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TOOLS for LIFE

Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Village Park Senior Living
Tools for Life: Getting to know Your Assistive Technology Act Program

Presented by:

Rachel Wilson COTA/L, AT Specialist

August 2, 2018

Welcome to the Assistive Technology Revolution!

The world around us is evolving at an astounding rate. Assistive Technology (AT) developments have been foundational in this evolution and a catalyst for producing positive life-changing results for individuals with disabilities.

This session will take a closer look at:

- AMAC & Tools for Life – AT Act Program
- Understanding Assistive Technology
- Defining “Low/Light Tech” to “Mid/High Tech Solutions”
- Acquiring Assistive Technology

…all in about xxx minutes!

For Handouts: [Visit the Tools for Life Wiki Page – www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki]

AMAC Accessibility

AMAC Accessibility is a social change organization on a mission to create affordable services for governmental, private, and nonprofit organizations working with individuals with disabilities.

Services include E-text, Braille, live captioning, assistive technology, office management software, and accessibility consulting.

Accessibility Made Smart

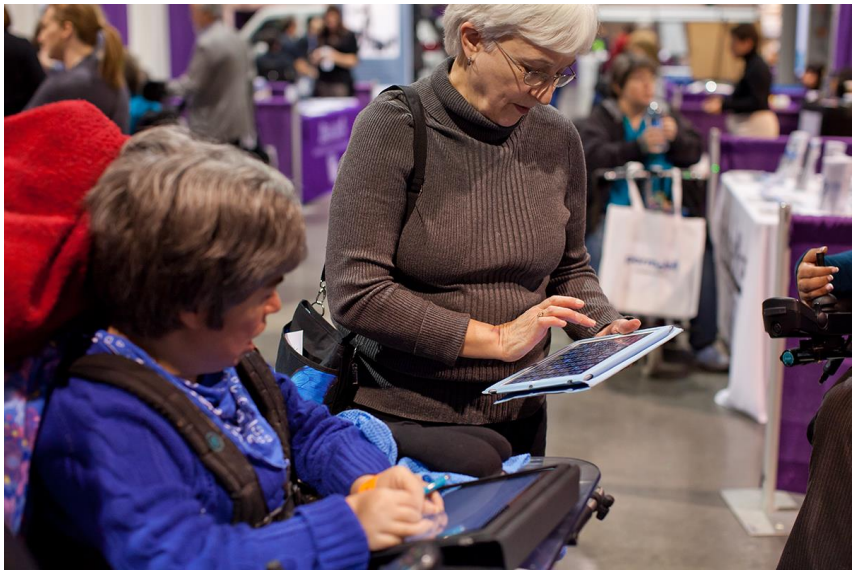
AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.

- **Accessibility Consulting** focuses on organizational accessibility needs with evaluation, technical assistance, customer support, and website accessibility solutions.
- **Braille Services** produces customized projects from both print materials and electronic text including partial books and chapters or graphics only using cutting-edge technology.
- **Captioning and Described Audio Services** makes classrooms, meetings, labs and other audio environments fully accessible for deaf or hard-of-hearing and providing audio descriptions of videos and other visual media for those who are blind or have low-vision.
- **Professional E-Text Producers** provide high-quality e-text in many formats such as PDF, DOC, DAISY, and HTML.
- **Certified Assistive Technology team** provides on-site and remote assessments, demonstrations, training and technical assistance for education, work, and daily living environments.

For more information, please visit http://www.amacusa.org/

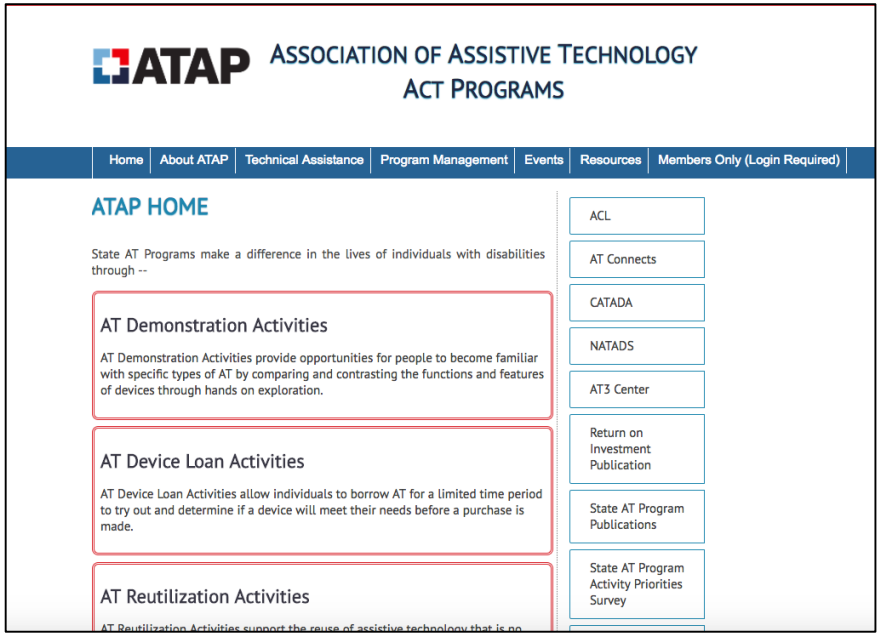
Tools for Life

We’re here to help Georgians with disabilities gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.



Get to Know Your AT Act Program

[Association of Assitive Technology Act Programs – www.ataporg.org](http://www.ataporg.org)



Guiding Principle and Public Law

…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 educations mainstream of society in the United States.

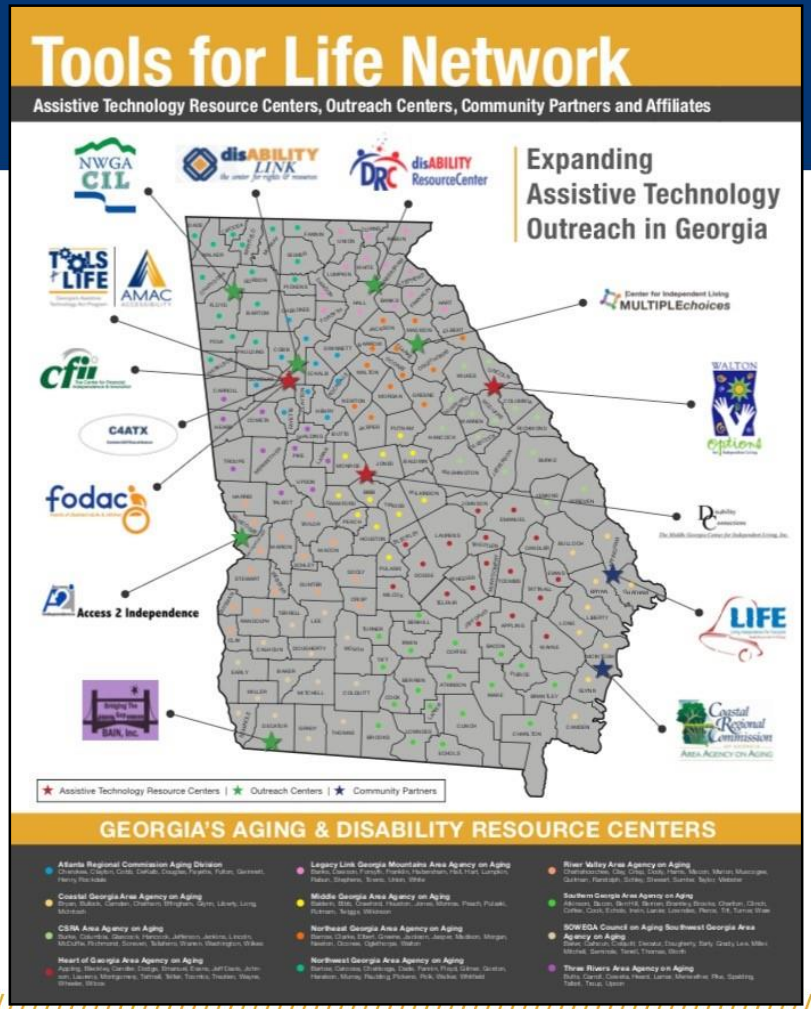
Public Law 108-364

Tools for Life Website

Your TFL AppFinder: What Can I Find?

Search by:

- ✓ App Name
- ✓ Categories
  - Books/Reading
  - Education
  - Environmental Adaptations
  - Hearing
  - Vision
  - Navigation
  - Cognition, Learning, and Development
  - Personal Care and Safety
  - Productivity
  - Communication
  - Therapeutic Aids



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What is Assistive Technology?

Assistive Technology (AT) is any item or piece of equipment that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life, including at school, at work, at home, and in the community

Assistive Technology Services

Assistive Technology Services are any services that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. These services include:

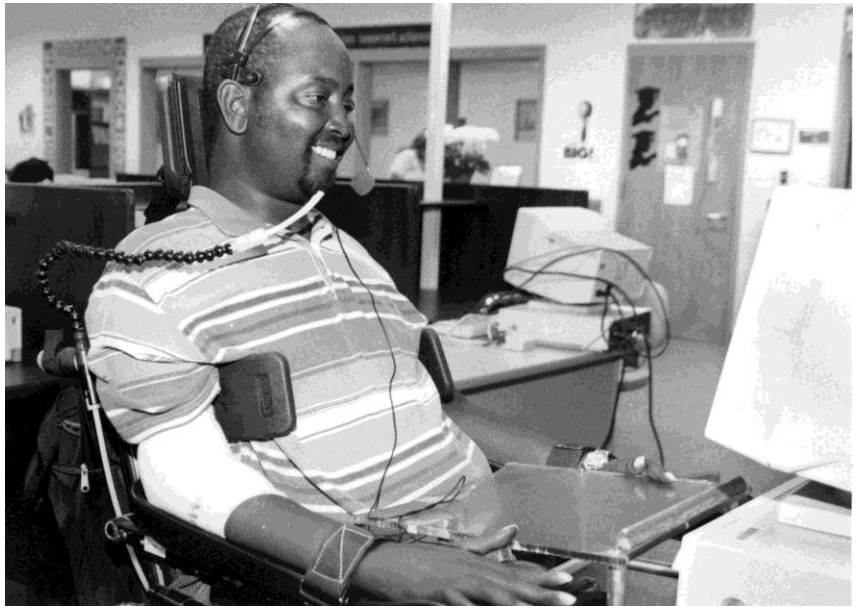
- Evaluating
- Providing devices
- Selecting, Designing, Customizing
- Maintaining, Repairing
- Coordinating
- Training/Technical Assistance – student, family, and school service providers

Public Law 105-394 [29 USC 2201]

Why Assistive Technology?

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

Tip: USE AT! We have yet to meet a successful person who doesn't use any AT.



The “FAST” Track

F*rustration*

A*nxiety*

S*tress*

T*ension*

Assistive Technology Continuum

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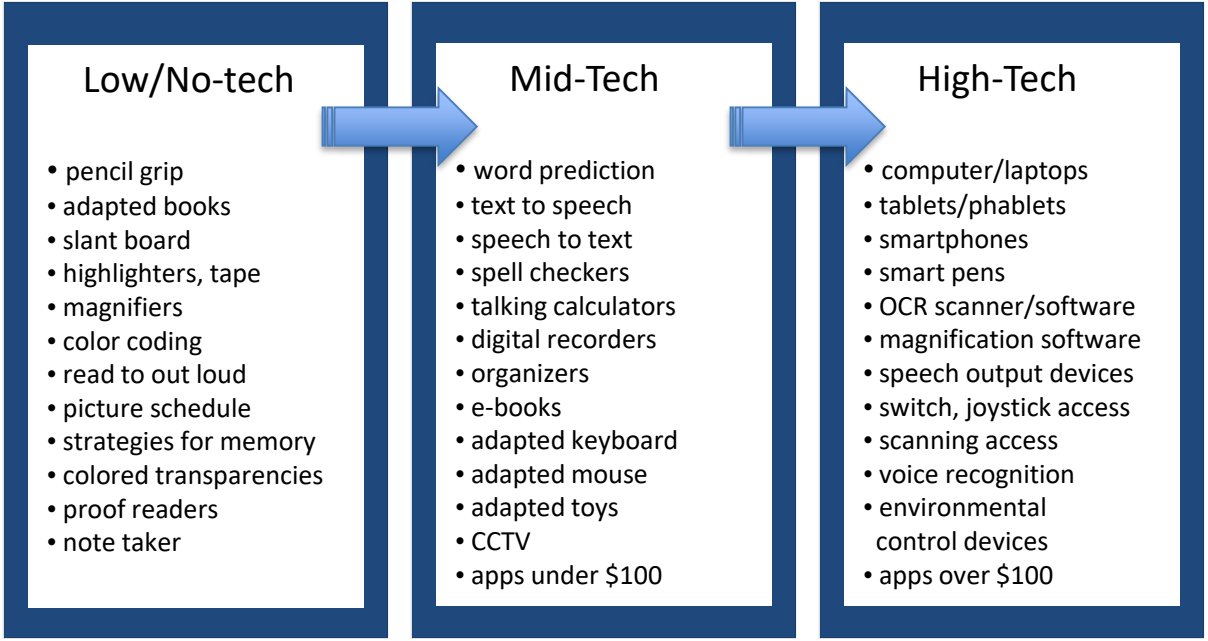
Observations and "Hanging out with Intent"

Assistive Technology is a ***continuum of tools, strategies, and services*** that match a person's needs, abilities, and tasks.



Acquisition and Funding for AT

Credit-Able

- Alternative financing program for Georgia
- Small low-interest loans
  - $250 to $10,000
  - Interest rate of 2-5%
- Used for
  - Equipment
  - Software
  - Home modifications
  - Vehicle modifications

Why Credit-Able?

- Flexibility
- Personal
- More accessible
- Helps to build or rebuild credit
- Save money!

Eligibility Criteria

Be a resident of Georgia

AND

A person with a disability

or

A family member/guardian of a person with a disability

or

An employer of a person with a disability

AND

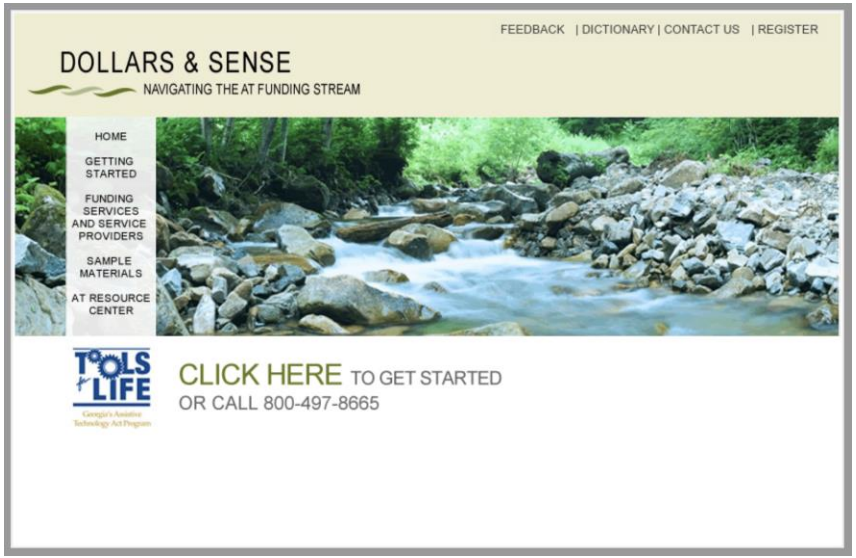
Be able to pay back the loan

&

Using the loan for AT

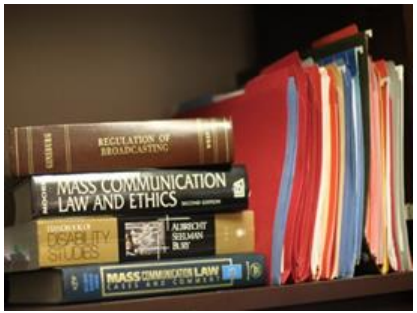
Dollars & Sense

- Online funding guide
- Create and add resources not listed
- Local, statewide, and national
- [Dollars & Sense Website Here – gatfl.gatech.edu/ds]



WIRELESS inclusive RERC

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center

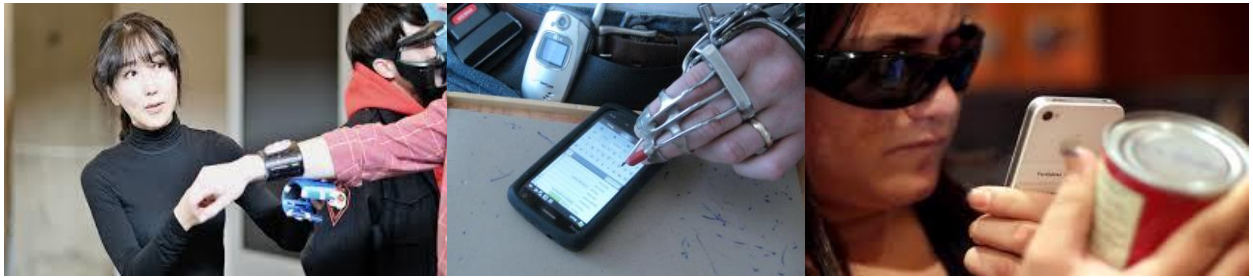


The Wireless RERC is funded through a grant for the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant #90RE5025). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this presentation do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

Our Mission

Promote a transformative future where individuals with disabilities achieve independence, improved quality of life, and enhanced community participation.

User-Centered R&D • Accessible Solutions • Policy & Outreach



Contact & Connect
www.wirelessrerc.org

@CACPGT_wRERC

Accessible Technology Policy Group

Wireless RERC

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The Tools for Life Team

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Carolyn Phillips
Director, Tools for Life
carolyn.phillips@gatfl.gatech.edu

Ben Jacobs
Accommodations Specialist
ben.jacobs@gatfl.gatech.edu

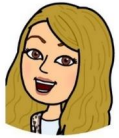
Sarah Endicott
Research Scientist
sarah.endicott@design.gatech.edu

Liz Persaud
Program and Outreach Manager
liz.persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu

Rachel Wilson
AT Specialist
rachel.wilson@gatfl.gatech.edu

Tori Holder
Outreach Specialist
tori.holder@gatfl.gatech.edu

Martha Rust
AT Access Team Manager
martha.rust@gatfl.gatech.edu



Sam Peters
Program Specialist
speters37@gatech.edu

Ciara Montes
Direct Services Intern
ciara.montes@gatfl.gatech.edu

Danny Housley
AT Acquisition Manager
danny.housley@gatfl.gatech.edu

Asha Kumar
AT Lab Specialist
asha.kumar@gatfl.gatech.edu

Annabel Joyner
Graphic Design Intern
ajoyner8@gatech.edu

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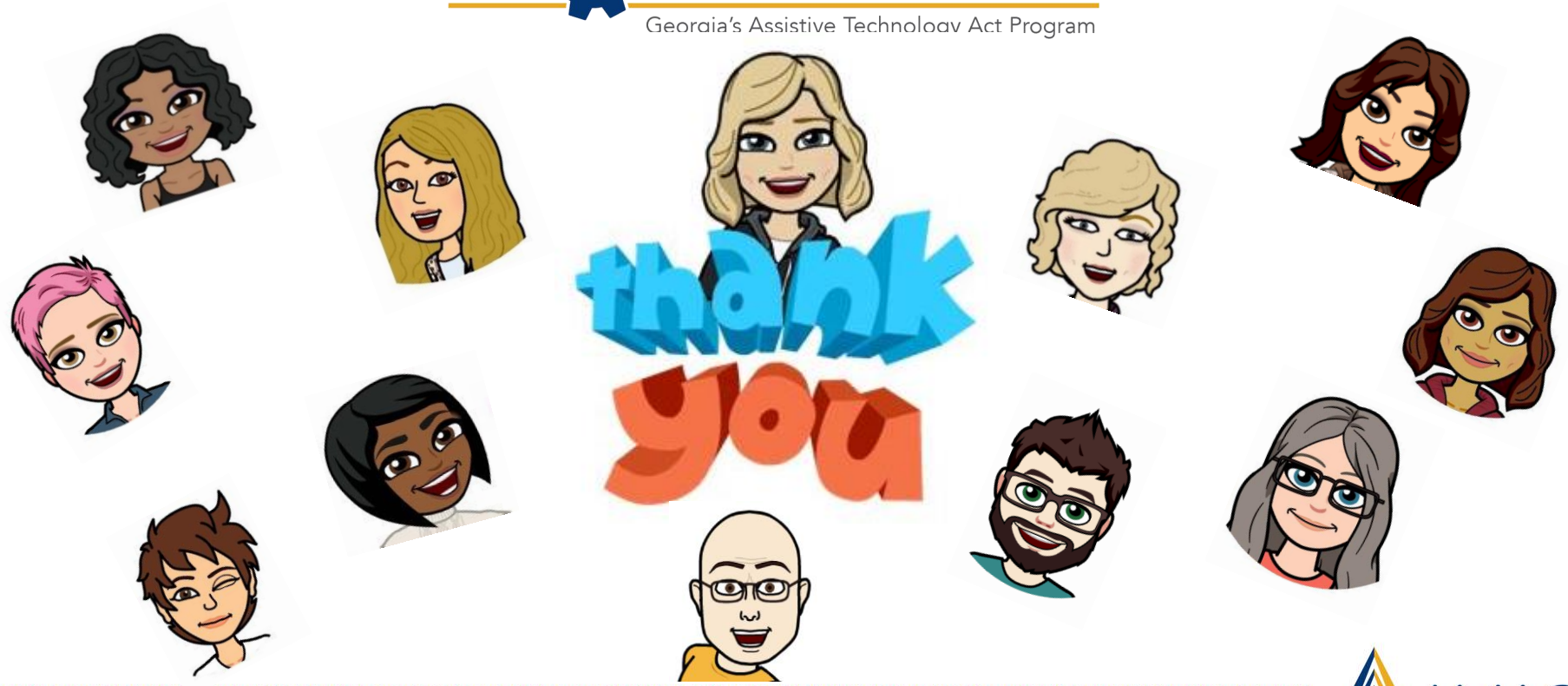

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Disclaimer

Disclaimer: Produced by Tools for Life (TFL), which is a result of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. TFL is a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Design, AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center and was made possible by Grant Number H224C030009 from the Administration for Community Living. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS.