Tools for Life: State Assistive Technology Act Program Resources for Living, Learning and Working

And the AT SMART Center
CANAR – October 24, 2011

Joy Kniskern and Carmen Cates
Tools for Life
www.gatfl.org
Welcome!

We are Glad you are Here!
Why Are We Here Today?

- Learn core activities of State AT Programs to build bridges back home!
- Identify activities of Tools for Life AT Resource Centers and the SMART AT Technology Resource Center
- Identify 3 take-away goals to build an inclusive community through AT in your state!
Why Assistive Technology?

- For a person without a disability, technology makes things easier.
- For a person with a disability, technology makes things possible.

www.gatfl.org
Defining Assistive Technology

- **Assistive technology** – “Any item, piece of equipment, product system, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.”

- **Assistive technology service** – “Any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.”

Public Law 108–364
Tools for Life increases access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.
Tools for Life –
Georgia’s State AT Program

- Georgia’s Federal AT Act Program
  - All States and Territories
  - Serves all ages and disabilities
  - State Plan for AT
  - Information and Referral
  - Demo AT
  - AT Lending Libraries
  - Reutilization of AT & DME
  - Alternative Financing Program
  - Training and Technical Assistance

www.gatfl.org - 12,000 visits a month
Improving Independence for Older Adults Through the DAS AT Training

**Description:** A one-day training for aging network professionals to learn about assistive technology products and resources. Technology supports independence in the home and community, helps prevent falls, visits to the ER, reduces the length of hospital stays, and improves activities.

**Dates and Locations:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

- July 19th - Friends of Disabled Adults and Children, 4900 Lewis Road, Stone Mountain, GA
- August 16th - Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church Ministry Center, 2200 Dawson Road, Albany, GA
- August 22nd - Disability Connections, 170 College Street, Macon, GA
- August 25th - KROC Center, 1633 Broad Street, Augusta, GA
Who are We Serving

- Over 54,000,000 individuals in the United States have disabilities that affect their ability to:
  - see
  - hear
  - communicate
  - reason
  - walk
  - perform other basic life functions

Public Law 108-364
Tools for Life Network

- AT Lending Library (try before you buy)
- AT Evaluations & Training (focus on the individual)
- AT Demos – Promote Choice
- Resource and Referral (Assistance)
- AT Funding Assistance (CFII)
- DME Reuse (FODAC)
ReBoot

- ReBoot is a nonprofit, statewide, collaborative effort dedicated to actively promoting independence for people with disabilities through Assistive Technology & computer reuse.

- ReBoot has placed over 9,200+ reused computer systems with people throughout Georgia, the Southeast, and the United States.

- ReBoot acquires the equipment, evaluates it, repairs it (if needed), loads licensed software, distributes the equipment to people with disabilities, and trains the person on the equipment.

Touch the Future, Inc. – www.touchthefuture.us
FODAC is a statewide provider of Durable medical equipment

Distributed 20,000 wheelchairs and thousands of other pieces of DME since 1986

Internationally, 65 countries have received some equipment over those years.

FODAC’s programs include:
- Durable medical equipment - wheelchairs and mobility aids
- Ramps for Champs – home access ramps and modifications
- ReMount – wheelchair and scooter lifts for vehicles
- Disposable medical equipment – catheters, braces, liquid nutrition, etc.

FODAC - www.fodac.org
Center for Financial Independence & Innovation

• Georgia’s Alternative Financing Program for Assistive Technology and Home, Farm & Vehicle Modifications
  • Flexible rates and terms
  • Evaluating each application on its own merit
  • Considering all alternatives for the consumer
  • Equal partners through a healthy collaborative effort
• 404-541-9005 / www.thecfii.org
Direct AT Service Activities

- Web-based Funding Guide

- A resource for locating funding sources for AT devices and services. This guide was developed to make the funding process easier and to assist consumers in getting the assistive technology they need.

- New resources added frequently!

- www.gatfl.org/ds
Direct AT Service Activities

- Web-based
- FREE resource for finding and exchanging assistive technology devices online
- Place an ad requesting items for sale, donation, or needed
- gTRADE and Tools for Life encourages members to offer AT devices and information for sale or by donation to others who may benefit from using technology and equipment no longer in need by others

www.gtradeonline.org
## Items Listed as Available on Gtrade

Filter list by:
- Category: [All Categories]
- Posted: [All Postings]
- Type: [All Type]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>PACMate</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>Albany, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>MeastroTrekker GPS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Albany, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>ZoomText 9.0 Magnifier/reader</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>Albany, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>AMIGO</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>Ellijay, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Daily Living Aids</td>
<td>Accessible sink with chrome faucet</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Marietta, GA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Display 1 - 5 of 10

Previous Page  Next Page
Guiding Principles

- We – Collectively – are Brilliant & Can find an Innovative Path and Create Brighter Futures

- We must Think, Live and Act from a place of Abundance – We have enough time, money, resources…

- We Must Focus on Abilities!

- You have the Power to make the Difference!
Guiding Principle

DisAbility is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to:

(A) live independently;
(B) enjoy self-determination and make choices;
(C) benefit from an education;
(D) pursue meaningful careers; and
(E) enjoy full inclusion and integration in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of society in the United States.

Public Law 108-364
Statistics to Digest

- 14% of People with disabilities are fully employed.
- 16% of People with disabilities are underemployed.
- 70% are unemployed or out of the work force entirely.
- Adults with disabilities work fewer hours, command lower wages, and earn less annually.
  - Their median annual earnings ($10,400) are only 58.1% of the median earnings of those not having LD ($17,886)

As reported by NFI – President Bush 2001
AT Solutions

Communication
Apple iPad

- Multi-touch screen
- Thousands of apps
- Surf web
- iTunes
- Videos
- Organization
- Voice Over
- Books
- Photos
- Speakers
- Starts at $499
Apple iPod Touch

- Pocket computer
- Thousands of apps
- Videos
- Surf Web
- Voice Over
- Organization
- Speakers
- Bluetooth
- Photos
- Starts at $199
Accessibility

iPad comes standard with accessibility features that help people with disabilities experience all that it has to offer.

**Built-in accessibility.**

iPad comes with a screen reader, support for playback of closed-captioned content, and other innovative universal access features — right out of the box. There's no additional software to buy or install. These features make iPad easier to use for people who have a vision impairment, are deaf or hard of hearing, or have a physical or learning disability.
Effective Communication

Communication with individuals with disabilities must be as effective as communications with others.
Effective Communication

- Communication includes the exchange of information in all forms, including:
  - Voice
  - Sound
  - Print
  - Electronic & Information Technology
Effective Communication

Disabilities affecting communication:

- Vision
- Hearing
- Speech
- Cognition
Communicating One-on-One or in Groups:

- AAC devices provide communication access through typed or pre-programmed words and sentences, or through pictorial symbols.
Definition of AAC

- Augmentative and alternative communication can be any device, system, or method that improves a person’s ability to communicate effectively.

- It often refers to technology or communication devices, but also includes low tech strategies.

- The objective of AAC is to develop functional communication and provide the foundation for language and literacy development.
Types of AAC

- Unaided systems such as signing and gesturing
- Aided techniques ranging from picture charts to the most sophisticated technology currently available
Why AAC?

- Not all people achieve adequate communication with the more “standard” practices, therefore need additional strategies.

- Even good communicators may have difficulty in some situations:
  - (e.g., noise, grocery deli)

- Not all individuals adapt to their lack of communication without instruction.

- AAC strategies in rehabilitation add to arsenal of communication techniques & assist in a variety of communication situations.
Aphasia Facts

• Major cause in US is stroke ~700,000 strokes/year

• New aphasia cases per year ~100,000 (ALS ~5,000; CP ~10,000)

• Currently ~1,000,000 Americans living with aphasia

• Year 2020 prevalence of aphasia projected: ~2,000,000

• Why: aging US population, more stroke survivors, living longer
iPhone / iPod Applications

http://www.proloquo2go.com/resources/article/introductory-videos
Communication:

- Proloquo2go by AssistiveWare ($189.99)
- Proloquo2Go provides a full-featured AAC communication solution for people who have difficulty speaking. It provides natural sounding text-to-speech voices, up-to-date symbols, powerful automatic conjugations, a default vocabulary of over 7000 items, full expandability and extreme ease of use.

*Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm*
Communication:

- Assistive Chat By assistive apps ($24.99)
- Assistive Chat is designed to be simple and efficient, allowing users to communicate at the fastest rate possible, with natural sounding voices. Features: Landscape and Portrait Modes to cater to different needs, word Prediction, favorites list, 3 voices, adjustable volume and speed for voice, large font and buttons for easy access, and recent list for quick access to previously spoken sentences.
Communication:

- Locabulary Lite By Red Mountain Labs, Inc. (Free)

- This app combines location and vocabulary to produce efficient communication for individuals who have difficulty speaking. Locabulary is an alternative to bulky communication devices, with text-to-speech phrases under categories including: ‘quick phrases’, ‘moods’, ‘assistance’, ‘restaurants’.

*Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm*
Communication:
- **Talking Tom Cat By Outfit7 (Free)**
- Tom is your pet cat, that responds to your touch and repeats everything you say with a funny voice. You can pet him, poke him or grab his tail. Record your own videos of Tom, save them to your library and send them or share them on the internet.

*Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm*
Speak it!

- Copy emails, documents, web pages, PDF files, and more; paste them into Speak it!, and have the text spoken back to you.
- Email text to speech files
- Make announcements over PA system
- Endless phrases and possible uses
- $1.99
Washington (CNN) -- President Obama's departure for an upcoming overseas trip has been pushed back three days as Democrats prepare for a final push on health care reform. Obama will leave for his trip to Indonesia and Australia on March 21 instead of March 18, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs.
App Solutions

Communication:
- NeoKate/ NeoPaul
- Free
- Type and Speak
AT Solutions

Sensory
Vision and Hearing
Serving People who are Blind or have Vision Loss

- Invite the individual to describe the extent of their blindness
  - 75% of those that are “blind” have some vision
  - Many types of vision impairments
Vision Loss Statistics

- One-half of all people with impaired vision age 45 and older report that their vision problem interferes to some degree with what they want to do in their daily lives

Lighthouse National Survey on Vision Loss
Vision Loss Statistics

- 24% reported that their vision problem causes at least some difficulty managing daily household tasks
- 18% reported some difficulty getting to places outside the home because of a vision problem
- 38% reported at least some interference with their leisure activities
Magnification Solutions
Zoom Text

- Enhances and enlarges screen
- Reads text out loud

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwY1YaiODLI
Talking Watch

- Helps tell accurate time
- Look for easy to read LCD display
- Alarm
- Come in many different styles
- Low in cost
LookTel Money Reader

- iOS App
- $1.99
- Uses camera
- Speaks out loud
- Do not need to hold bill steady or in entire frame
EyeNote

- iOS app
- Uses built in camera to scan dollar bills
- Speaks out loud
  - Distinguished btw front and back of bill
- Free
- Supports English and Spanish
- Privacy mode
  - Pulses or beeps
## OCR - Optical Character Recognition - Apps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Say Text</th>
<th>Perfect OCR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Free!</td>
<td>✔ $3.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Uses the built in camera to scan documents</td>
<td>✔ Uses the built in camera to scan documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Uses voice over to read back aloud</td>
<td>✔ Edit, copy, store, email documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Store and email documents</td>
<td>✔ Upload to online storage is as Evernote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Does take practice for the perfect picture</td>
<td>✔ Does take practice for picture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Say Text

1. Document to text
2. Text to speech
3. OCR 75%
4. "The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog."
Magnifier Apps

- Over 40 Magnifier and Flashlight
  - Free
  - zooms up to 10x
  - Change btw full screen and magnifying glass screen

- Eye Glasses
  - $2.99
  - Zoom up to 8x
  - farsightedness

- iSeeClearly
  - $1.99
  - Zoom up to 10x
  - Image freeze
  - Save to camera roll

- Magnifier Free
  - Free
  - Send picture
  - Pinch screen out to zoom
  - Place markers
iSeeClearly helps you read the small print by using your iPhone’s built-in camera.

Within iSeeClearly the “Capture” button lets you save the current image to your camera roll. The “Freeze” button suspends the current image for further reading or viewing. Tapping on zoom button will allow you to further zoom.

Don’t Show me next time OFF

Auto Stabilize Delay detects iPhone movement to reduce a shaky image "Capture" or "Freeze". It will delay locking the image until the iPhone has settled.
Welcome to AppleVis
A community-powered site for vision-impaired users of Apple's iOS devices.

- Seek and share information on the accessibility of apps developed for the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch.
- Read and share guides, tutorials and tips to help VoiceOver users get the most from their iOS devices.

A Reminder
If you have previously added apps to the App Directory, please take a few moments to make sure that they are up-to-date and accurate. Could you also make sure that you have given your apps a Usability Rating. Thanks!

Random App
PhoneXL
This is a Paid app posted to the Utilities category by 1music on 28 April 2011
It was given the following Usability Rating: The app is fully accessible with VoiceOver, but the interface could be easier to navigate and use.

The most recent additions and updates to the AppleVis site:

LaDiDa: A new way to make music on your iPhone or iPod touch.
Posted in Guides by Oriol
4 Comments : Last update or comment 4 hours 22 min ago.

iProRecorder™ Premier Voice & Music Recorder
Posted in AppleVis Forum by Unregistered User
0 Comments : Last update or comment 6 hours 29 min ago.

LinkedIn
Posted in App Directory by allseed

Popular Content
1. Posting Ratings and Reviews the iTunes Store Using VoiceOver on the Mac Demystified (3,671 views)
2. Accessibility in shadow era (3 views)
3. Noodle Noggles (2,427 views)
4. LaDiDa: A new way to make music on your iPhone or iPod touch (2,352 views)
5. Braille commands for the iPhone (3 views)
Impact of Hearing Loss

- The impact of early onset hearing loss effects language developments on many levels including:
  - the ability to extract linguistic clues from auditory language models
  - language rule formation,
  - word knowledge, and
  - vocabulary development
  - acquisition of grammatical skills,
  - concept attainment,
  - appropriate social conversational skills, and
  - literacy development skills

(Carney & Moeller, 1998)
The Statistics...

- 28 million persons with hearing loss across their lifespan
  (ASHA, 2003)

- Who does it affect?
  - 30% of people over 65
  - 14% of those between 45 - 64
  - 8 million people between the ages of 18 – 44
  - 7 million children under 18
  (Better Hearing Institute, 2001)

- 11.3% and 14.9% of school-age children have a hearing loss that affects their learning and development
  (Bess, Dodd-Murphy & Parker, 1998; Niskar et al, 1998)
Personal FM System

- Designed for people who are deaf and hard of hearing, learning disabilities & ADHD
- Features:
  - limits background noise, reverberation, and distance from the speaker in classrooms and small groups, thus maximizing their ability to hear and understand.
- How well a person hears can substantially affect their ability to learn.
Large Display Alarm Clock with Pillow Vibrator
Portable Smoke Detector with Strobe
Hear - it

- Increased phonological awareness for all auditory input - results in better focus and comprehension

- Noticeably reduces distractions - task!
App Solutions

Sign for Me

- 3D character gives best vantage point for every sign
- Over 11,500 words
- Sentences, phrases, words and alphabet
- Saved in your History

http://signingapp.com/sign4me_desktop.html
App Solutions

Amplify’d

- Transforms your iPhone or iPod Touch into a powerful volume control through your earbuds
- Tweak the frequencies amplified and volume boost
- Bluetooth - Wireless
App Solutions

NAVIGON MobileNavigator

- Transform your iPhone into a fully functional mobile navigation system
- Realistic displays
- Text to Speech
- $10/month
- www.navigon.com
AT Solutions

Mobility
A Closer Look at Mobility

- There are many different kinds of mobility disabilities and there are a variety of assistive technology devices that can provide assistance, such as:
  - Wheelchairs (Manual or Power)
  - Scooters
  - Crutches or Walkers
  - Canes
  - Dogs (Service or Companion)
Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Shower / Transfer Benches
- Lightweight
- Makes transfers easier and safe
- Easy to clean
Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Raised Toilet Seats

- Lightweight
- Makes transfers easier and safe
- Easy to clean
- Fits most standard toilets
Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Manual Wheelchairs
Walkers

- Lightweight
- Assists with Mobility
Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Lifts
- Makes transfers easier and safer
- Assists with Mobility
Lomak – Light Operated Mouse and Keyboard

- Hand or head pointer controls a beam of light that enters, then confirms, function
- Confirmation of keys reduces errors and increases the speed of operation
- Keyboard can be operated with small movements and does not require a lot of energy

- [www.lomak.co.nz](http://www.lomak.co.nz)
Speech Recognition Software

- Turn spoken words into text
- Connect with the timing of your thoughts
- Dictation speed 70 to 100 words per minute
Access – it is Possible!
Adjusting Accessibility Options

- StickyKeys
- On Screen Keyboard
- Magnifier
- Text to Speech
- Screen Resolution
- Large Icons
Vehicle Modifications
App Solutions

Logitech Touch Mouse

- Turns your iPhone or iPod touch into a wireless trackpad and keyboard for your computer, so you can point, click, scroll and type from afar
Individuals with Cognitive disAbilities often have difficulties with:

- memory and attention
- impulsivity
- Organization
- Sequencing
- Reading
- Writing (including spelling)
- Math

✿ AT Apps Can Help!
Cognition

- The act or process of knowing or being aware of thoughts or perceptions; the various thinking skills and processes are considered cognitive skills.
  - **Cognitive Ability** - Intellectual ability; thinking and reasoning skills.
  - **Cognitive Limitation** - Difficulty with one or more of the basic functions of the brain: perception, memory, expression and processing skills.
Memory:

- Evernote By Evernote (Free)
- Evernote turns the iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad into an extension of your brain, helping you remember anything and everything that happens in your life. From notes to ideas to snapshots to recordings, put it all into Evernote and watch as it instantly synchronizes from your iPhone to your Mac or Windows desktop.

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Memory:

• **Lock Box** - Free

• LockBox lets you store and protect sensitive info such as credit card numbers, bank accounts, passwords, pin numbers, private notes, and any other secret information on your iPhone or iPod Touch.

*Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm*
Memory:

- **iDress for Weather - $1.99**
  iDress for Weather is for anyone, any age, and any ability anywhere in the world! iDress for Weather can be assistive technology for individuals with disabilities, an educational tool for children, or just plain fun for everyone.

*Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm*
Memory:

- Photo
- Calendar – with alarm
- SoundNote
- Going Places

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Cognitive disAbilities & App Solutions

Organization:
- Grocery IQ
- ICE

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Sequencing:

- **Visules By Dean Huff ($4.99)**
- This app is designed by a father of a child with ASD and it communicates checklists and individual cues using text, images, and colors. It allows you to quickly access visual cues and customize supports in order to encourage independence during daily tasks, decision making, and more.

*Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm*
Cognitive disAbilities & App Solutions

Reading:
• VoiceOver
• Speak Auto-text
• iLibrary
• NeoKate
• Newspapers - Free
• Scanner

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Reading:

- Amazon Kindle By AMZN Mobile LLC (Free)
- The Kindle app is optimized for the iPad, iPhone, and iPod touch, providing users the ability to read Kindle books using a beautiful, easy-to-use interface. You can discover and read over 700,000* books in the Kindle Store.
Reading:

- Free Books ($1.99, free on iPad)
- This app has 23,469 classic books available to download and read with our fully featured ereader. Free Books unlocks a world of public domain content, allowing you to acquire the great books of human history.

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Cognitive disAbilities & App Solutions

Writing:
- Auto-Correct
- Auto-Completion
- Notes
- SoundNote

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Writing:

- Dragon Dictation By Nuance Communications (Free)
  - Dragon Dictation is an easy-to-use voice recognition application that allows you to easily speak and instantly see your text or email messages. Voice-to-text transcriptions may be sent as SMS, Email, or pasted into any application using the clipboard.

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Math:

- Cloud Math By Unbound Software ($0.99)


  This is an excellent app for all ages to learn and practice math. Players can control the level of math skills presented during the game by choosing operations and number ranges. Choose numbers up to 10, 20, 50, 100, or 1000. A timer can be turned on or off, and in “fail safe” mode the player will always get the right answer.
Math:

- Coin Math - Free
  Best coin learning game in the App Store! Learn to recognize pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters. Learn to count in groups of 5, 10 and 25. Learn to shop and to make change. Great for learning coins. Great also for adults!

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Relaxation & Concentration:

• Pocket Pond By John Moffett (Free)
• Create relaxing ripples while you enjoy the sounds of nature. Interact with the fish - scare them, feed them, and watch their schooling behavior. It's your own personal pond to cleanse your worries and free your mind.

Phillips, Rust & Wilkomm
Where the MAGIC BEGINS!
COLLABORATION

The Start

• HSHT and Tools for Life

• Walton Options

• Local community support
SMARTER PLACEMENT
CALLING ALL!

• Local Technical Colleges Disability Coordinators
• Local University Disability Coordinators
• HSHT Teachers
• Mayor’s Council for People with Disabilities
• Employer Committee
• VA/VR & E Counselors
COLLABORATION
Sustaining

• Albany ARC
• Employer Committee
• Rehabilitation Employment Specialist
• Venders
• VAVR & E
• Marketing to the Public
CHALLENGES

• Up to Date Equipment
• Growing
• Defining and Documenting the Vision and Mission
Stay Hungry
Stay Foolish
Questions
Thank You!

thank you
Contact Us:

- Joy Kniskern- joy@gatfl.org
- Carmen Cates- carmen.cates@dol.state.ga.us