



Lifespan Respite Technical Assistance Center

Webinar:

Assistive Technology Programs and Lifespan Respite:
AT Resources for Family Caregivers and Respite Care
Providers

July 12, 2018

Website: archrespite.org

Presenters

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Rob Groenendaal, Assistive Technology Program Manager, Administration for Community Living

Marty Exline, Director, Assistive Technology Act Technical Assistance and Training (AT3) Center

Krista Kramer, Program Coordinator, Idaho Assistive Technology Project

Stacy Driscoll, Program Coordinator, Assistive Technology in New Hampshire (ATinNH)

Cheryl Smith, Executive Director of UCP of Huntsville and the Tennessee Valley. Alabama Lifespan Respite Resource Network is a project of UCP.

Assistive Technology Act Program

<p>What is the mission of the program?</p>	<p>The mission of the AT Act program is to serve people with all types of disabilities, of all ages, in all environments, and provide an array of services to meet AT needs.</p>
<p>What is the legislative authority for the Assistive Technology Act?</p>	<p>The Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended (Public Law 108-364).</p>
<p>What are the goals for the program?</p>	<p>The overall goal of the AT Act is to increase access to and acquisition of AT devices and services through comprehensive state level and state leadership activities.</p>

Assistive Technology Act Program

<p>Who are the AT Act Programs?</p>	<p>56 State and Territory Lead Agencies designated by the Governor.</p>
<p>Describe “success” for the AT programs.</p>	<p>Success for AT Act state programs means that individuals with disabilities, including those who are aging, are able to better access and acquire AT devices and services to maintain or improve independence in their homes and communities, obtain or retain employment, or benefit from education.</p>

Assistive Technology Act Program

What performance measures do you use?

Return on Investment: In FY 2017, the 56 state AT programs returned close to \$65 million in savings and benefits with a \$26.4 million federal investment in state AT programs.

Leveraged funding to provide services: Almost \$22 million is leveraged from federal, State, local and private sources by state AT programs to maximize critically needed AT services. Over 600,000 individuals received direct services from their state AT program in FY17.

Assistive Technology Act Program

<u>Access Activities</u>	
Device Demonstration	80,096 individuals participated in device demonstrations.
Device Loan	52,374 devices were borrowed from short-term device loan programs.
<u>Acquisition Activities</u>	
Device Reutilization	57,782 recipients acquired 74,205 devices for a total of \$29,988,784 in savings by obtaining gently used AT instead of new.
<u>State Financing</u>	853 borrowers obtained financial loans = \$7,665,522. Through other state financing programs, 2,093 recipients acquired 5,768 devices valued at \$3,836,113 and 2,093 individuals received 3,735 devices with a savings of \$1,573,345.

Polling Questions

1. Have you ever been in contact with your state or territory AT program?
2. Have you ever made a referral to your state or territory AT program?

Assistive Technology Act Programs



Program Directory: Find your State Program:

<https://www.at3center.net/stateprogram>



Program Directory - Find Your State Program

Assistive Technology

- Assistive technology to help the person with a disability which can ease the level of caregiving.
- Technology to help the caregiver manage the role of caregiving.
 - Each person is unique; match the person and technology.
 - No one AT devices will work in every situation.
 - What works today may not work tomorrow.
 - Will look at **examples** of devices
- Examples of collaborations between state AT programs and state respite and caregiver coalitions.



Assistive Technology: Life Tools and Caregiver Tools

Krista Kramer

Idaho Assistive

Technology Project

Moscow, Idaho

Idaho AT Project / Caregiver network connections

- Participants in state Lifespan Respite Coalition development
- Idaho Caregiver Alliance
- Written into the state plans for Area Agencies on Aging and State Independent Living Council
- Representatives from AAA and Idaho Commission on Aging on our AT Advisory Board



IATP Training & Outreach



- Area Agency on Aging trainings, including Ombudsman training
- Home care, health care provider training
- Senior & community health fairs
- Newsletter & social media posts via Idaho Commission on Aging & Independent Living Centers

Personal Emergency Response Systems



- Land-line
- Cell phone
- Cellular signal
- GPS
- Automatic fall detection

Digital assistants

- Amazon Echo & Echo Show & Echo Connect, Google Home



- Voice control of your computer or smart device: Siri, Cortana

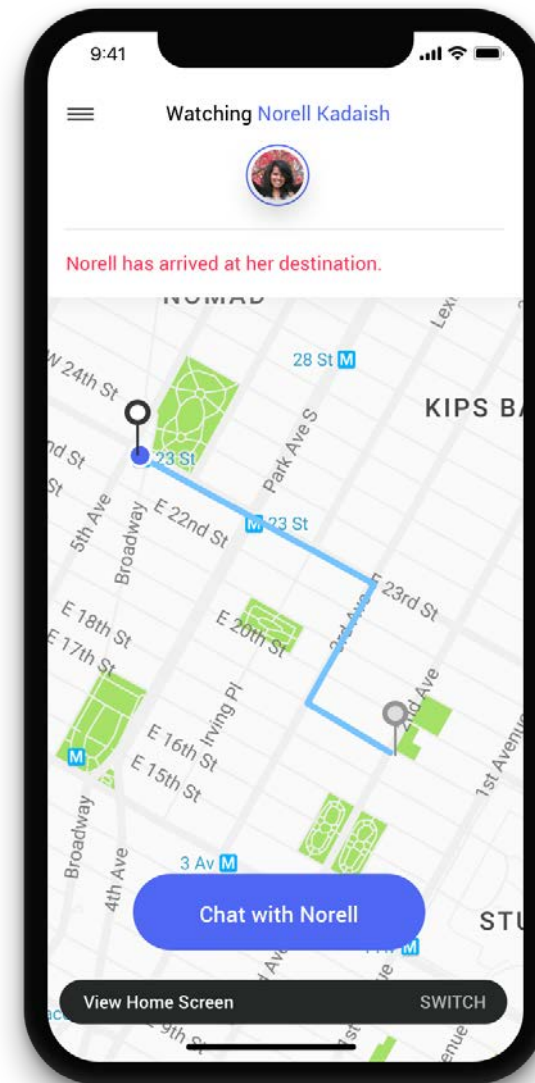
Alerting systems

- Fire alarms
- Doorbells/phones
- Alarm clocks / Reminders
- Pagers



Monitors

- Room monitors
- Wander alerts
- Perimeter alerts
- Motion detectors



Environmental controls



- Remote outlet switches
- Thermostat
- Lights
- TV / music
- Door openers & locks

Mobility

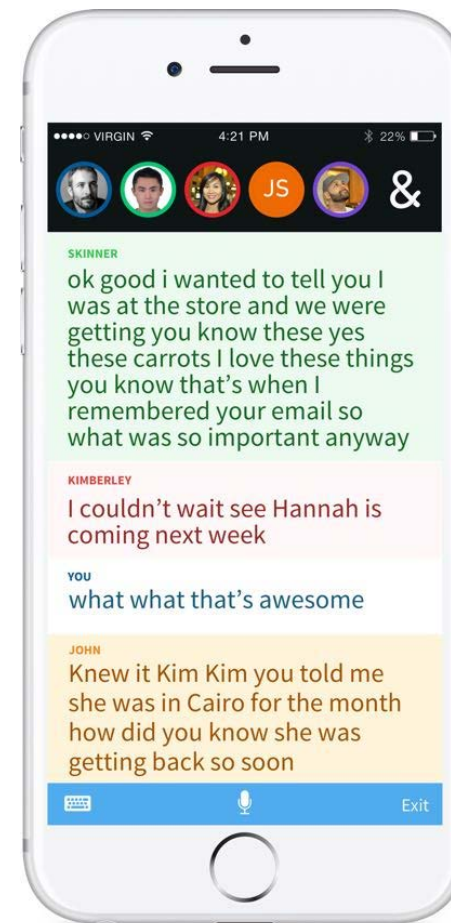
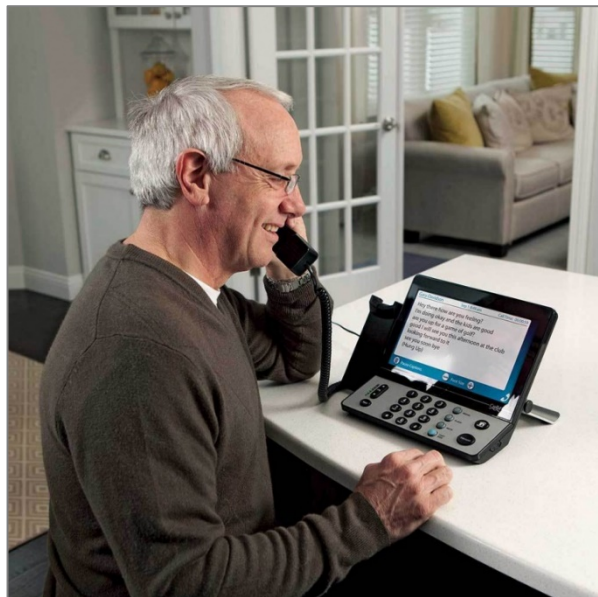


- Fall prevention
- Mobility devices
- Vehicle modifications



Mobility - Transfer devices

Hearing Assistance



- Amplified and captioned phones
- Assistive listening systems
- Streamers/neck loops/Bluetooth receivers
- Apps for speech-to-text

The AT Swiss Army Knife: Smart devices

- Hearing aid
- Magnifier
- Image recognition
- Reader
- Books on tape
- Navigator
- Reminders
- Step-by-step directions
- Captioned phone calls
- Augmentative communication device, etc...





Krista Kramer

Idaho Assistive Technology Project

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New Hampshire

AT Act Program / ServiceLink Collaboration

Assistive Technology in New Hampshire (ATinNH)

Stacy Driscoll, M.Ed, ATP
Assistive Technology Specialist
ATinNH, Program Coordinator
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NH AT Act Program

- New Hampshire's AT Act Program has been in existence since 1994 and is administered through the University of New Hampshire's Institute on Disability.
- Statewide Partner Organizations who provide device demonstrations, device loans and device re-use.



How we got started

- ▶ July 2016
- ▶ Assistive Technology in New Hampshire (ATinNH) was contacted by the administrator of NHCarePath and NH ServiceLink Aging and Disability Resource Center
- ▶ NHCarePath is New Hampshire's No Wrong Door System

Who are the agencies involved

- ATinNH
- ServiceLink – ADRC
 - 13 offices statewide



Assistive Technology in New Hampshire
ATinNH.org






Steps we took

- First meeting July 2016
- Decided on devices and purchased devices September 2016
- Leg work to get set up October 2016-January 2017
- January 2017 Kick-off Zoom meeting with Center Managers
 - The individuals who run the 13 ServiceLink offices
- Held two hands-on trainings for representatives from each office
 - Three hours long – learned how to use the devices and materials
- Implementation began on or before April 3, 2017
- Monthly Zoom meeting to answer questions / review data / etc.

Before Implementation

- ▶ 15 sets of 30 devices
- ▶ Took pictures with an iPad and labeled each device using the app Phonto
 - ▶ Available iOS and Google 
 - ▶ Two work study students helped with this
- ▶ Labeled each device as belonging to ATinNH
- ▶ Created a short 1-3 minute, how-to video of each device
 - ▶ Used for internal training and refreshers and to be shared with consumers
 - ▶ Created a QR Code for each video
- ▶ Created a Resource Binder
 - ▶ Added these materials to their online system



Resource Binder

- Procedures document – Roles and Responsibilities
- Device Reference Sheets
- Data collect forms – more forms were developed over time
- Battery Inventory – ServiceLink is responsible for batteries
- Device Price List – each kit approximately \$800 worth of devices
 - PocketTalker most expensive
- Device YouTube Clip Document

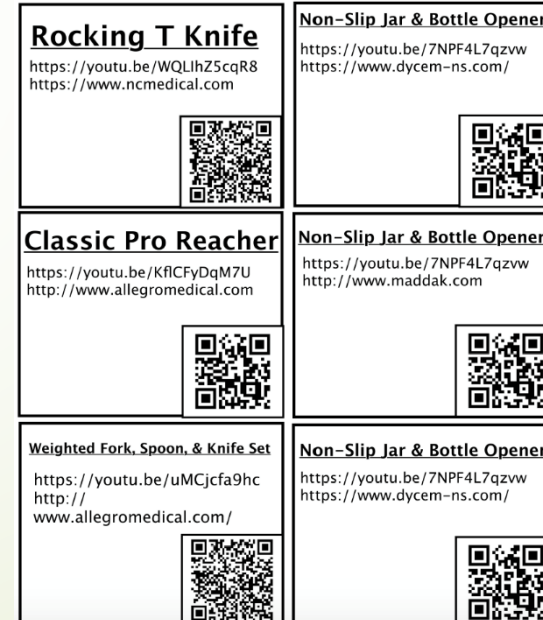
Device Reference Sheets

- ▶ Arranged by category for our Data Collection System
- ▶ Include picture and name of device on one side, name, QR code to video and a link to find the item on the back

Assistive Technology for Daily Living



Assistive Technology for Daily Living





Hands-on Training

- ▶ Each office was asked to send at least two people to the hands on training – preferably the Center Manager and one Options Counselor
- ▶ Began with Scenarios to “test” their knowledge
 - ▶ Ex. A consumer is having difficulty getting in and out of the car. What device would you suggest she try out? (HandyBar)
- ▶ Reviewed Policies and Procedures – had been approved at the Kick Off meeting with the Center Managers
- ▶ Participants were trained on each device and tried each one during the training
- ▶ Follow-up training was provided on Hearing Assistive Technology that had been provided to each office a few years back from New Hampshire DHHS Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services
- ▶ Training on how to fill out Data Collection forms – this is on going

Poster for each office

Assistive Devices Provided through ATinNH



Example of Set Up in one office





Follow-Up and Where we are at

- ▶ Monthly follow-up via Zoom Conferencing with Center Managers but anyone is welcome
 - ▶ Center Managers have requested this follow-up
- ▶ Kits are set up to take "on the road" to clients – some offices are using the kits primarily for walk-in clients
- ▶ These are tools to add to what they are already doing, not to add one more thing for them to do.
- ▶ ServiceLink is listed as a partner on our website but we are not otherwise advertising for people to go to them
- ▶ ATinNH handles the data collection paperwork



Report from ServiceLink

- ▶ One office provided an informational training for VNA – LNAs and home health aides - hoping to generate more referrals to ServiceLink
- ▶ Some offices were faster than others to begin implementation
 - ▶ First quarter generated up to 20 demonstrations from several offices
 - ▶ Some offices were not able to do demonstrations
 - ▶ Low staff was noted as a reason
 - ▶ Hadn't become automatic yet
- ▶ Aids for Daily Living and Hearing Assistive Technology were the most demonstrated
 - ▶ PocketTalker Ultra – most demonstrated
 - ▶ Knork and Jar Openers - popular

Polling Questions

1. Are you familiar with the types of AT available for short-term loan through your state or territory AT program?
2. Do you know what types of AT are available through your state's/territory's equipment reuse program?

Example of Lifespan Respite Grantee Sharing of AT Resources

Helping Those Who Care

A Program of the Alabama Lifespan Respite Resource Network

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ALABAMA
LIFESPAN RESPITE



ALABAMA
LIFESPAN RESPITE

Helping Those Who Care

An onsite training developed by the Alabama Lifespan Respite Network that introduces caregivers to simple assistive technology (AT) solutions via STAR, Alabama's AT Act program, to promote care recipient independence, allow care recipients to stay in the home longer, and provide an enhanced quality of life for both the caregiver and care recipient.



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Helping Those Who Care

Participating caregivers receive:

- a respite assistance stipend,
- a free assistive technology item,
- access to a lending library of assistive technology items (via STAR),
- caregiver resources, and
- post-training technical assistance.



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LIFESPAN RESPITE

Helping Those Who Care

- A new web-based *Helping Those Who Care toolkit* for aging caregivers is available at <http://htwc.alabamarespite.org>
- A print toolkit will be available in English and Spanish to “train the trainer” August 2018.



Helping Those Who Care Assistive Technology Toolkit

A PROGRAM OF THE ALABAMA LIFESPAN RESPITE RESOURCE NETWORK

[HOME](#) [VISION](#) [HEARING](#) [EATING/DRINKING](#) [MEMORY](#) [DRESSING](#) [INDEPENDENT LIVING](#) [ALL](#)



What is Assistive Technology?

Assistive Technology (AT) is any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals.

What is Respite?

Respite is temporary short-term relief to families and caregivers from the extraordinary and intensive demands of providing ongoing care in the home. Occasional relief supports family stability and well-being.

Why is AT important to caregivers?

Caregivers deal with stress, burnout, frustration, exhaustion, fatigue, chronic injury, and so much more on a DAILY basis. AT can provide more independence to the care recipient, resulting in a form of respite for the caregiver.

Let's find AT devices to best serve your needs!

We can help if you or your loved ones struggle with daily activities because of:

- a vision impairment
- a hearing impairment
- a difficult time with self-feeding and/or drinking
- a difficult time remembering things
- the inability to dress yourself
- other barriers that challenge living independently

 [Find AT Devices >](#)

AT resources at UCP Huntsville



HTWC: <http://ucphuntsville.org/what-we-do/htwc>

HTWC Resources: <http://ucphuntsville.org/what-we-do/htwc/2303-2>

HTWC Caregiver Apps: <http://ucphuntsville.org/what-we-do/htwc/apps-for-caregivers>

HTWC Pinterest Board: <https://www.pinterest.com/ucphsv/helping-those-who-care>

State AT and Lifespan Respite Programs

- State AT involvement in state Caregiver Coalitions to support the work of state Lifespan Respite Care Programs.
- Collaborative trainings from state AT programs to caregiver groups.
- AT “Kits” to address most common needs of seniors to AAAs or ADRCs.
- Inclusion of state AT programs in resource guides for family caregivers.
- Collaborations with Money Follows the Person (MFP) or other activities to transition persons back to the community.
- State AT Program/No Wrong Door collaborations.

AT Device Loan Programs – Missouri AT Example

ETC Program Catalog

Home » [Equipment Technology Consortium](#) » ETC Catalog

Search the ETC Catalog

Go

Recent Additions to our Lending Library

- [iSwitch](#)
- [Bright Red Switch](#)
- [iPad Wireless Switch](#)
- [MagniLink S](#)
- [C-Pen OCR](#)

Recent Additions to our Tablet Apps

Category	App
Blind/Low Vision	Talking Typer

ETC Equipment Categories

[Augmentative Comm Devices](#)

[Computer Access](#)

[Educational Aids](#)

[Environmental Controls](#)

[Switches](#)

[Hearing](#)

[Vision](#)

[Tablets](#)

[Mounting Systems](#)

[Speech](#)

[ETC Home](#)

Assistive Technology for Caregivers Resources

- <https://www.at3center.net/stateprogram> - find your state Assistive Technology Act program.
- <https://www.acl.gov/programs/assistive-technology/assistive-technology> - Administration for Community Living – Assistive Technology FAQs
- <https://www.caregiver.org/assistive-technology> - Assistive technology for caregivers.
- <https://www.caregiver.org/digital-technology-family-caregiver> - Digital assistive technology.
- <https://abledata.acl.gov/> - Database of assistive technology devices.

Assistive Technology for Caregivers Resources

- <http://www.mymdrc.org/assistive-tech/webinars/archived-webinars/574-at-to-help-with-caregiving> - Michigan Assistive Technology Project – AT for Caregiving PowerPoint
- <http://htwc.alabamarespite.org/> - Alabama Lifespan Respite assistive technology toolkit.
- <http://www.alsa.org/als-care/caregivers/assistive-technology-caregivers.html> - ALS Association assistive technology for caregivers.
- <https://www.atia.org/at-resources/what-is-at/resources-funding-guide/> - Assistive Technology Industry Association AT Funding Guide.

Follow Up / Questions?

Thank You!

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