Epson scanner
forGrowthGroup
genealogy
Margie's Lit Study
Travel Sketching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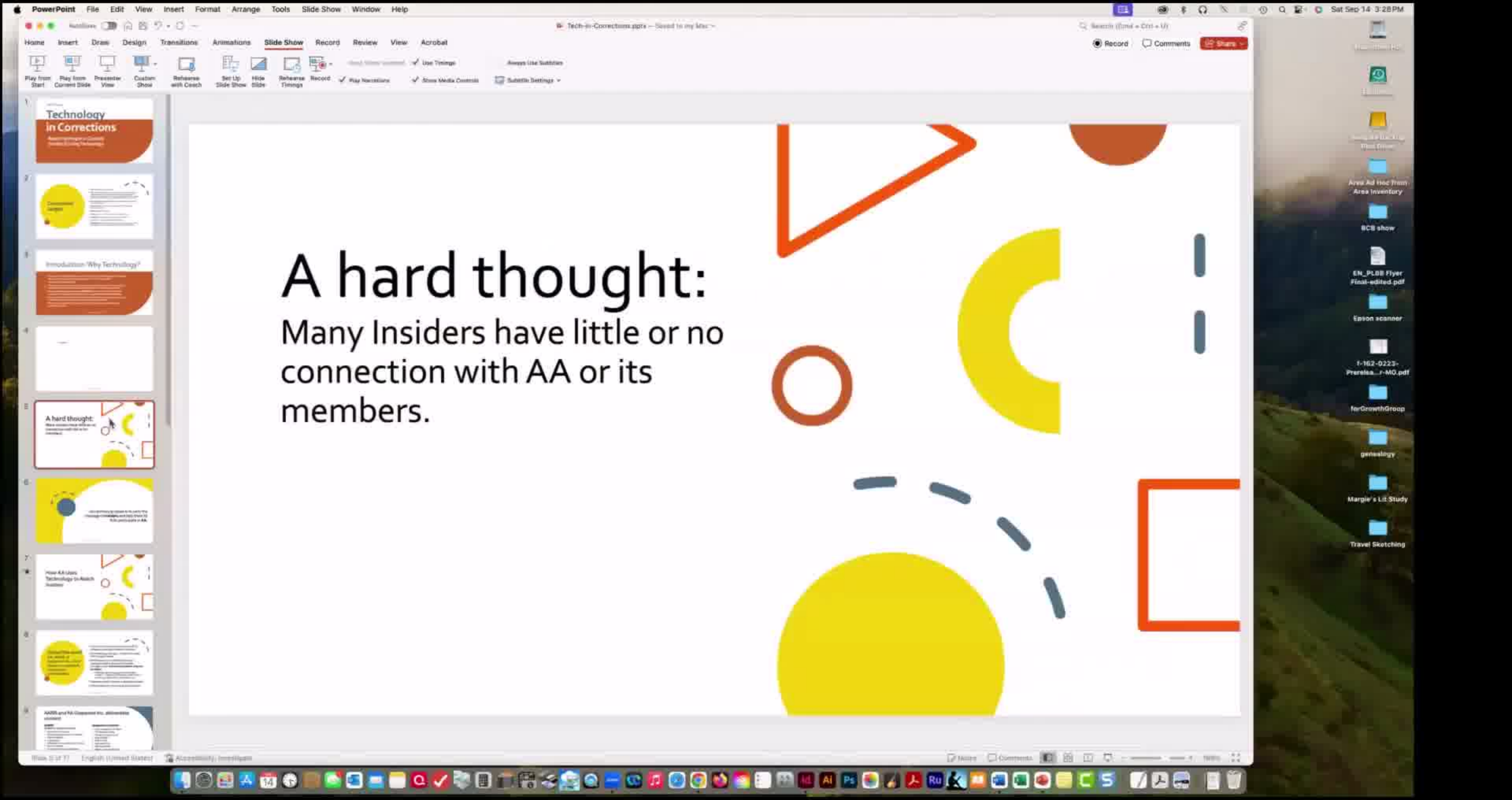
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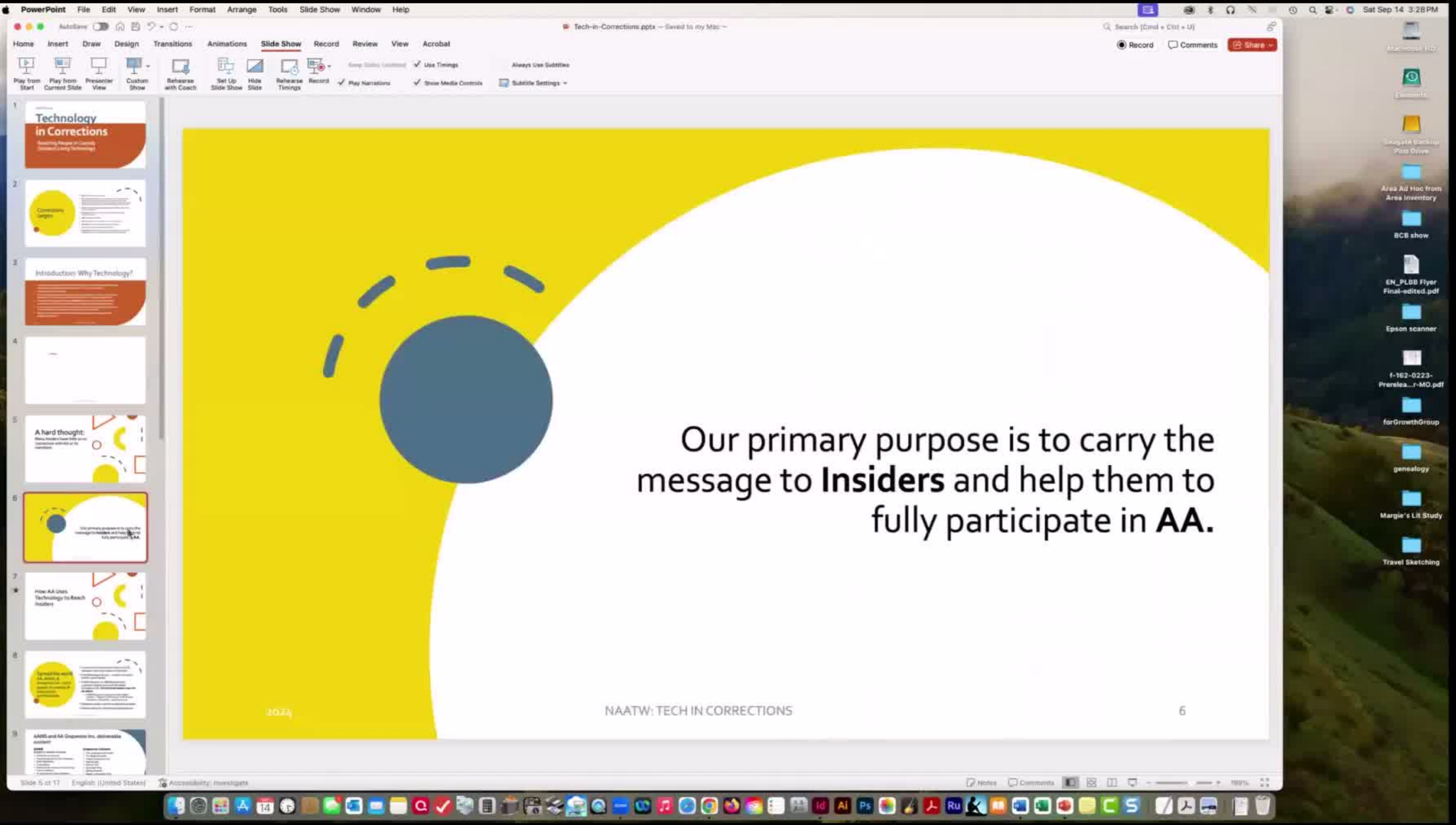
Our primary purpose is to carry the message to **Insiders** and help them to fully participate in **AA.**
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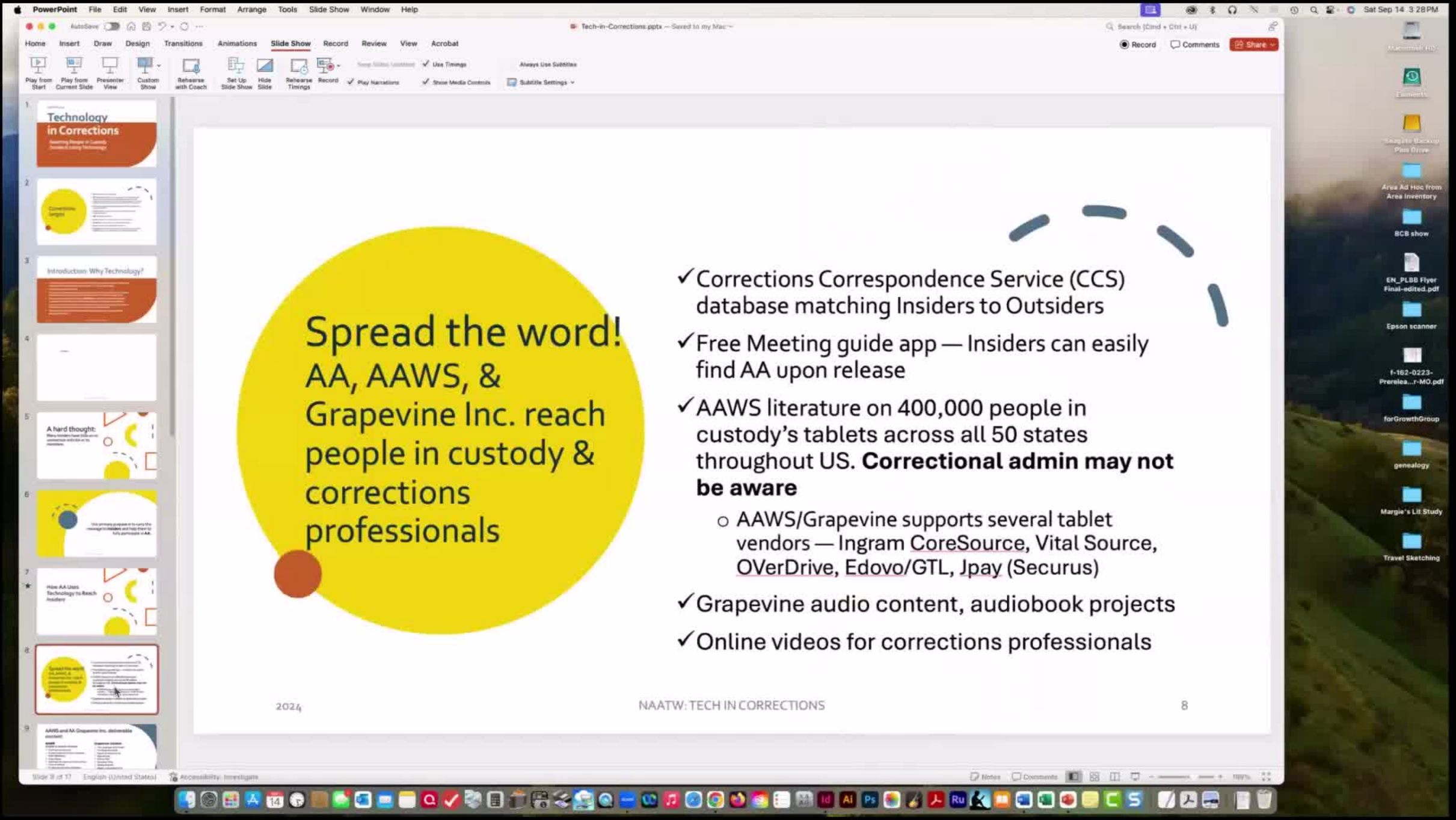
Spread the word!
AA, AAWS, & Grapevine Inc. reach people in custody & corrections professionals
✓Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS) database matching Insiders to Outsiders
✓Free Meeting guide app — Insiders can easily find AA upon release
✓AAWS literature on 400,000 people in custody's tablets across all 50 states throughout US. **Correctional admin may not be aware**
○ AAWS/Grapevine supports several tablet vendors — Ingram CoreSource, Vital Source, OVerDrive, Edovo/GTL, Jpay (Securus)
✓Grapevine audio content, audiobook projects
✓Online videos for corrections professionals
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AAWS and AA Grapevine Inc. deliverable content

AAWS
(English & Spanish versions)

- ✓ Alcoholics Anonymous
- ✓ Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions
- ✓ Daily Reflections
- ✓ Living Sober
- ✓ Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age
- ✓ Came to Believe
- ✓ Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers
- ✓ As Bill Sees It
- ✓ Experience, Strength & Hope
- ✓ A.A. in Prison: Message of Hope
- ✓ Pass It On

Grapevine Content

- ✓ The Language of the Heart
- ✓ The Beginners Book
- ✓ Voices of Women in AA
- ✓ Step by Step
- ✓ One on One
- ✓ No Matter What
- ✓ Making Amends
- ✓ Happy, Joyous and Free
- ✓ Real AAs, Real Recovery
- ✓ July Corrections Issues going back to 2015
- ✓ Back issues of Grapevine magazines

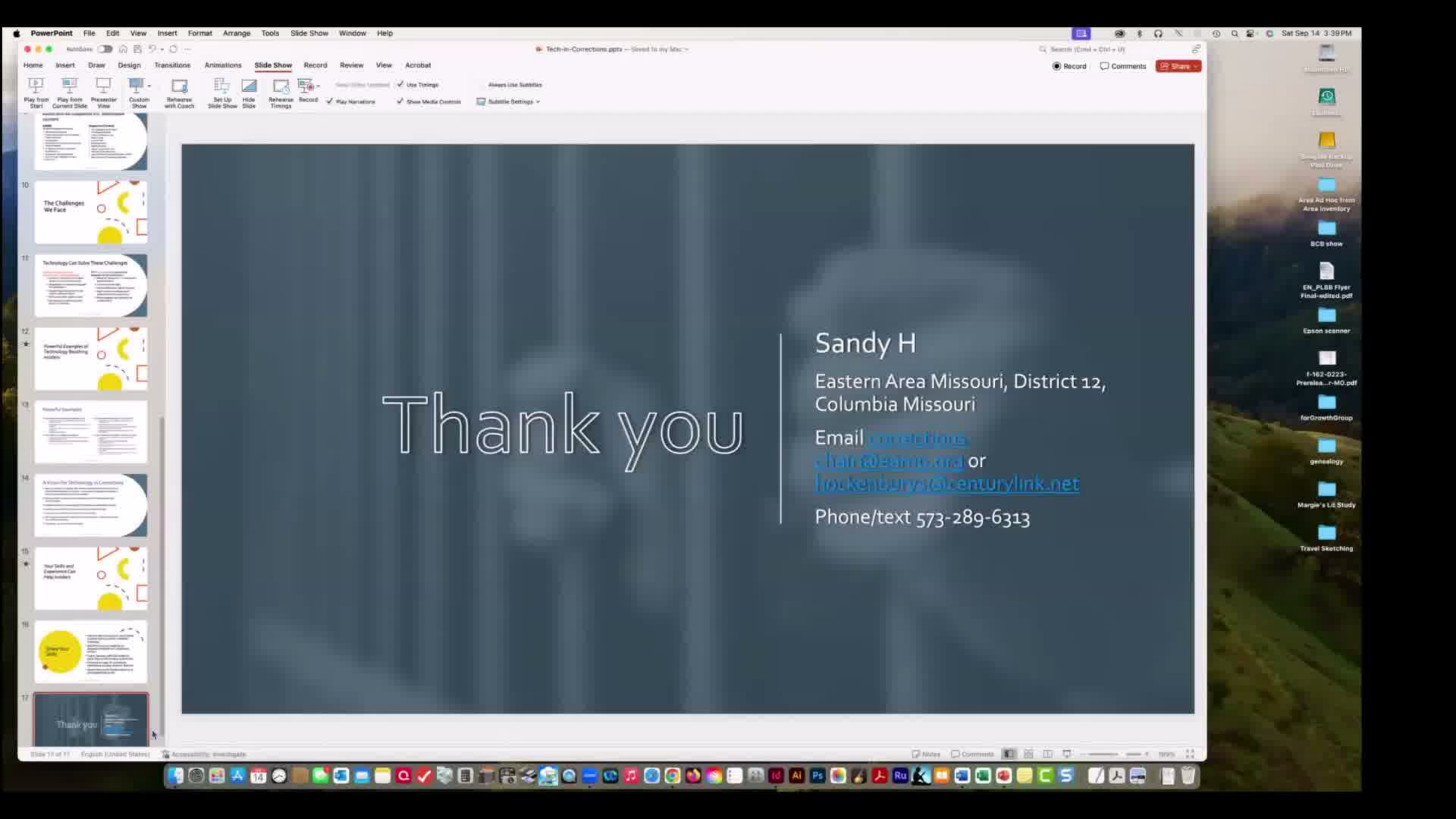
Technology Can Solve These Challenges

Inside AA programs aren't autonomous / self-supporting

- Custody / Security is the higher power in Corrections service
- Applications / clearance required for attendance
- Suspended at any time, for any reason, without notice
- DOC rules differ state to state
- AA volunteers cannot sponsor people in custody

KEY to success is cooperation between AA and institution

- Need AA "believers" — meeting the administration
- Turnover can be high
- Understaffing and tighter security
- Staff and AA volunteers don't always have tech experience
- Technologists can help with the collaboration


Thank you
Sandy H
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Columbia Missouri
Email corrections-chair@eamo.org or hockenbury1@centurylink.net
Phone/text 573-289-6313