

Tools for Life: Your Assistive Technology Program in Georgia

Tools for Life
Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation
College of Design | Georgia Institute of Technology

Georgia Power | ADAPPT June 2019

CREATING THE NEXT®

Goals for this Session



During our time together today we will cover:

- TFL core activities
- Accessing the TFL Network and community partners
- Review funding resources
- Assistive technology strategies, and
- Training and outreach activities
- AT Demonstrations



Georgia College Tech of Design

Georgia Center for Inclusive Tech Design and Innovation



TFL Network

Assistive Technology Resource Centers
Outreach Centers
Community Partners
Statewide Centers for Independent Living
Aging Disability Resource Centers

Accessibility Made Smart



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

- Accessibility Consulting
- Braille Services
- Captioning and Described Audio Services
- Professional E-Text Producers
- Certified Assistive Technology team

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

Tools for Life (TFL)



Tools for Life (TFL), Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, provides Georgians of all ages and disabilities the opportunity to gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and service so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.



Tools for Life Core Services



As the Assistive Technology Program in Georgia, we are charged with core activities:

- 1. Information & Assistance
- 2. AT Assessments
- 3. AT Demonstrations
- 4. AT Equipment Lending
- 5. Training (Individuals and Groups)
- 6. Funding Education & Solutions
- 7. AT Reuse

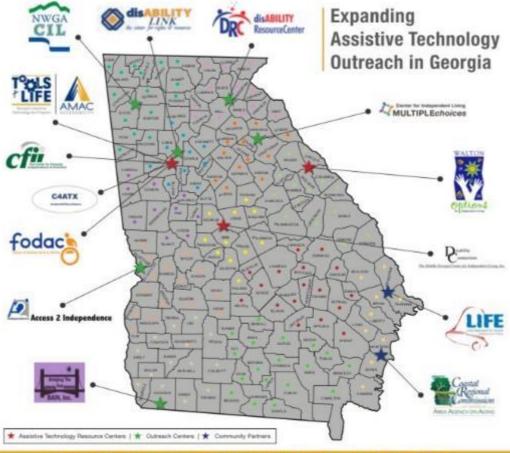
Tools for Life Website





Tools for Life Network

Assistive Technology Resource Centers, Outreach Centers, Community Partners and Affiliates



GEORGIA'S AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS

- Affanta Regional Communium Aging Division

 Charles Coleta Libra Carles Cospe, Napite Februs Serves
- Constel Georgia Area Agency on Aging Stock, Dukon, Careen Challens Physics, Stock Liberty Loss Streets
- CSRA Ama Agency on Aging

 Batto, Galeria, General Personal Memory Jersen, Lincoln, Solitor, Visitalia, General Street, Solitor, Street, Street
- Heart of Beergle Area Aperusy on Aying Ayinte, Storing Sanike Stelpe, Breaket Sanike ArtStein, antison, Jackson Managemen, Sanike Selection, Stelen Stelen Stelen Stelen
- Legary Link Georgia Mountains Area Agency on Aging
 Conta Decota Famili, frantis, fishe start, ried that, sarytro.
- Militie Georgia Ansa Aguncy on Aging Castors Strik, Control Planter Street, Science, Papel Publish Castors, Total Military
- Northwell Georgia Anse Agency on Aging Status, Clarks Starr, Counts, Justices, Joseph McGeorge Status, Clarkson, Clarkson, Status
- Northwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging Seles, Carcus, Stratungs, Toda, Serem, Stata Science Strata Introduce, Morray Facility, Delane, Mile, Seales, Stratust
- Miner Waltey Area Agency on Ageng State Selection City, City, Chiny, Parts, Marco, Marco, Marco, Colon, City, Chiny, Parts, Marco, Marco, Marco, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Marco, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Marco, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Marco, Chiny, Chiny, Chiny, Marco, Chiny, Chiny, Marco, Chin
- Baltiers Comple A se Agency on Agency

 Advance, Science Service Service Streets Streets Streets

 Advanced Streets Service Service Streets Streets

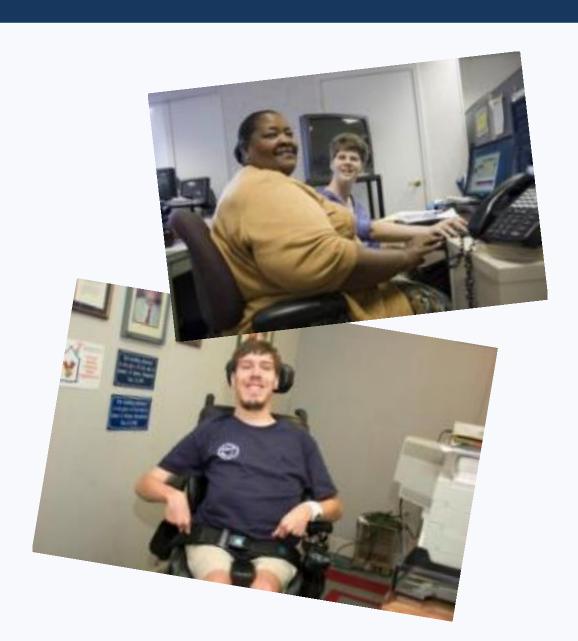
 Advanced Streets

 Advanced
- SOWEGA Council on Aging Box threat Georgia Area
 Agency on Aging
 the Committee Council Inspect Street Control on Miles
- Drew Brans Ann Agency on Aging San Sand, Course Sent, John Sent Sent Sent Sale, Sale Cours



Who Are We Serving? Every 1 in 5





People with disabilities are the largest minority group in America

This group cuts across racial, ethnic, religious, gender and age boundaries

Anyone can become a member of this minority group at any time

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 educational mainstream of society in the United States.

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.



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 Continuum



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.

Low/No-tech

- pencil grip
- adapted books
- slant board
- highlighters, tape
- magnifiers
- color coding
- read to out loud
- picture schedule
- strategies for memory
- colored transparencies
- proof readers
- note taker
- dry erase board

Mid-Tech

- word prediction
- text to speech
- speech to text
- spell checkers
- talking calculators
- digital recorders
- organizers
- e-books
- adapted keyboard
- adapted mouse
- adapted toys
- CCTV
- apps under \$100

High-Tech

- computer/laptops
- tablets/phablets
- smartphones
- smart pens
- OCR scanner/software
- magnification software
- speech output devices
- switch, joystick access
- scanning access
- voice recognition
- environmental control devices
- apps over \$100

Team Approach



- The person with the disability
- Circle of support/Family of choice
- Teachers
- Case Managers
- Technologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Physical Therapist
- Engineer
- Neighbors
- Bus drivers



The "FAST" Track



Frustration

Anxiety

Stress

Tension

AT Assessments



Comprehensive AT assessment

Certified AT team

\$450

Written report and recommendations

Area of focus:

- Workplace
- Ergonomics
- Hardware/Software
- Strategies



AT Demonstrations



Free of charge!

Learn about devices

What will work best?

- Assist in making informed choices
- Consumer's choice in devices







AT Lending Library



Try before you buy!

Loans are usually for 3 to 4 weeks

Training on items before
borrowed, if needed



TFL AT Solution and Access Labs



- Tablets
- Vision items
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Communication devices
- Gaming solutions
- Software
- Switches and Keyboards
- Aids for daily living
- Environmental Control/Internet of Things
- 3D printed technology







Funding Resources



Georgia's Assistive Technology and Funding Guide

- Centers for Independent Living (CIL)
- Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRC)
- Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)



Credit-Able



- Georgia's alternative financing program for assistive technology
- Thanks to a partnership between Center for Financial Independence and Innovation and Tools for Life



Eligibility Criteria



Be a resident of Georgia

A person with a disability

or

AND

A family member/guardian of a person with a disability

or

An <u>employer</u> of a person with a disability

Able to pay back the loan

AND

Using the loan for AT

First \$TEP Program





- For Georgians with disabilities
- Small low interest loans to establish/repair credit
- Can be used for anything
- 4% interest
- \$1,000 max
- 18 months max term

Training



Training activities include but are not limited to:

- In person or virtual trainings
- Webinars
- Internal and external partner trainings

Variety of Topics:

- Assistive Technology (specific for disabilities)
- Funding
- Emerging Tech/Trends
- Disability awareness

More!









Tours



All tours are scheduled

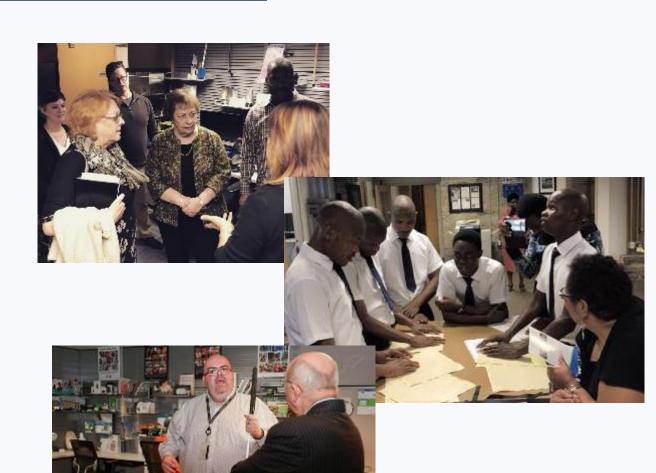
Small or large (up to 60) groups

What you see:

- AT Solutions and Access Labs
- Braille production
- Captioning & Described Media Services
- E-text
- 3D Printing

Variety of groups visiting:

- Disability service organizations
- Government agencies
- FEMA
- Office of Civil Rights
- Statewide assistive technology programs
- School Systems Cobb County Schools in January 2019!



Questions



What questions do you have for us?

Please visit with the TFL team members at the AT demonstration tables!

The Tools for Life Team



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



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



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



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



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



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



Sam Peters
Program Specialist
speters37@gatech.edu



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



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



Ciara Montes
AT Specialist
ciara.montes@gatfl.gatech.edu



Annabel Joyner
Graphic Design Intern
ajoyner8@gatech.edu



DeeDee Bunn
Speech-Language Pathologist
dbunn6@gatech.edu



Ben Satterfield
Research Associate
rsatterfield8@gatech.edu

Contact Us



Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (formerly AMAC Accessibility)

College of Design | Georgia Institute of Technology

1-800-497-8665

www.gatfl.gatech.edu

info@gatfl.gatech.edu



facebook.com/gatoolsforlife



@tools4life_at



@tools4life at

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, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (formerly AMAC Accessibility) 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.