

ERIN DIEHL

IMPROVE IT! FOUNDER & CHIEF "YES, AND" OFFICER

Erin "Big" Diehl is a performer, facilitator and professional risktaker. Her mantra is "get comfortable with the uncomfortable." Through a series of unrelated dares, Erin has created improve it!, a unique professional development company that pushes others to laugh, learn, and grow.

Among her many accolades, Erin is most proud of successfully coercing over 15,000 professionals to chicken dance. Empirical evidence has shown that improvisational training can improve an employee's trust, teamwork, communication, presentation skills, creative problem solving, and can improve a company's overall corporate culture. No one knows that better than Erin Diehl graduate from Clemson University, and a former experiential marketing and recruiting professional as well as a veteran improviser from the top improvisational training programs in Chicago, including The Second City, i.O. Theater and The Annoyance Theatre.

Erin's company, improve it!, conducts workshops virtually and in-person across the country leveraging improvisational techniques to improve employees' soft skills in corporate settings.

Her work with clients such as United Airlines, PepsiCo, Aon, Groupon, Deloitte, Motorola, Walgreens, and The Obama Foundation earned her the 2014 Chicago RedEye Big Idea Award and has nominated her for the 2015-2019 Chicago Innovations Award. Erin has spoken on stages nationwide for all types of events and associations including Disrupt HR, SHRM, HRMAC, and ATD. She is also the proud host of the failed it! podcast, which you can find anywhere you listen to pods!

Due to COVID-19, all of improve it!'s offerings are now available online, and Erin enjoys coming to you in your home office in her business "mullet." (A business shirt on top and a pair of yoga pants and bedroom slippers on the bottom). These virtual events are just as engaging as they are comfortable! She is also a proud member of The Chicago Innovation Awards Women's Cohort and graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Program.

When she's not playing pretend or facilitating, she enjoys walking on the beach with her husband, son, and eight pound toy poodle, BIGG DIEHL.