

# Todd Park

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**Todd Park** is the Chief Technology Officer of the United States,<sup>[2]</sup> replacing the United States' first CTO Aneesh Chopra.

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## Early life and education

Park was born in 1973 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Korean immigrant parents. His father was a chemical engineer, who reportedly had "more patents than anybody in Dow Chemical's history except for Dr. Dow himself."<sup>[3]</sup> He graduated from the Columbus Academy in 1990.<sup>[4]</sup> In that year he was named a Presidential Scholar.<sup>[4]</sup> He attended Harvard as an economics major where he met his future wife and mother of his two children, Amy.<sup>[1]</sup> He was an outstanding student throughout his career, and graduated with a magna cum laude and a Phi Beta Kappa.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Athenahealth, Castlight, and Ashoka

Prior to his career in government, Park was the co-founder of two successful health information technology companies. He began his business career as a consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton.

Park co-founded athenahealth with Jonathan S. Bush in 1997 at the age of 24.<sup>[1]</sup> In one interview, he noted that his goal at athenahealth was "Healthcare IT, not technology sitting there naked and expensive and not very effective and efficient at actually helping, but technology utilized to help re-architect the business and care processes in healthcare to make it more efficient and effective and to help consumer-directed healthcare and pay-for-performance move along more expeditiously."<sup>[3]</sup>

In 2008 he co-founded Castlight Health, named by the Wall Street Journal as the #1 venture-backed company in America for 2011.<sup>[6]</sup>

**Todd Y. Park**



**2nd Chief Technology Officer of the United States**

**Incumbent**

**Assumed office**

1 March 2012

**President** Barack Obama

**Preceded by** Aneesh Chopra

**Chief Technology Officer, United States  
Department of Health and Human Services**

**In office**

June 2009<sup>[1]</sup> – March 2012

**President** Barack Obama

**Personal details**

**Born** 1973<sup>[1]</sup>

Salt Lake City, Utah

**Alma mater** Harvard<sup>[1]</sup>

Park also served a volunteer senior advisor to Ashoka, a global incubator of social entrepreneurs, where he helped start a venture called Healthpoint Services, which brings affordable clean water, drugs, diagnostics, and telehealth services to rural villages in India. In 2011, Healthpoint Services won the Sankalp Award for the “most innovative and promising health-oriented social enterprise in India.”<sup>[7]</sup>

## Department of Health and Human Services

In 2009, he was approached by Bill Corr to be the chief technology officer of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.<sup>[1]</sup> and was appointed CTO that same year by President Barack Obama. At HHS, he has been a leader in bringing the notion of "big data" to healthcare. He has expressed his ambition to create an open health data platform analogous to the National Weather Service, which feeds data to commercial weather sites and applications.<sup>[8]</sup> He has also described his desire to create a "holy cow machine for healthcare" that shows waste.<sup>[9]</sup>

At HHS, he has been a champion of applying open innovation and the Lean Startup approach to government initiatives.<sup>[10]</sup> Under Park, HHS has applied open innovation—sometimes called crowdsourcing -- to leverage the distributed intelligence of people outside of government. According to the New York Times, Park believes that releasing health data through HealthData.gov will support the agency's public health goals and catalyze new business opportunities in mhealth and eHealth.<sup>[11]</sup> It's for reasons like this that in 2010, Fast Company magazine named him one of the 100 Most Innovative People in Business.<sup>[12]</sup>

Park has been running his part of the massive government agency "like a Silicon Valley company," according to the Atlantic.<sup>[1]</sup> That approach was particularly relevant in the development of HealthCare.gov, the first government website that provides consumers with a searchable database of public and private health insurance plans available across the U.S. by zip code.<sup>[13]</sup>

The initial version of HealthCare.gov, which was deployed on July 1, 2010, was built in 90 days.<sup>[14]</sup> HealthCare.gov was cited by the Kaiser Family Foundation as one of the early highlights in the implementation of the healthcare reform implementation progress.<sup>[15]</sup> Healthcare.gov was also the first website ever "demoed" by a sitting president<sup>[16]</sup>

At HHS, Park also launched the Community Health Data Initiative, a developer conference and showcase to encourage the development of innovative healthcare applications using open government data. Now in its third year, the event, renamed the Health Datapalooza, receives coverage from Silicon Valley technology blogs and attention from venture capitalists,<sup>[17]</sup> providing an example of new ways that government can engage with the private sector.

## US Chief Technology Officer

In March 2012, President Obama appointed Todd Park to replace Aneesh Chopra as the United States Chief Technology Officer and Assistant to the President. Since assuming this role, Todd has worked with a variety of agencies across the federal government to replicate the Datapalooza in their respective domains.

Park also started the Presidential Innovation Fellows program, designed to bring top innovators from outside government for focused “tours of duty” with federal innovators on game-changing projects. The idea of the program is to combine the experience of citizen change agents and government change agents to tackle specific challenges at high speed, delivering significant results within six months.

## References

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Todd Park leading Education Data Jam

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## External links

- Shwen Gwee interviews Todd Park (HHS) and Tim O'Reilly (O'Reilly Media) @ SXSW 2011 (<http://pharmfresh.tv/pftv-003-todd-park-hhs-and-tim-oreilly-at-sxs>), March 2011
- The World's Leading Data Scientists: #5, Todd Park (<http://www.forbes.com/pictures/lmm45emkh/5-todd-park-cto-department-of-health-and-human-services/>), Forbes, November 2, 2011.
- Health Datapalooza (<http://healthdatapalooza.org/>)

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Categories: 1973 births | Living people | Harvard University alumni | Chief technology officers | Office of Science and Technology Policy officials | People from Salt Lake City, Utah | Health insurance marketplace government officials | Booz Allen Hamilton people

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## General Information

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 Twitter [@CastlightHealth](https://twitter.com/CastlightHealth)  
 Category [Medical](#)  
 Phone (415) 829-1400  
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 Employees 100   
 Founded 2008

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## Funding

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$160M</b>
<b>FUNDING TOTAL</b>	<b>\$160M</b>

## Castlight Health

Castlight Health, Inc. develops a Web application that provides consumers with clarity around their healthcare costs, usage, coverage, and choices. It enables employers and employees to make choices and lower costs. The company's products are used in various visionary companies in the United States. The company was founded in 2008 and is based in San Francisco, California.

## Recent Milestones

- [Castlight Health](#) received \$100M in Series D funding. (5/1/12)  
 Posted 5/1/12 at 5:21pm via [techcrunch.com](http://techcrunch.com)
- [Castlight Health](#) received \$60M in Series C funding. (6/11/10)  
 Posted 6/13/10 at 8:42pm via [freshnews.com](http://freshnews.com)
- [Castlight Health](#) added [Giovanni Colella](#) as President and CEO. (5/1/08)  
 Posted 6/13/10 at 8:42pm
- [Castlight Health](#) added [Mark McClellan](#) as Advisory Board.  
 Posted 4/9/12 at 5:48am

## Videos

## Screenshots

## Sources

Series C, 6/2010 <sup>1</sup>

[Morgan Stanley](#)

[Wellcome Trust](#)

[US Venture Partners](#)

\$60M

[Maverick Capital](#)

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Series D, 5/2012 <sup>2</sup>

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### Todd Park

Chief Technology Officer

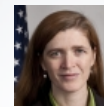
Todd Park is the United States Chief Technology Officer and in this role serves as an Assistant to the President. Todd joined the Administration in August 2009 as Chief Technology Officer of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In this role, he served as a change agent and "entrepreneur-in-residence," helping HHS harness the power of data, technology, and innovation to improve the health of the nation.

Prior to joining HHS, Mr. Park co-founded Athenahealth and co-led its development into one of the most innovative health IT companies in the industry. He also co-founded Castlight, a web-based health care shopping service for consumers. Mr. Park has also served in a volunteer capacity as a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress, where he focused on health IT and health reform policy, and as senior health care advisor to Ashoka, a leading global incubator of social entrepreneurs, where he helped start Healthpoint Services, a venture to bring affordable telehealth, drugs, diagnostics, and clean water to rural India. Mr. Park graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard College with an A.B. in economics.

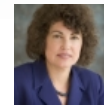
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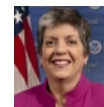
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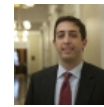
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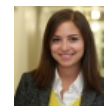
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## Todd Park's Posts

### Un gobierno eficiente y eficaz que impulsa el crecimiento económico para el pueblo americano

July 8, 2013 at 2:17 PM EST

Esta mañana, el Presidente sostuvo una reunión con su gabinete y funcionarios principales para exponer su visión para la creación de un gobierno aun más inteligente durante el transcurso de su segundo mandato. Durante la reunión, el Presidente les encargó a los miembros del gabinete y los funcionarios clave en su Administración que aprovecharan el progreso logrado durante el primer mandato, y nos retó a incorporar más innovaciones en el sistema de gobierno.

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### A Data-Powered Revolution in Health Care

May 28, 2013 at 11:40 AM EST

Supported by digital data, new data-driven tools, and payment policies that reward improving the quality and value of care, doctors, hospitals, patients, and entrepreneurs across the nation are demonstrating that smarter, better, more accessible,

and more proactive care is the best way to improve quality and control health care costs.

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### HHS Releases Medicare Data on Spending and Chronic Conditions

March 28, 2013 at 6:26 PM EST

A new, easy-to-use interactive tool gives anybody - researchers, physicians, public health professionals, policymakers, consumer advocates, tech innovators, and the public - the ability to find and examine data on multiple chronic conditions among Medicare beneficiaries.

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**Technology**

### It's Go Time for the Presidential Innovation Fellows

August 21, 2012 at 9:31 AM EST

On Thursday, August 23, the White House will welcome the first class of Presidential Innovation Fellows, top innovators from outside government who will work with top innovators inside government to create real and substantial changes that will in a very short time frame benefit the American people, save taxpayers money, and help create new jobs.

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### Wanted: A Few Good Women and Men to Serve as Presidential Innovation Fellows

May 23, 2012 at 9:11 AM EST

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