

A CONVERSATION WITH:

# Tim Rose

Tim Rose is Lifeplan Institute's Technology Wizard. He brings creative corporate IT and software development experience, along with a sociologist's innate view of what makes people tick, to his role as steward of the Lifeplan virtual universe. For five years, Tim served as an IT administrator and data analyst for a class action litigation firm. He also created case management software in this capacity. Early in his career, Tim was a resource specialist at an Oregon Department of Youth Services center where he was responsible for mentoring troubled kids and their families. He earned a B.S. in Sociology from the University of Oregon.

## What's a Technology Wizard?

Someone who is fluent in all forms of technology – computers, videogames, graphics – and understands how to blend all these aspects in ways that will have the greatest impact.

## Why does Lifeplan matter?

Because it supplies what has been missing for both mentors and mentees: direction and focus. The Lifeplan metaVerse™ is a place where kids and their mentors can meet online and chat. Mentors can help kids create a real-world gameplan, tap into resources and ideas they can use, and see a hopeful future.

## Who does Lifeplan help?

Every individual involved in a young person's life. And this not only supports kids in the present. Everybody has a future image of themselves that they keep in their mind. Lifeplan helps kids evolve into that future person they want to become.

## What's the coolest thing about Lifeplan?

The metaVerse virtual world simulation, hands down. The way the technology drives the experience. Users will create an avatar, an animated reflection of themselves, which will interact with the avatars of their mentors and other participants. Kids will earn currency to customize their own avatar while learning about investing, credit, etc. And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

## What's your role?

I'm the tech guy, and I administer the development of the games and software from multiple vendors and figure out how all the pieces interact. My most important job is to make sure the metaVerse is fun, valuable, and appealing to all participants. The challenge is almost overwhelming but it's incredibly exciting.

## What does Lifeplan mean to you?

For me, this is a way of giving back to society. I can't think of a better cause than helping the next generation find out who they can become. The metaVerse is a real generational change, the next great thing. And there really isn't an endgame; it's a constant work-in-progress. The possibilities are limitless.

## What's your quote?

"Every waterfall starts with one drop of water" and Andy's book represents that first drop. Most kids don't have the support and resources I had growing up, which limits their future potential. I believe Lifeplan to be a never-ending hallway of doors offering ideas and inspiration to those in need of guidance.

## What are you going to do next?

Make the world a better place and in the meantime... make myself a grilled cheese sandwich.