



Georgia's Assistive
Technology Act Program

Tools for Life: Your Assistive Technology Act Program

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Tools for Life | AMAC Accessibility

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Georgia Libraries Conference

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www.gatfl.gatech.edu

For Handouts: www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki

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
- Tools for Life Network
- Disability Connections and Independent Living
- Understanding Assistive Technology
- Defining “Low/Light Tech” to “Mid/High Tech Solutions”
- How to Acquire AT

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.amacusg.org/>

Who is Tools for Life?

Tools for Life Mission



Tools for Life is Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program. We're dedicated 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.



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 education's mainstream of society in the United States.

Public Law 108-364

Tools for Life Website



Tools for Life Wiki



Georgia's Assistive
Technology Act Program

Main page
Categories
A-Z index
Help

Featured Categories
Advisory Council
Events
Publications
Resources
Training

Tools
What links here
Related changes
Special pages
Printable version
Permanent link
Page information

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Page Discussion Read View source View history Search

Main Page

Welcome to the Tools for Life wiki. Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, gives more options for greater freedom by 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 in communities of their choice.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- What is Assistive Technology?
- Where can I learn about Assistive Technology devices?
- Where can I access TFL webinar archives?
- Where can I learn more about AT Reuse?
- How can I find my local AT Reuse program?
- Where can I find the National Pass It On Center AT Reuse Partnerships with Medicaid Guide?

Recent Presentations and Activities

- GVRA New Hire Training - July 10, 2018, Atlanta, GA
- GVRA New Managers and Supervisors Training - June 22, 2018 - Atlanta, GA
- HSHT & CEISMC Summer Tour - June 13, 2018 - Atlanta, GA
- VRS Summer Transition Academy - June 12, 2018 - Atlanta, GA
- IDEAS Conference 2018 - June 5-8, 2018 - St. Simons Island, GA
- Paideia School Neurodiversity Class - May 23, 2018 - Atlanta, GA
- GVRA Deaf and Hard of Hearing Interdisciplinary Group - May 17, 2018 - College Park, GA
- 2018 CSUN Conference - March 19-23, 2018 - San Diego, CA
- GVRA Blind and VI Interdisciplinary Group - March 22, 2018 - Atlanta, GA
- CVI Presentation on Environmental Control - March 12, 2018 - Atlanta, GA

Connect with Us

- Tools for Life Website
- Tools for Life on Facebook
- Tools for Life on YouTube

Helpful Tools & Resources

- DBHDD Assistive Technology Program Resources
- TFL Referral Training Link
- Tools for Life Direct Services Resources
- Tools for Life AppFinder
- Dollars & Sense Funding Guide
- gTrade Georgia's Online Equipment Exchange
- Tools for Life Community Partners
- Pass It On Center Website

News

- June 3-6, 2013 Tools for Life co-hosts IDEAS Conference in St. Simons Island, GA
- April 2013 Tools for Life AppFinder makes program spotlight on AT Connects website
- April 2013 Our Favorite Apps spotlight on AT Program News
- The National Pass It On Center releases document titled, AT Reuse Partnerships with Medicaid: A Guide for Consideration and Development

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

Expanding Assistive Technology Outreach in Georgia

Center for Independent Living
MULTIPLEchoices

Walton
Center for Independent Living
Options

D-ability
Accessories
The South Georgia Center for Independent Living

LIFE
Living In Freedom

Capital Regional
Commission
AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Access 2 Independence

Blinn, Inc.
Bringing the
World to
Blinn, Inc.

disABILITY LNA
the center for rights to mobility

disABILITY ResourceCenter

Tools for Life
Georgia Division of
Vocational Rehabilitation

AMAC
American Music Association

cfri
Center for Family Resource
Initiatives

CACTX
Community Action
Transitions Center

fodac
Florida Outreach
Developmental Association

NWGA CIL
Northwest Georgia
Center for Independent Living

Assistive Technology Resource Centers **Outreach Centers** **Community Partners**

[illegible]

Our Network Partner Here Today!



Disability Connections

- Center for Independent Living (CIL)
- Macon, GA



The Middle Georgia Center for Independent Living, Inc.



The Middle Georgia Center for Independent Living, Inc.

*To enable all people with disabilities to attain
and have access to all opportunities in life.*

The Middle Georgia Center for Independent Living, Inc.

3695 Broadway

Macon, GA 31206

www.disabilityconnections.com

What is Independent Living...

We all have our own definitions and beliefs of independent living. Many believe that the phrase “independent living” means to live on one’s Own or to live independently. The philosophy of independent living actually covers all areas of a person’s life. Areas include, but are not limited to: personal assistance, housing, budget planning and money management, nutrition and wellness, transportation, education, employment, recreation, self-esteem, communication and relationships.

Independent Living Means...

1. Controlling and directing one's own life
2. Making decisions and taking responsibility for one's own actions, thoughts and behaviors
3. Having the opportunity to participate in all areas of community life
4. Having the freedom to choose and having enough information to make and informed choice.
5. Making your own choices about where you live, with whom you live and how you live
6. Taking risks and being allowed to fail
7. Learning your rights and responsibilities as a first-class citizen and asserting them
8. Having consumer control of services

Having a disability should not prevent someone from having control over his/her own life. An individual may need assistance with certain activities. However, there is no reason that a person with a disability cannot live in the community and have the same choices and opportunities available to those without disabilities.

What is a Center for Independent Living?

- Consumer Control:
 - Governed by a board of directors made up of a majority of people with significant disabilities
 - Run by a majority of people with disabilities
- Non-Residential Center for Independent Living
- Serving ALL ages with ALL types of disabilities

Every CIL has 5 Core Services

- Information and Resource Referral
- Peer Support
- Advocacy
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Transition

Transition

Any Community living arrangements (including group homes, board and care homes, individual residences and apartments), day programs, juvenile detention centers, hospitals, nursing homes, homeless shelters, jails and prisons) whether publicly-run or privately operated where individuals with disabilities and other special needs are housed in a setting that provides care, treatment, services and habilitation, even if only “as needed” or under a contractual arrangement and in which the individual’s self-control over the quality of their own lives is limited.

[based on 45 CFR 1386.19 definitions]

Additional Services...

Assistive Technology!

- Demonstration and Loan
- Assessment and Training
- Durable Medical Equipment Reuse





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info@disabilityconnections.com

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]

Tools for Life Services



- AT Evaluations
- AT Loans
- AT Demonstrations through TFL and Network
- Training and Outreach
- State Alternative Financing Program
 - Credit-Able
- Device Reutilization Programs
 - National Pass It On Center

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



Frustration

Anxiety

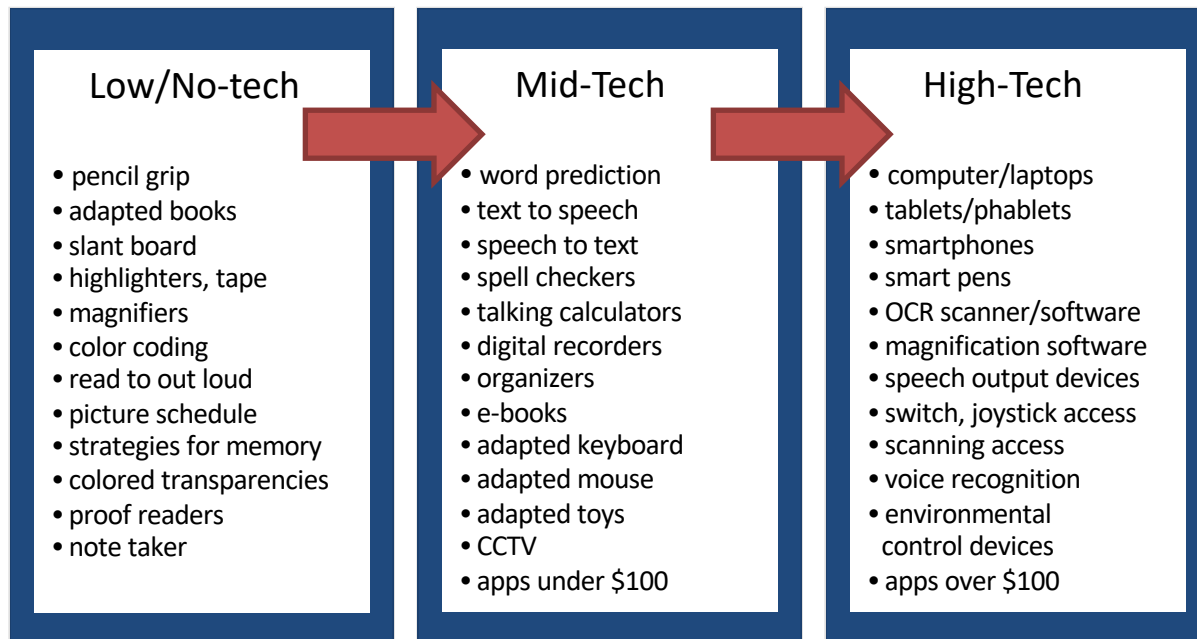
Stress

Tension

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.





The Tools for Life 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

Tools for Life AppFinder

[Try AT](#) [Get AT](#) [AT Guides](#) [Research](#)



Your AT Solutions!


GATE 2018 CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

JUL 31 Georgia Tech Student Center

WEBINARS


- Current Webinar Schedule
- Webinar Archives

TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER



For Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE

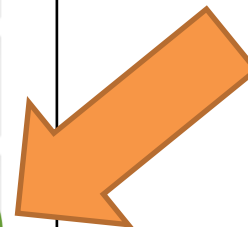


AT FUNDING GUIDE

DOLLARS & SENSE
NAVIGATING THE AT FUNDING STREAM

r Life

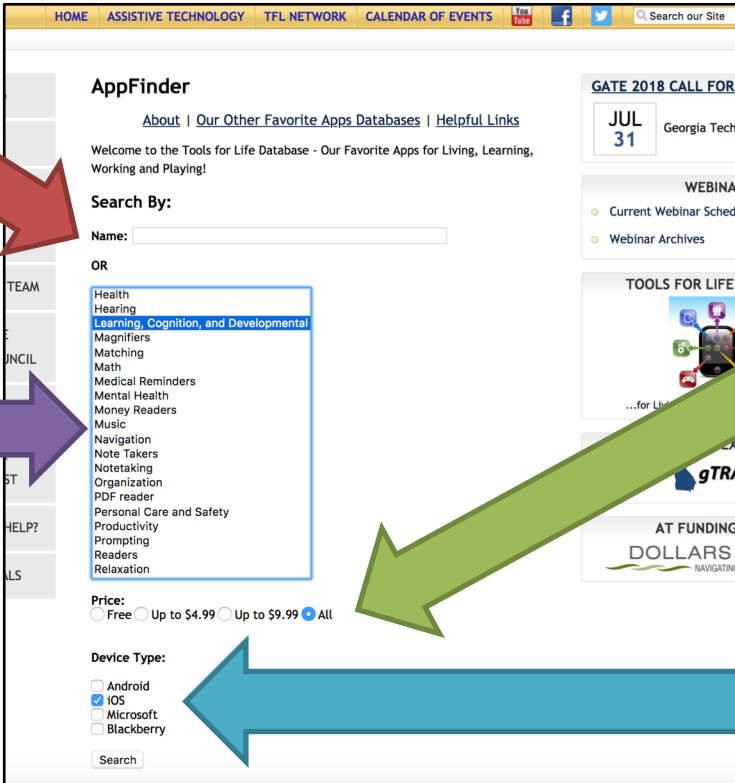
Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and with greater freedom in communities of their



AppFinder Search

Type the
name of the
app you are
looking for

Select a
category to
search



The screenshot shows the AppFinder search interface. A red arrow points to the 'Name' search field. A purple arrow points to the category dropdown menu, which is open and showing a list of categories including 'Health', 'Hearing', 'Learning, Cognition, and Developmental', 'Magnifiers', 'Matching', 'Math', 'Medical Reminders', 'Mental Health', 'Money Readers', 'Music', 'Navigation', 'Note Takers', 'Notetaking', 'Organization', 'PDF reader', 'Personal Care and Safety', 'Productivity', 'Prompting', 'Readers', and 'Relaxation'. A green arrow points to the 'Price' section, which includes radio buttons for 'Free', 'Up to \$4.99', 'Up to \$9.99', and 'All'. A blue arrow points to the 'Device Type' section, which includes checkboxes for 'Android', 'iOS' (which is selected), 'Microsoft', and 'Blackberry'. The interface also includes a top navigation bar with links like 'HOME', 'ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY', 'TFL NETWORK', and 'CALENDAR OF EVENTS', and a sidebar with links like 'About', 'Our Other Favorite Apps Databases', and 'Helpful Links'.

HOME ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TFL NETWORK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AppFinder

[About](#) | [Our Other Favorite Apps Databases](#) | [Helpful Links](#)

Welcome to the Tools for Life Database - Our Favorite Apps for Living, Learning, Working and Playing!

Search By:

Name:

OR

Health
Hearing
Learning, Cognition, and Developmental
Magnifiers
Matching
Math
Medical Reminders
Mental Health
Money Readers
Music
Navigation
Note Takers
Notetaking
Organization
PDF reader
Personal Care and Safety
Productivity
Prompting
Readers
Relaxation

Price:

☐ Free ☐ Up to \$4.99 ☐ Up to \$9.99 ☒ All

Device Type:

☐ Android
☒ iOS
☐ Microsoft
☐ Blackberry

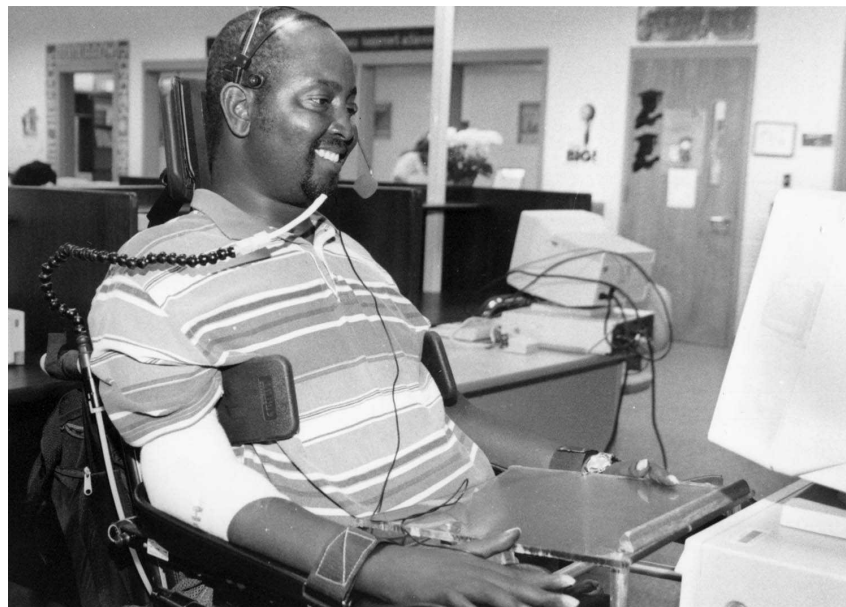
What price do
you want to pay
for the app?

What device type or
operating system do
you want to use?

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.



Acquisition and Funding for AT



AT Acquisition

- Tools for Life endeavors to break down the barriers which prevent individuals with disabilities, their families, and service providers from acquiring and effectively using AT to gain greater independence.
 - To ensure that AT products are available to Georgians with disabilities
 - Eliminate funding barriers



CREDIT-ABLE



Credit-Able

- Alternative financing program for Georgia
- Small low-interest loans
 - \$250 to \$10,000
 - Interest rate of 3-8%
- 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

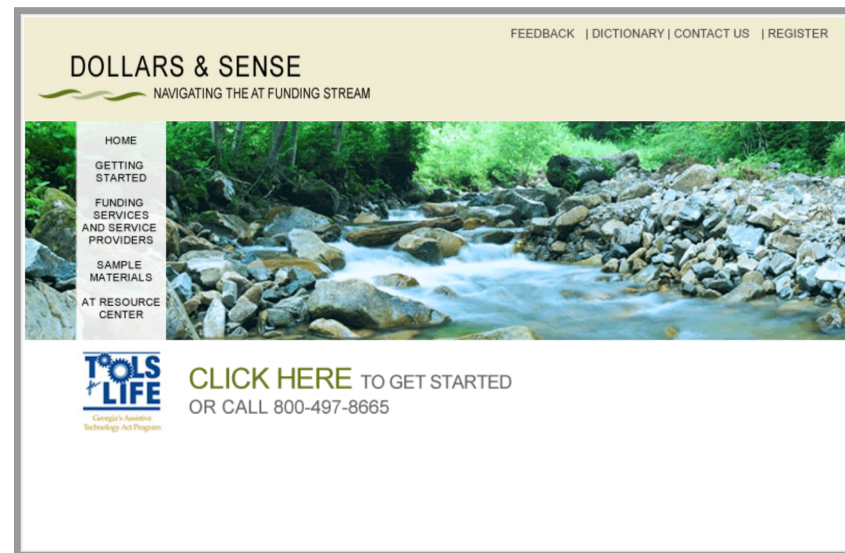
Be able to pay
back the loan

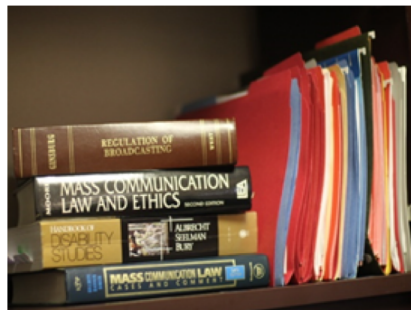
&

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](http://gatfl.gatech.edu/ds)

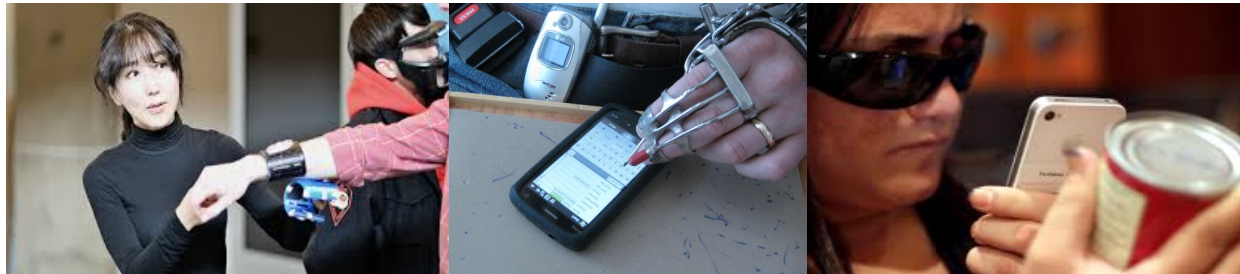




Our Mission

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

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.

Visit the Assistive Technology Lab at Georgia Tech!



Additional AT Labs

FODAC
Disability Connections
Walton Options
Coastal Regional Commission

Kennesaw State University
Cobb Senior Services
Legacy Link
NWGA Regional Commission

Interact with AT Today!



Georgia's Assistive
Technology Act Program



The Tools for Life Team



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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 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.