



# **Heart Of Georgia Altamaha**

ADRC Advisory Council and CCSP Network Meeting

*Martha Rust and Rachel Wilson  
Tools for Life  
March 8, 2016*

[www.amacusg.org](http://www.amacusg.org)



# 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 Services** makes classrooms, meetings, labs and other audio environments fully accessible for deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- **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 our website at [www.amacusg.org](http://www.amacusg.org)

# Mission

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

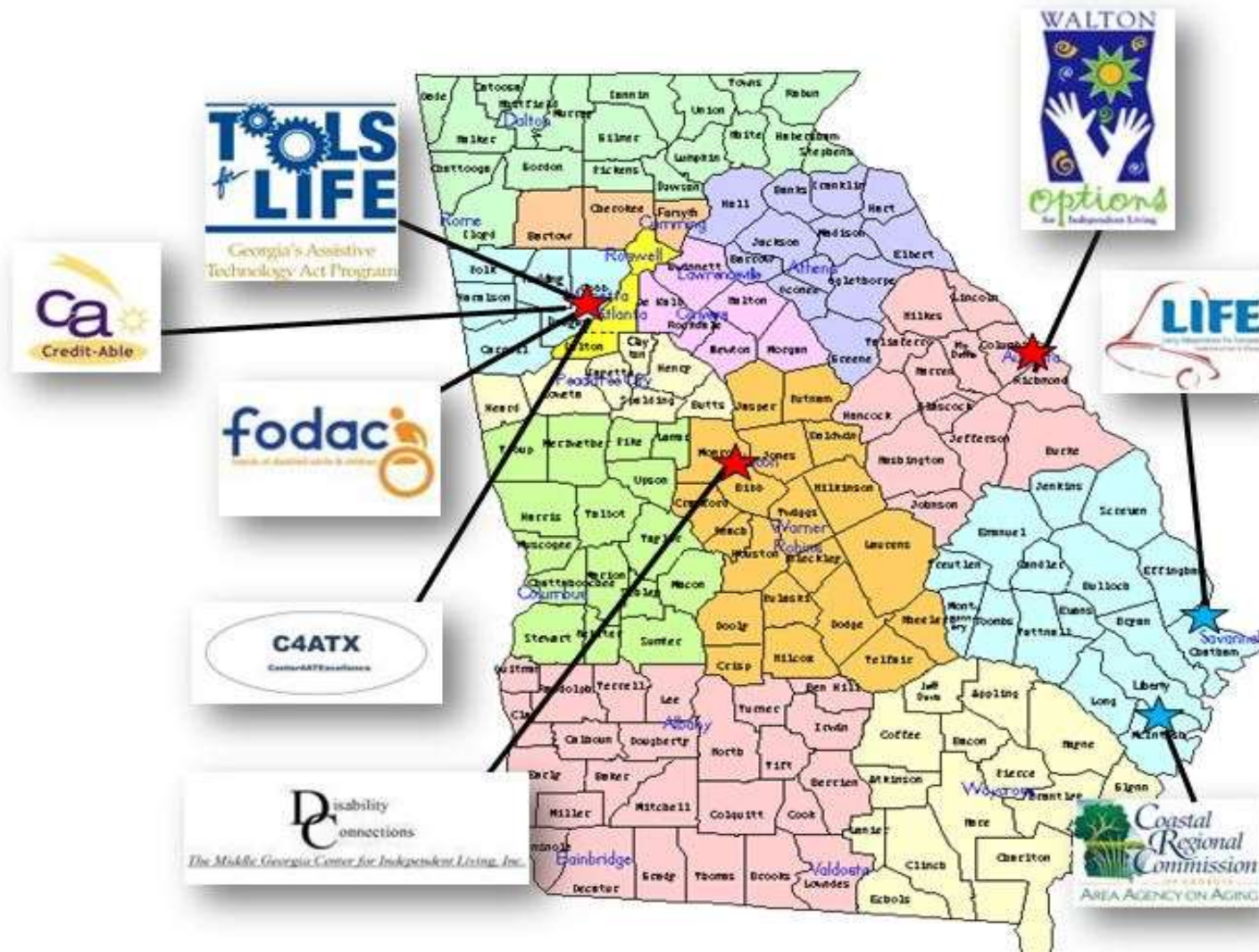


## **Tools for Life, Georgia's Federal AT Act Program**

- **TFL developed Georgia's Plan for AT**
  - We serve individuals of all ages & all disabilities in Georgia
  - Over 50,000+ thru various activities throughout the year
- **TFL Network**
  - Assistive Technology Resource & Outreach Centers
  - AT Lending Libraries
  - Training and Demonstrations
  - AT Reuse
  - AT Funding Education/Assistance and Resources
- **Online Resources**
  - [www.gatfl.gatech.edu](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu) - 5,000 unique visitors a month



# Your TFL Network is Growing!



TRAINING

FUNDING

PUBLICATIONS

TFL WIKI

MEET THE TFL TEAM

MEET THE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

DIRECTIONS/MAP

JOIN OUR  
MAILING LIST

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Welcome AT Services Try AT Get AT AT Guides Research

# Learn More about AT through



## Hands-On Demonstrations



### Welcome to Tools for Life

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently, and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

### ROOM TOWN HALL MEETING

MAR  
19

Goodwill of North Georgia  
154 Hicks Drive, Rome, Georgia  
30161

### WEBINARS

MAR  
19

[Assistive Technology Solutions  
for Writing](#)

MAR  
26

[Diving Beneath the Surface:  
Selecting Tablets, Apps and  
Accessibility Features](#)

APR  
2

[Creating Accessible Documents  
for Individuals with Learning  
Disabilities](#)

- Current Webinar Schedule
- Webinar Archives

### TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER



...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

### AT ONLINE EXCHANGE



# 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.”

Public Law 108-364





# What is Assistive Technology?

## Assistive Technology Device

...any item, piece of equipment or product that is used to increase, maintain or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

Public Law 105-394 [29 USC 2201]

### 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

### 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,
- smartpens
- OCR scanner/software
- magnification software
- speech output devices
- switch, joystick access
- scanning access
- voice recognition
- environmental control devices
- apps over \$100



# Why Assistive Technology?

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



# AT Helps!

- Assistive Technology strategies and solutions can help support individuals with a variety of disabilities in all areas of life. AT helps to bridge the gap and provide solutions to problems with:
  - speaking
  - hearing
  - seeing
  - moving around
  - getting places
  - memory
  - cognition (thought processes and understanding)
  - daily living activities, such as dressing and preparing meals
  - socializing

# Hearing



- Natural deterioration
- Tinnitus
- Conversation, socialization, and communication impacted
- Ability may vary place to place
- Hearing aids often problematic

# Normal Effects of Aging



- Hearing
  - Vision
  - Neuro-sensory system
  - Skeleto-muscular
  - Intellectual functioning
  - Social supports
- 
- Influenced by genetics, lifestyle and environment



# Neuro-sensory and Skeloto-muscular Systems



## Changes in

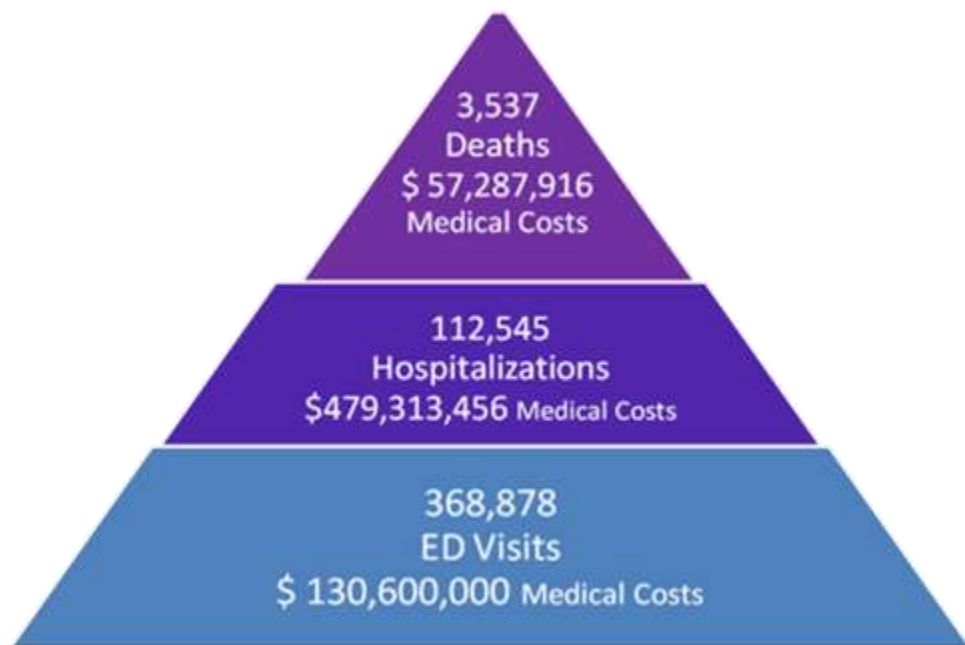
- Strength
- Balance
- Endurance
- Range of motion
- Sensitivity to temperature changes
- Sensitivity to pain and trauma

# Intellectual Functioning



- Processing may take longer
- Long-term memory often better than short-term memory
- Motivation varies to learn and do things differently

# Georgia Facts about Falls



- Georgia has the 9th fastest growing 60+ population and the 18th fastest growing 85+ population in the U.S.
- Falling is **NOT** an inevitable result of aging.
- Through evidence-based interventions, practical lifestyle adjustments, AT and community partnerships, we can substantially reduce the number of falls.

\*Data represents age 60 and older population in Georgia 2010<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 2005-2010; excluded 2009 data. <sup>2</sup> <http://oasis.state.ga.us/oasis/oasis/qryMorbMort.aspx>

# Cost of Care- Setting



Georgia: (Whole state)	Rate Range Median	Median Annual Rate <sup>1</sup>
Nursing Home: private room	\$195	\$71,175
Nursing Home: Semi-private room	\$183	\$66,795
Assistive living: (One Bedroom – Single Occupancy)	\$2,880	\$34,560
Home Health Aide	\$18	\$41,184

<sup>1</sup>Median Annual Rates\* are calculated based on the following:

Nursing Home - daily rate multiplied by 365 days

Assisted Living Facility - monthly rate multiplied by 12 months

Health Aide Services - hourly rate multiplied by 44 hours per week, multiplied by 52 weeks Adult

\*Hourly, daily and monthly rates are rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

[https://www.genworth.com/dam/Americas/US/PDFs/Consumer/corporate/cost-of-care/118928GA\\_040115\\_gnw.pdf](https://www.genworth.com/dam/Americas/US/PDFs/Consumer/corporate/cost-of-care/118928GA_040115_gnw.pdf)



# Cost of Care- Assistance

- Costs can vary by individual/situation
- Home Care assistance average cost:

National Average= \$20/hr (range \$9-\$39)

4hrs/day x \$20/hr= \$80/day (\$29,200 annually)

12hrs/day x \$20/hr= \$240/day (\$87,600 annually)





# Aging in Place: Questions to Consider

- Safety
  - ADLs
  - Self care
- Physical barriers
  - Emergency exits
  - Entrance
  - Hallways
  - Living room
  - Kitchen
  - Bedroom
  - Bathrooms
  - Utility room

# Healthy Living/ Fall Prevention



- Home modifications or adaptations can reduce the amount of care required
- Increased awareness of safety needs
- Take proactive steps BEFORE incidents occur
- Protection in place for caregiver to avoid injury, burn-out
- Increase independence of individual is empowering and a “win-win”!

# Staying off the FAST Track!



- ✓ **Frustration**
- ✓ **Anxiety**
- ✓ **Stress**
- ✓ **Tension**

- Lee & Phillips



# Effective AT Assessment



- Uses a feature-match approach
- Incorporates on-going educational/life planning
- Hanging out with Intent
- Targets natural environments
- Utilizes the competencies of multiple team member
- Demands meaningful follow-through

# Assistive Technology Matching: A Team Approach



- ✓ The Person with the disAbility
- ✓ Circle of Support – Family of Choice
- ✓ Case Managers
- ✓ Technologist
- ✓ Occupational Therapist
- ✓ Speech & Language Pathologist
- ✓ Physical Therapist
- ✓ Engineer

# A Closer Look at AT Solutions

# AT for Hearing

## Pocket Talker

- Sound amplifier
- Decreases background noise
- Works for individuals with ADHD



## TV SoundBox Speaker Receiver

- No more straining to hear your TV from far away
- Volume control works independently from your TV speaker
- Wireless and lightweight



# AT for Vision

## Illuminating Magnifier



- 5x LED Lighted
- Compact

## Magnifier sheet

- Hands Free
- 3X Magnification



## 20/20 Vision Panoramic Rear-View Mirror



# AT for Self Feeding

- **Non-Slip Placemat**

- Keep plates/ items from moving
- Use on Roller walkers
- Cut to fit



## Bestic Automatic Feeder

Lifts the food from the plate to your mouth

- **Freedom Dinnerware**

- Low vision, Alzheimer's, Arthritis, stroke
- Suction keeps from moving
- Helps with getting food on utensils





# AT in the Kitchen



## Cutting Board

- One-handed
- Low vision

## The KFS Easy Eat Fork

- Light weight utensil
- Rocker knife
- One-handed or limited grip



## Rocker Knife

- One-handed cutting
- Large grip

# Health and Wellness

## EpicID Emergency ID Band



- Easy for first responders to access
- Salt water safe USB with a durable stainless steel clasp and USB cover
- No subscription or internet connection is required
- Plug this USB into your computer and input or update your personal information medical history and insurance information
- Both PC and Mac compatible

## Health Smart Thermometer



- Compact and easy to hold
- Talking thermometer
- Large, backlit LCD screen with LED fever alarm indicator
- 30-reading memory storage
- Date and time display
- Fahrenheit/Celsius switchable

# Memory



[www.alzstore.com](http://www.alzstore.com)

- **Reminder Rosie**
  - Alarm Clock
  - Personal Voice Reminder
  - Easy to use



## MedCenter System

- Organizer with Reminder System
- Monthly display
- Alarm
- Talking

# Medication Management

## Automatic medication dispenser

- Holds 29 doses
- Up to 4 alarms per day



[www.alzstore.com](http://www.alzstore.com)



Pillpac.com

- Organized pills packaged by pharmacy
- Sealed pouches for each day
- Time stamped
- Lessen medication errors

# Dressing and Bathing

- Sock aid
- Elastic shoe laces
- Dressing stick
- Long shoe horn
- Long handle bath sponge



# Personal Assistance

## FreedomWand



- Toileting
- Hygiene
- Grooming

## Home Bed Assist Handle



- Slides under mattress
- Provides a safe, secure grip for assistance getting in & out of bed



# Mobility & Transportation



**Silicone SeatBelt  
Reach Extender  
Helper**



**HandyBar**

- Automotive Standing Aid  
Emergency Escape Tool  
Window Breaker and Seat  
Belt Cutter



**Deluxe Swivel Seat  
Cushion**

- Convert stationary chairs into swiveling chairs to reduce the strain on your back and hips. Soft 1 3/8 inch foam cushion helps bring more comfort to your chair.
- The seat cushion swivels 360 degrees for smooth, easy movement in either direction.
- Great for home, office or travel use; easily get in and out of vehicles
- Portable and lightweight yet supports up to 300 pounds
- Non-skid, flexible swivel base contours to seat and stays in place.



# Recreation



Playing card holder



# Computer Access

## ZoomText Keyboard

- Yellow Keys
- Easy to See
- Large Keys
- USB port



## Logitech Trackman Marble Mouse

Large trackball improves control while reducing hand and wrist motion



## ValueRays® Heated Mouse, Infrared Heat



# Communication

- Go Talk 9+
  - is lightweight and rugged
  - 45 message capacity and five recording levels
  - three “core messages” which stay the same on each level so you don’t need to re-record essential messages for each level



# Emergency

## Serene Innovations Kit

- Detects and alerts you to WEA\* public emergency broadcast warnings of impending emergencies or disasters.
- Includes wearable unit, doorbell, home/cell phone ringer/flasher, and bedshaker



## Personal Pager

- Alert family/caregiver for assistance

- Can alert with chime or vibration
- Wireless transmit up to 100 feet



**Safety Tape for Low Vision- Yellow**  
Clearly Mark Hazardous Areas to Prevent Injuries



\$3.00

# Amazon Echo

amazon echo

Always ready, connected, and fast. Just ask.



- Speech-controlled speaker system
- Voice recognition - further distances
- All functions are server side
- Compatible with many EC Brands
- \$179.99



# VGo Telepresence Robot

- Enables a person to replicate themselves in a distant location and have the freedom to move around as if they were physically there
- Reduces travel costs
- School
- Hospital
- Work from home



# Kubi

- Telepresence
- \$499
- Uses a tablet
- Uses free conference sites
  - Google Hangout
  - FaceTime
  - Skype





# TFL AppFinder

**Search by:**

✓ **App Name**

✓ **Categories**

- Book
- Education
- Environmental Adaptations
- Hearing
- Cognition, Learning, Developmental
- Navigation
- Personal Care and Safety
- Productivity
- Communication
- Therapeutic Aids
- Vision



# MyMedSchedule



- Keep track of medication
- Reminders
- Refill Reminders
- Healthcare Provider Profiles
- Insurance Information
- Allergies
- Works across Platforms
- Free
- [www.mymedschedule.com](http://www.mymedschedule.com)



# Key Ring

- One Place to store all reward cards
- Organized
- Android & Apple version
- [www.keyringapp.com](http://www.keyringapp.com)
- **Free!**



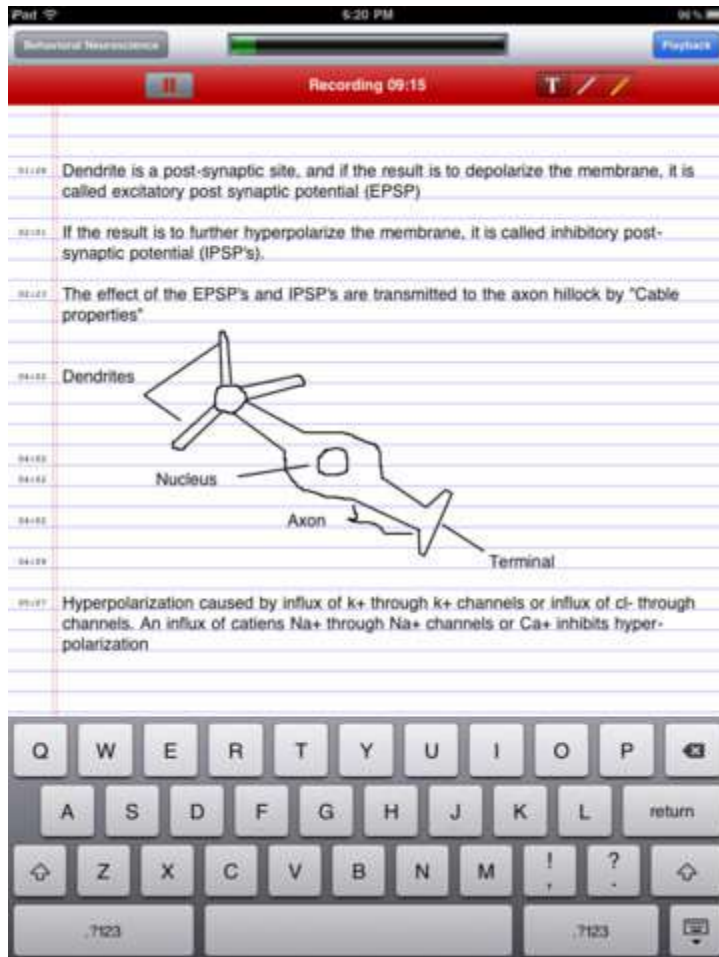
# Fooducate



- Track calories
- Provides healthier options
- Educates on food ingredients
- Save favorites
- Create lists
- App for allergies and gluten-free
- App for diabetes nutrition
- Free
- [www.fooducate.com](http://www.fooducate.com)



# AudioNote



- Records your notes, meetings or lectures
- Can take notes by typing, stylus, or drawing
- Time stamps so you can go directly to where you want to hear
- Highlights notes when read back
- \$4.99



# Reading Apps

- Free Books
  - Free
  - Over 23,000 titles
  - Audiobooks
- Newspaper
  - Free
  - Newspapers from 150+ countries
  - Over 20,000 newspapers



- Overdrive Media Console
  - Free
  - Must have library card
  - Download ebooks and audiobooks on the go



# More Reading Apps

- Learning Ally



- [DAISY](#)
- Membership required
- over 75,000 audiobooks, audio textbooks, and other recorded books

- Audible.com



- Over 100,000 titles
- Works on both Android and Apple
- \$7.00-\$22.00 per month



# ICE





## In Case of Emergency

- Emergency contact list
- Central place for you to record any medications
- List allergies or medical conditions
- Pre-loaded medical information to choose from
- Free
- [www.ice-app.net](http://www.ice-app.net)



# Favorite Navigation Apps

- Around Me 
  - Identifies where you are
  - Lists what is around you
  - View route to place from where you are
  - Add information to contact list

- Talk and Drive Waze 
  - Operate your map applications simply by talking
  - Launch the application, say your destination

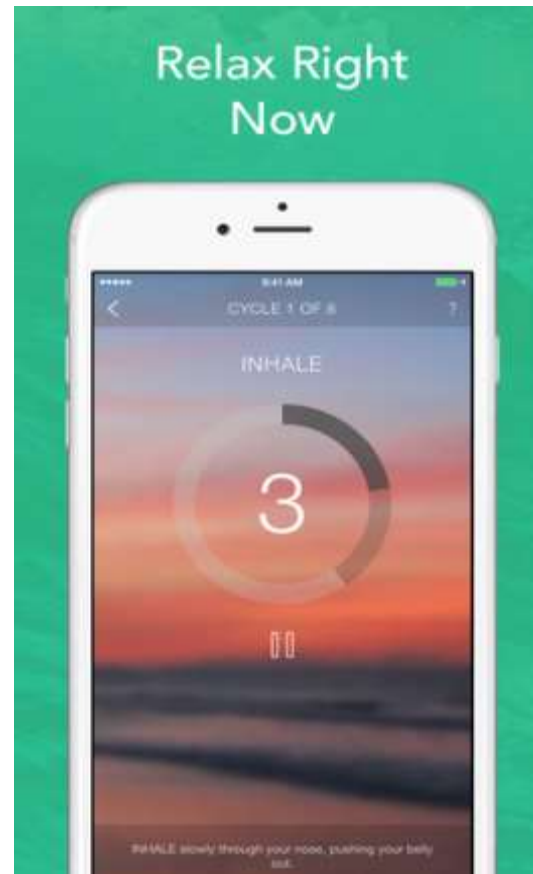


# iZen Garden



- Choose from 100s of objects, plants and creatures to place in your garden
- Rake the sand and share your creations
- Helps you to center your mind, relax your psyche and relieve your stress

# Pacifica



Monitor and track mood, anxiety, depression

Several methods of relaxation to choose from

Connect with others for support in real-time

# AT Funding Resources

# 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!


# Dollars and Sense



FEEDBACK | DICTIONARY | CONTACT US | REGISTER

## DOLLARS & SENSE

NAVIGATING THE AT FUNDING STREAM



- HOME
- GETTING STARTED
- FUNDING SERVICES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS
- SAMPLE MATERIALS
- AT RESOURCE CENTER

**TOOLS LIFE**  
Georgia's Assistive Technology Resource

**CLICK HERE** TO GET STARTED  
OR CALL 800-497-8665



[FEEDBACK](#) | [DICTIONARY](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

# DOLLARS & SENSE

NAVIGATING THE AT FUNDING STREAM

Text size: **S** **M****L**[HOME](#)[GETTING  
STARTED](#)

Please use the drop-down lists below to search...

Age Groups Served

Show all ages

Geographic Areas Served

Show all geographies

Serves People with the Following  
Disabilities

Show all disabilities

Type of Funding Provided

Show all funding sources

Types of Services Provided

Show all services provided

[SAMPLE  
MATERIALS](#)[AT  
RESOURCE  
CENTER](#)

FEEDBACK | DICTIONARY | CONTACT US

# DOLLARS & SENSE

NAVIGATING THE AT FUNDING STREAM

Text size: S M

L

HOME

Dollars and Sense Homepage | Resource Center

GETTING  
STARTED

## AT Resource Center

FUNDING  
SERVICES  
AND  
SERVICE  
PROVIDERS

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### 1. How can I get funding to pay for home modifications?

There are a variety of different funding opportunities for home modifications. Listed below are a few:

- [Georgia Dream Homeownership Program](#)
- [Credit-Able](#) – Georgia's Alternative Loan Program for Georgian's with disabilities
- [Social Security PASS Plan](#), allows for individuals to save money for a specific purchase
- [211](#)- United Way telephone number to find human service answers
- [Aldergate](#), homes for developmental disabilities
- [Brain and Spinal Cord Trust Fund](#)
- [Joni Foundation](#)
- [USDA Rural Development Section 502 Rural Housing Loan Guarantee](#)-The purpose of this loan program is to enable eligible low- and moderate-income rural residents to acquire modestly priced housing for their own use as a primary residence. The program is available for the purchase and repair of existing and newly constructed dwelling. There is no required down payment, but families must be able to afford the mortgage payments, including taxes and insurance. In addition, applicants must be without adequate housing and be unable to obtain credit elsewhere, yet have acceptable credit histories.

SAMPLE  
MATERIALS

AT  
RESOURCE  
CENTER

# It's Not Just a Loan, It's a *Possibility*



- Access to technology to increase independence
- Home modifications to stay in your home
- Vehicle modification for continued vehicle access
- Better credit

# Online AT resource



- FREE resource for finding and exchanging assistive technology (AT) 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
- This online equipment exchange program was developed to make to make AT devices and services available and accessible to Georgians with disabilities
- [www.gtradeonline.org](http://www.gtradeonline.org)

# Credit-Able Program Criteria



*To receive a Credit-Able Loan you must be:*

- A resident of Georgia

AND

- An **individual** with a disability

OR

- A **family member** or legal guardian of an individual with a disability

OR

- An **employer** of an individual with a disability
- Able to pay back the loan
- Using the loan to buy assistive technology equipment and services

# Range of Loans, Terms, and Interest Rates



- Range of Loans Approved: **\$250 to \$55,000**
- Length of Loans Approved: **6 months to 8 Yrs**
- Interest Rates: **5.0 % - 9 %**



# The Bottom Line: YOU Save Money!



## Traditional Financing

- \$2,000
- 22% (rate of average credit card)
- 3 year term
- Monthly payment = \$76.38
- Total interest paid = \$749.71

## Credit-Able Financing

- \$2,000
- 5.4%
- 3 year term
- Monthly payment = \$60.30
- Total interest paid = \$170.86

**Total interest saved: \$578.85**

# WHEW!!!!

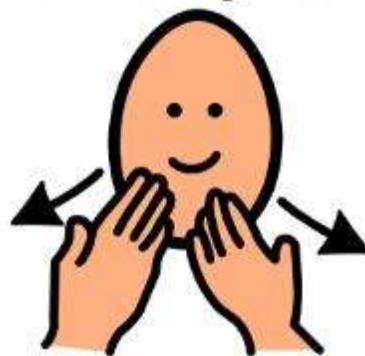




**My Question to You:  
What have You Learned today?**

# Thank You!

thank you



# The TFL Team



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*Disclaimer*

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