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**PROGRAMS & PROJECTS WORKING TO BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE
AMONG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (DRAFT 00-03-09)**

[This is a work in progress, and will be updated with contact information, additional programs, and revisions of current descriptions]

ABLE-NET

ABLE-NET Internet Service, www.able-net.net, ABLE-NET Specializes in offering affordable, accessible Internet Access for People with Disabilities in 31 States and Canada.

Contact: John Kirby
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Access to Physics Interactive Video Tutor Project

The CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM) is collaborating with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Center for Advanced Educational Services to make an on-line interactive physics course accessible to students with disabilities. Known as "Access to PIVOT" (Physics Interactive Video Tutor), this three-year project will test, implement, document and promote the development of multimedia access solutions to make distance learning accessible to blind, low-vision, deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

Contact: Larry Goldberg
617-300-3722

Adaptive and Assistive Technology

The name of our program is "Adaptive and Assistive Technology" The Community Adaptive and Assistive Technology Center offers personalized AAT services to people with disabilities and their families. Through Its Computer Arts for Recreation And Employability Program offered after school and on Saturdays, the CAAT Center, in collaboration with local vocational education high schools, gives hands-on training in computer arts, adaptive equipment services, evaluations, assistance in getting on-line and accessing the Internet, and free equipment upon availability.

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NYSID
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Staten Island, New York 10314
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Adaptive Computer Empowerment Services

ACES, a 60-person all-volunteer organization, recycles used computer hardware and software and distributes it, along with tech support services and tutoring, to low-income disabled persons in San Diego County.

Contact: Mary L. Adams
LCSW
Executive Director
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Assistive Technology Library of Alaska (ATLA)

ATLA's goal is to help individuals and families overcome barriers to finding and accessing appropriate assistive technology. ATLA offers assessment/recommendations, provides sale or rental of technology products, and offers training in the use and maintenance of devices, and has a lending library. ATLA serves as a resource for people with disabilities from birth throughout the life span, parents, other family members, caregivers, educators and professionals.

A mix of state Technology Act funds, sales revenues, fee-for-service payments and membership fees supports the organization. In addition to maintaining a central office to coordinate on-site and off-site services, ATLA coordinates "The Alliance," a network of agencies and individuals throughout Alaska that offer technology assistance to families in outlying communities.

Assistive Technology Resource Center of Hawaii

Through extensive collaborations with community-based organizations and private partners, HATTS works to fulfill its goals of promoting increased awareness and greater access to assistive technology, and increasing consumer and provider skills, involvement and empowerment with technology. Consistent with the requirements of the Technology Act, its activities focus on helping rural and underserved communities gain access to technology.

ATTIC

ATTIC is an independent living center in SW Indiana. We have been a recipient of used computer equipment through the Christina Society and other groups. We have volunteer computer technicians who service or salvage the donated equipment, then we load donated software requested by individual to meet his/her needs, and system is given to consumers. This is a small project, but made a world of difference for some consumers especially students.

Contact: INATTIC1@aol.com

Bancroft e-solutions

Our project is designed to seek job openings that are conducive to telecommuting and matching them with applicants (who are based out of their homes) with skill sets based upon the job requirements. NH (as you may or may not know) has large disparity regarding access to the internet. Ideally we would like to go state wide with this project but are currently limited to high speed access areas only.

We have a Leadership Education In Neurodevelopmental Disorders-MCH Interdisciplinary Training Project for graduate and post graduate students from 15 disciplines. One of our goals is not only to train them to have excellent clinical skills for working with persons with disabilities and their families but also how to effectively utilize assistive and telecommunications technology to enhance services and quality of life. We have a fiberoptic videoconferencing facility here and a closed circuit KidsTV network to hospital rooms and which can connect around the world as well as to over 270 schools right here in Indiana.

Contact: Dr. Lann E. Thompson, Associate Director
Riley Child Development Center
Riley Hospital for Children
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Career Training for Success Program

The Career Training for Success Program is a 26 week program designed to provide and enhance basic and advanced skills in several areas. We offer training in the following skill areas: computer operating systems, word processing applications, spreadsheet applications, database applications, presentation applications, internet applications, typing, filing, basic grammar, basic math, customer service, data entry, accounting, medical technology, medical office, job seeking, employee development, GED preparation, and adult literacy. The program is interactive and self-paced so consumers learn at their own rate, and actually work with computers and office machines as they receive individualized attention from instructors. We then "follow along" to offer support and guidance in actual job exploration and placement.

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The Helping Hand of Goodwill Industries
1817 Campbell
Kansas City, Missouri, 64108-1794

CAST

CAST has been a leader in the development of the educational paradigm we call Universal Design for Learning(tm). We are working to make the general educational curriculum--the curriculum that "typical" learners encounter in our schools--accessible

and educationally relevant for everyone, including learners with disabilities and even gifted learners. The threshold requirement is that all educational curricular material be produced in a digital version. Once that requirement is met, there are a lot of tools available (including a product derived from CAST's own research, the CAST eReader) that can make the material useful by people with all sorts of disabilities.

CAST recently became the lead organization in the new National Center on Accessing the General Curriculum, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education Programs and with our partners, Harvard Law, Boston College School of Education and the Council for Exceptional Children. The National Center will explore the implications for policy, teacher education, training and practice, and curriculum design, implied by Universal Design for Learning. We find that Universal Design for Learning (UDL) excites those with whom we are able to communicate, and we think that UDL can play a major role in addressing the Digital Divide..

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CE Disabled Services

From our beginnings in 1982 as CE Disabled Services, with a staff of 3, to a current staff of 7, from having served 127 persons with disabilities in our first year, to providing services to over 1,500 individuals last year. In 1989, Disabled Network Center joined and became a part of our organization. CE Disabled Services has grown in size and in our commitment to serving those with disabilities.

CE Disabled Services takes pride in its almost two decades of education and advocacy efforts. We formed a coalition, which helped to promote awareness of disability access issues. We advocated with City, County, State and Federal agencies for regulations to reduce access problems. Our consumers advocated to make the Municipal Courts accessible. A settled lawsuit, filed by consumers, mandated the City of Oceanside become accessible. We strive to make our web site, those of the media, governmental entities and others accessible to users of speech output technology.

Contact: Dr Clyde Shideler
CE Disabled Services
P. O. Box 495

San Luis Rey, California 92068

Computer Recycling

The Tech Act Project and works initiated this program with the Natl. Christina Foundation to solicit computers from business and industry for refurbishing and redistribution to persons with disabilities.

Computer Recycling within state agencies

In order to make the best use of limited funds, the Tech Act Project works with Voc Rehab and Services for the Visually Impaired to provide used computers for their consumers who need them. VR and SVI provide the funding for necessary software and accessibility modifications for the individual.

Descriptive Video Service®, NCAM

The Caption Center, Descriptive Video Service® (DVS®), and the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM) hold two grants from NIDRR; both are directly addressing technical infrastructure barriers - the first of digital television and closed captioning and video description and the second regarding "convergence technology" and inaccessible user interfaces for such things as Web TV and other emerging hybrids of the Internet and television. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is also supporting our DTV Access work through a project called, "Accessing Public Broadcasting's Future."

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Director, Media Access
WGBH Educational Foundation
Internet: Larry_Goldberg@WGBH.org
617-300-3722 (direct voice/FAX)
617-300-3400 (main NCAM)
617-300-2489 (TTY)

DO-IT

People with disabilities successfully pursuing academics and careers.
Programs to promote the use of technology to maximize the independence, productivity and participation of people with disabilities.
Recipient of the National Information Infrastructure Award; Education and the President's Award of Excellence in Mentoring and showcased at The President's summit on Volunteerism.
People helping people achieve success.
Resources for you!

Contact: Sheryl Burgstahler, Ph.D.
University of Washington

Box 354842
Seattle, WA 98195-4842
206-685-DOIT (3648) -- voice/TTY

DPI

DPI is a nonprofit agency working in partnership with Silicon Valley businesses and the community to prepare people with disabilities for competitive employment. Through adaptive computer access technology and career transition services, DPI creates opportunities for significant advances in universal access, social integration and employment for people with disabilities.

Founded in 1980 as Disabled Programmers, Inc., by a former IBM executive whose son was paralyzed in a diving accident, DPI formerly taught people with disabilities computer programming. The agency was renamed DPI in 1995 and has since changed its focus to employment access for individuals with disabilities and work-related injuries.

DPI focuses on four primary programs:
School-To-Career
Internship
Computer Access Technology (CAT) Lab
Mobile Access Technology (MAT) Lab

DPI assists individuals 15-years of age or older that have all types of Served physical (ALS, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, stroke,..), sensory (Low Vision, Blindness, Hard of Hearing,..), and learning disabilities, and work-related injuries (Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, De Quervain's, Tendonitis, etc.).

There is no cost to enroll in the School-To-Career Program. The Computer Access Technology Labs may require a fee for the evaluation and training of adaptive computer equipment and ergonomic worksite evaluation. Approved clients may be eligible to receive funding for services on a case-by-case basis or through corporate funding, the Department of Rehabilitation or Worker's Compensation insurance carriers.

Nearly 26 million Americans are classified as "severely" disabled, requiring of DPI personal or technological assistance to perform daily activities. People with disabilities now represent the largest minority in the U.S. Most importantly, DPI offers persons with disabilities the opportunity to work successfully in a competitive job market.

Contact: Maria F. Nicolacoudis
Executive Director DPI
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eTranscribe

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii has started an eTranscribe business to

train individuals with disabilities to become medical transcriptionists and provide them contract work to perform from their homes using an array of technology including computers with voice activated software, the Internet, and Dictaphone equipment. Our eTranscribers prepare medical reports for doctors at an accuracy rate of 98%, with a 24-hour turnaround.

Contact: Maureen Bates, EE&T Director
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii
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Florida Alliance for Assistive Service and Technology (FAAST)

The FAAST project is working with the Florida Department of Education's demonstration site to provide overlapping services for access to assistive technology outside the traditional school framework for adults beyond school age as well as those of school age. Minorities and the elderly are served.

Contact: Terry Ward PhD
Project Director
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Georgia Tools for Life

Nearly 27 percent (1,270,584) Georgians have one or more disabilities. Of these, nearly 14 percent (656,097) have severe disabilities requiring one or more kinds of assistive technology (LaPlante, et al, *Technology and Disabilities*, 6, pp. 17-28, 1997 and the 1990 U.S. Census Report). The Tools for Life project offers a computer-recycling center, called Re-Boot, that refurbished almost 1,000 computers in 1999. The ReBoot program is located at FODAC (Friends of Disabled Adults and Children) at Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Contact: Joy Kniskern
404/657-3084

Global Assistive Technology Explorer (GATE)

CRT will develop and sustain the Global Assistive Technology Explorer (GATE), a comprehensive, up-to-date, easy-to-use national public Internet site on disability-related resources. GATE will increase the availability of and access to information about AT, services, and resources for individuals with disabilities. The site will provide 24-hour access to all those with Internet capability.

High School High Tech (HSHT)

A program called High School High Tech (HSHT) is in its third year of funding and we are a grant funded program, in collaboration with Grant Wood AEA in CR. Our program is for high school students with mild disabilities that have a desire to go onto a 2 or 4 year, that have a IEP or Accommodation Plan, they also have to have the desire to work in the field of Technology.

We currently work with 12 high schools, serve approx. 90 students and provide students with computer training, hands on web page design classes, job site tours, job site visits and internships. We also provide support for students that need the additional assistance getting to and from an activity, communicating with others and planning their future.

We currently are piloting the program in Iowa City and have been overwhelmed with the support from teachers, students and businesses. Between the two cities we have 35 businesses involved and we provide a wide array of activities to our students.

Contact: Deana Berg
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Iowa Program for Assistive Technology

The Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (IPAT) worked with the Iowa Department for the Blind to develop a project to increase accessibility to the Internet for persons with disabilities. The first part of the project was the creation of a booklet, Designing Accessible Web Sites: Creating sites that are accessible to people with disabilities. The booklet discusses how persons with disabilities access and use the web, and contains instructions on how to create an accessible web site, including examples of accessible sites and other resources.

Another component of the project is to work with the state library system. Many individuals with disabilities do not own computers, but could access the Internet through their public library. The newsletter of the State Library is distributed to all of the state's 340 public and private libraries and will have an article about web access and the booklet. IPAT is coordinating with other entities and the State Librarian to work over the next few years on improving library access.

In order to ensure that future web sites become accessible, IPAT is collaborating with the Information Technology Services (ITS) office at the University of Iowa to develop training materials on web access as part of the ITS web master classes. Training materials will also be included in the ITS classes and courses on instructional design for faculty and students in the Department of Education.

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319/356-4463
Co-Directors
<http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech>

Lekotek

Lekotek is a nation-wide network of not-for-profit resource centers for children with disabilities and their families whose mission is to foster inclusion. We offer a variety of direct services including play with adapted toys and computers. One of our programs, called "Compuplay", utilizes a vast array of assistive technologies from switches to adapted keyboards to help children access the computer and the Internet.

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Merze Tate Center for Technology and Educational Reform

With the help of a \$200,000 grant from the IBM Community Access Program and another from Smartforce.com for 4,000 hours of on-line courseware, the Merze Tate Center for Technology and Educational Reform at Western Michigan University is leading a public-private initiative to develop a national on-line support center to help facilitate the training of people with disabilities for employment in the fast growing computer industry. An April 4, 2000 electronic ribbon cutting is planned in DC by the US Dept. of Ed Assistant Secretary for OSERS, Juith Heumann.

The purpose of this alliance is to provide on-line training support to member programs of the Association of Rehabilitation Programs in Computer Technology (ARPCT) and the Inter-national Association of Business, Industry and Rehabilitation (I-NABIR). It is estimated that this will involve about 120 training programs across the nation that specialize in providing computer related training and employment assistance to adults with disabilities especially those are homebound.

It is the goal of this project to provide on-line information and training on career opportunities in the Informational Processing Industry in support of local training programs for people with disabilities as well as the professionals that serve them. Within this group of permanently displaced workers on the other side of the digital divide are most individuals with disabilities. According to the 1998 Harris Poll, employment continues to be the area with the widest gulf between those who are disabled and those who are not.

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Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership (MATP)

MATP has been very active in initiating and coordinating compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. The project was instrumental in orchestrating Executive Order 348 signing (1/1/93) which establishes state policy for access to electronic equipment and information technologies for citizens with disabilities. The project trained 80 ADA coordinators on Section 508; developed Section 508-compliant PC Standards through the Governor's Advisory Council on IT; made GSA/COCA's *Managing Information Resources* manual available electronically and in print to state agencies upon request; provides technical assistance to state agencies in purchasing 508-compliant equipment; provided technical assistance in the development of an amendment to Section 508 on the federal level; advocated that the U.S. Department of Education develop a policy guidance to the state Department of Education regarding accessibility of educational technology and widely distributed Secretary Riley's letter to Massachusetts special education departments; and provide technical assistance on Section 508 implementation on the state level to other AT Act grantees.

Contact: Marilyn Howe
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<http://www.matp.org>

Motion Picture Access Project

With initial funding from the Dept. of Ed's NIDRR, we have developed digital technology that allows people who are deaf or blind to access closed captions or video descriptions in movie theaters. We have partnered with various Hollywood studios and the General Cinema theater chain to roll this out across the country. Our 12th site will be opening soon in DC at the Mazza Gallerie

Contact: Larry Goldberg
Larry_Goldberg@wgbh.org

National AT Internet Site

The Center for Rehabilitation Technology will operate a National AT Internet Site. The AT Act authorized a National AT Internet Site that would provide information to individuals with disabilities and the general public to increase access to AT devices, services, and other related information.

Nebraska Meeting Place

A listserv that connects persons with disabilities all across Nebraska. The program started with peer volunteers linked by computer e-mail. Peer volunteers who did not already have a computer were provided one on long term loan by the project and connected through free e-mail services such as Juno.

Net Corps

Americas sends high-tech volunteers throughout the Americas to custom design training for organizations and people who normally would not have access to information technology. We have recently developed a program specifically for people with disabilities and will start our pilot project sending volunteers to Transitions in Antigua, Guatemala.

Contact: Jessica Lewis
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1889 F Street, NW Second Floor
Washington, DC 20006
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(202) 458-3526 fax
trustamericas@oas.org

New Mexico Technology Assistance Program

The project provides technical assistance and training to set up a package of electronic and information technology accessible hardware /software features with existing computers for public access with public agencies and ed tech computer labs in schools.

Contact: Bill N. Newroe
Project Director
505/954-8539
<http://www.nmtap.com>

New York State TRAIID Project

The New York AT project assisted with the New York state policy from the Director of state agencies on making all state agencies' web sites accessible by July 2000 by following the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Accessibility Initiative. The New York TRAIID Project is referenced in the State Technology Policy office for agencies wishing to receive technical assistance on making their web sites accessible.

Contact: Deborah Buck
518/474-2825
<http://www.state.ny.us/disabledAdvocate/technlog.htm>

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project

The North Carolina project assists with the “Virtual Buddies Program.” This program is funded through a private foundation that provides recycled computers and Internet access to people with disabilities around the State. The program also works at the local level to identify people knowledgeable about computers to assist new users. To date, the program has provided 76 adults with disabilities services including the following: training, a computer system, Internet access, computer upgrades, or modem.

The North Carolina project also coordinates a financial loan program through Nations Bank for people with disabilities seeking low-interest loans for assistive technology.

Contact: Ricki Cook
Project Director
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<http://www.mindspring.com/~ncatp>

Parents Helping Parents – iTECH Center

The goal of the iTECH Center is to ensure that children and adults with special needs, their families and the professionals who serve them are aware of and utilize technology to enhance potential and to broaden the quality and enjoyment of their lives. Underlying this goal is the belief that with the help of assistive technology, individuals with special needs will be able to enter the mainstream of all aspects of society and be fully contributing, visible members of society.

The iTECH Center is a resource center of the Alliance for Technology Access and also a program of Parents Helping Parents (PHP), Inc. in Santa Clara, CA. PHP, a nonprofit family resource center, is a Parent Training and Information Center and for 23 years has served children with physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities. The program is supported by a California Assistive Technology System (CATS) grant to provide information and referral services.

ReBoot

ReBoot is a nonprofit, statewide, collaborative effort of many groups and organizations committed to recycling computers. All participants in ReBoot’s Computer Re-Utilization Project receive the equipment as a donation; they do not buy the equipment. ReBoot acquires the equipment, evaluates it, repairs it (if needed), loads licensed software, distributes the equipment to people with disabilities; and trains the people on the equipment. The program is operated 85 percent by volunteers—by people with disabilities for people with disabilities. ReBoot has 10 training centers across the state.

Rehabilitation Services for the Visually Impaired (RSVI)

One of many sources for assistive technology. To be eligible for services from our agency, an individual must be visually impaired. If there are services offered by RSVI which will enable the individual to achieve vocational or independent living goals, this includes voice synthesizers on computers, closed circuit TVs, and print reading machines.

Contact: Kathy Hoell
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RIPIN

I am the newly hired coordinator of a project here at RIPIN to help low income families who have children with disabilities gain access to hardware, software, training and support so they can gain information and better advocate for their children.

Contact: Millie Hillman
Rhode Island Parent Information Network
175 Main St.
Pawtucket, RI 02860
(401) 727-4144 ext. 35

Technology Opportunities Project (Atlanta, GA)

A Telerehabilitation Network to Support Community Re-entry Following Catastrophic Injury. The overall goal of this project is to develop effective telerehabilitation applications using advanced network technologies. A test-bed network will be developed in the metro-Atlanta area to link rehabilitation professionals with patients who have sustained catastrophic spinal cord and brain injuries, their family members, and caregivers. The test-bed will emulate capabilities of the Next Generation Internet, including high-bandwidth videoconferencing, remote monitoring, environmental control, and high-speed delivery of interactive, multimedia instruction.

The network will be used to develop, deliver, and evaluate telerehabilitation applications which (a) support community re-entry after catastrophic injury, (b) prevent or reduce the severity of secondary complications often associated with catastrophic injury, and (c) deliver health and wellness support and advocacy assistance to people with disabilities living in the community.

The project expects to find that individuals who receive telerehabilitation: (1) achieve greater success in community reintegration (e.g., return to work), (2) experience fewer secondary complications; (3) demonstrate greater independence and self-efficacy; (4) incur lower overall health care and support costs; and (5) report higher satisfaction with their health-related quality of life.

The Family Center on Technology and Disability

The Family Center on Technology and Disability, a project funded by the U. S. Department of Education is designed to bring technology to individuals with disabilities. One of the projects of the Family Center was to select model programs around the country who are bringing technology to individuals with disabilities. Two of the important criterion for selection as a model program were service to underserved (e.g. rural, minority) communities and collaboration with other organizations in the community.

United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey (UCPA-NJ)

This agency's multiple technology-related projects share the common goal of helping individuals and families to identify the technology solutions that best meets their needs and to enable them to obtain and use the technology. The agency utilizes its extensive in-house technological expertise to assist individuals and families throughout the state by conducting evaluations and training, providing custom fabrication of devices, as well as other services.

United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Suffolk- Mobility Opportunities Via Education (MOVE)

The Children's Center, a division of UCP of Greater Suffolk, New York incorporated the MOVE program into its services in 1997. MOVE is a therapeutic and educational program designed to help people learn the skills needed for sitting, standing, and walking. This collaborative program utilizes the services and knowledge of parents, educators, therapists and other support personnel to help participants learn and practice skills while engaged in activities of daily living.

Division of Services for the Blind (DSB): DSB directs delivery of services for persons who are blind, visually impaired or deaf-blind. The available services and eligibility criteria are the same as those in the general VR. The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind (RCB) in Topeka is a comprehensive rehabilitation program offering independent living skills training, and vocational assessment and technology services to help consumers identify their employment-related skills, aptitudes and interests. Mobile teams are used to offer specific services throughout the state. Kansas Seniors Achieving Independent Living (KAN-SAIL) provides independent living skills training in the home communities of older Kansans who experience blindness or visual loss. Rehabilitation Teaching: Through this program, rehabilitation specialists go to consumers' homes and provides training to help them adjust to blindness and increase their independent living skills. Some of the training areas offered are communications, orientation and mobility, and daily living skills. The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) offers persons who are legally blind the opportunity to manage food service operations, vending stands, snack bars and gift shops. BEP uses funds generated by the vending stand operations, rather than SGF, to match federal funds. Kansas Industries for the Blind (KIB) in Topeka offers employment in manufacturing work and laser cartridge refurbishing for people who are blind and who are not immediately able to succeed in competitive employment.

Contact: Carolyn Perez

Services for the Blind
785-296-3311
Family Center on Technology and Disability
Susan Goodman
Project Director
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United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas (UCP-K)--Purchase of Assistive Technology Project

The overarching goal of this project is to assist families who have assistive technology needs to secure the necessary equipment. Its primary activities include collaborating with state, civic and charitable organizations to develop innovative funding packages that will enable residents who have disabilities to obtain assistive technology. Annually, it strives to secure assistive technology and related services valued in excess of \$300,000 for at least 200 families from across the state.

An annual allocation from the state legislature to Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) and a variety of grants and donations support the program.

Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC)

The Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC) is a coalition under development that will be comprised of organizations representing people with disabilities and other stakeholders that are committed to maximizing the accessibility of the Internet. The UAP Coalition will facilitate access to the Internet and other distributed computer networks by providing a service that dynamically adapts interfaces and content to each end-user's individualized needs and preferences, particularly people with disabilities. The result is optimal accessibility of the Internet by people with disabilities in addition to individually predetermined adaptations of the Internet according to individual preferences.

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greg@mcquarter.com
Jane West
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Virtual Buddies

The organization takes donated computers, and donated Internet accounts, and places them in the homes of low-income people with different disabilities. The Virtual Buddies program gives those of us who are socially isolated most of the time at our homes, a way to communicate with others, and better educate ourselves. We are just finishing a manual

that will make It easier for Disabled people to take College Courses via their computer at home, so we can continue our education, and get jobs too...

Contact: Timothy Barbour
Smithfield NC
919-989-9718
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Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)

The Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) is an international project, hosted by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), focusing on making the Web accessible to the many millions of existing and potential Web users who have disabilities. The Web offers unprecedented access to information, electronic commerce, educational opportunities, employment opportunities, workplace communication, government services, recreation, and more; however there are currently barriers to accessing the Web for people with visual, hearing, physical and cognitive disabilities.

W3C's Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI), in coordination with industry, disability organizations, research centers and government, addresses accessibility of the Web through five complementary activities:

- Ensuring that Web technologies support accessibility
- Developing guidelines for accessibility
- Developing tools to evaluate & facilitate accessibility
- Conducting education and outreach
- Coordinating with research and development

WAI is supported in part by funding from the U.S. National Science Foundation and U.S. Department of Education's National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, as well as other national governments, and industry. WAI's most well-known resources are its guidelines for accessible Web sites, browsers, and authoring tools. It also produces a variety of educational materials and training events on Web accessibility. More information is available at <http://www.w3.org/WAI>.

Contact: Judy Brewer
Director, Web Accessibility Initiative
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jbrewer@w3.org.

Winners on Wheels (WOW)

Winners on Wheels (WOW) is a national non-profit organization with programs designed for youth in wheelchairs. We call our participants Winners. The WOW programs aim to create an environment that encourages self-esteem, independence, and empowerment through activities done in groups (Circles) or individually via our write in program (Kids Connection) and Online Internet activities

(Wheels Online). In each instance the activities the Winners work on "Wheels," are based on a scouting type of curriculum separated into six activities (Spokes) each. When a Winner completes all six Spokes he/she is then rewarded with a badge designed specifically for that Wheel.

Promoting our program online has been a main focus of 1999 and is for the year 2000 and beyond. Several foundations have granted funds for converting our Wheels for individual and interactive Online use. With that The California Endowment has also granted funds for our National office to buy and distribute 9 laptop computers to Circles across the country. Another grant recently received will give us the opportunity to deliver these laptops and provide a web camp day of instruction with delivery.

Contact: John Houseman,
Executive Director
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559-294-2887
or
Stephanie King
Winners On Wheels
800-969-8255 extension 02344
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Saragrams

Sara is labeled severe profound but her strength is her social skills. Through her business Saragrams, Sara provides on-site Internet access to those not otherwise able to access today's technology. Saragrams not only employs people with disabilities, but in many cases employs an attendant and or a care provider. This is the tip of the iceberg as the potential of this concept is endless. It can develop e-commerce sites, information sites, educational sites, communications sites, and virtually any skill can be marketed from a persons living room using Saragrams business concept. This concept is duplicable worldwide with a nominal investment. Please call us at 361-937-5949 or contact us at Sara@Saragrams.com (this website is still under development) our current email access is at mmarchcd@aol.com

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mmarchcd@aol.com

ABLE-NET

ABLE-NET Internet Service, www.able-net.net, ABLE-NET Specializes in offering affordable, accessible Internet Access for People with Disabilities in 31 States and Canada.

Contact: John Kirby
(209) 556-9381
johnk@able-net.net

Winners on Wheels (WOW)

Winners on Wheels (WOW) is a national non-profit organization with programs designed for youth in wheelchairs. We call our participants Winners. The WOW programs aim to create an environment that encourages self-esteem, independence, and empowerment through activities done in groups (Circles) or individually via our write in program (Kids Connection) and Online Internet activities (Wheels Online). In each instance the activities the Winners work on "Wheels," are based on a scouting type of curriculum separated into six activities (Spokes) each. When a Winner completes all six Spokes he/she is then rewarded with a badge designed specifically for that Wheel.

Winners collect the Badges and display them on their WOW backpack which attaches to their wheelchair. This gives them recognition, encouragement and likeness to each of our Winners!

BRIDGING THE DIVIDE:

Promoting our program online has been a main focus of 1999 and is for the year 2000 and beyond. Several foundations have granted funds for converting our Wheels for individual and interactive Online use. With that The California Endowment has also granted funds for our National office to buy and distribute 9 laptop computers to Circles across the country. Another grant recently received will give us the opportunity to deliver these laptops and provide a web camp day of instruction with delivery. As you can see we are very actively playing a part in bridging the Digital Divide.

Contact: John Houseman,
Executive Director
800-969-8255 ext. 02887
559-294-2887
or
Stephanie King
Winners On Wheels
800-969-8255 extension 02344
email: stephking@wowusa.com

Net Corps

Americas sends high-tech volunteers throughout the Americas to custom design training for organizations and people who normally would not have access to information technology. We have recently developed a program specifically for people with disabilities and will start our pilot project sending volunteers to Transitions in Antigua, Guatemala.

Contact: Jessica Lewis
Organization of American States
1889 F Street, NW Second Floor
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 458-3229 phone
(202) 458-3526 fax
trustamericas@oas.org

Descriptive Video Service®, NCAM

The Caption Center, Descriptive Video Service® (DVS®), and the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM). we hold two grants from NIDRR; both are directly addressing technical infrastructure barriers - the first of digital television and closed captioning and video description and the second regarding "convergence technology" and inaccessible user interfaces for such things as Web TV and other emerging hybrids of the Internet and television. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is also supporting our

DTV Access work through a project called, "Accessing Public Broadcasting's Future."

Contact: Larry Goldberg
Director
Media Access
WGBH Educational Foundation
Internet: Larry_Goldberg@WGBH.org
617-300-3722 (direct voice/FAX)
617-300-3400 (main NCAM)
617-300-2489 (TTY)

eGroups

eGroups, is the leading provider in the group email hosting market. We've been able to build a fast-growing business (50,000 new subscribers each day) based on advertising revenue while helping people in all sociological stratas find information, discussions, and partners who share their same interests.

Contact: Rick Alber
eGroups
San Carlos, California
650-216-3326

Lekotek

Lekotek is a nation-wide network of not-for-profit resource centers for children with disabilities and their families whose mission is to foster inclusion. We offer a variety of direct services including play with adapted toys and computers. One of our programs, called "Compuplay", utilizes a vast array of assistive technologies from switches to adapted keyboards to help children access the computer and the Internet.

Contact: Jennifer Frankfurter
lekotek@lekotek.org
Joyce Morimoto
jfrankfurter@yahoo.com
lekotek@lekotek.org
r-morimoto@nwu.edu

Motion Picture Access Project

With initial funding from the Dept. of Ed's NIDRR, we have developed digital technology that allows people who are deaf or blind to access closed captions or

video descriptions in movie theaters. We have partnered with various Hollywood studios and the General Cinema theater chain to roll this out across the country. Our 12th site will be opening soon in DC at the Mazza Gallerie

Contact: Larry Goldberg
Larry_Goldberg@wgbh.org

Major Grants from IBM and Smartforce.com Made to Establish an On-line Support Center for People with Disabilities

With the help of a \$200,000 grant from the IBM Community Access Program and another from Smartforce.com for 4,000 hours of on-line courseware, the Merze Tate Center for Technology and Educational Reform at Western Michigan University is leading a public-private initiative to develop a national on-line support center to help facilitate the training of people with disabilities for employment in the fast growing computer industry. An April 4, 2000 electronic ribbon cutting is planned in DC by the US Dept. of Ed Assistant Secretary for OSERS, Juith Heumann.

The purpose of this alliance is to provide on-line training support to member programs of the Association of Rehabilitation Programs in Computer Technology (ARPCT) and the Inter-national Association of Business, Industry and Rehabilitation (I-NABIR). It is estimated that this will involve about 120 training programs across the nation that specialize in providing computer related training and employment assistance to adults with disabilities especially those are homebound.

It is the goal of this project to provide on-line information and training on career opportunities in the Informational Processing Industry in support of local training programs for people with disabilities as well as the professionals that serve them. Within this group of permanently displaced workers on the other side of the digital divide are most individuals with disabilities. According to the 1998 Harris Poll, employment continues to be the area with the widest gulf between those who are disabled and those who are not.

A variety of innovative activities are planned in pursue of this national needs including :

- To develop an accessible on-line community and virtual campus supporting local ARPCT and I-NABIR programs.
- To provide opportunities for people who are homebound and/or without access to local programs to receive IT certifications for telecommuting IT related careers.
- To provide innovative on-line professional development support using Smartforce.com courseware Lotus Learning Space and other on-line training materials. This may include the use of video streaming, ITV and/or Web based training.
- To use this public- private alliance to help leverage additional funding for both the project.

Contact: Robert J. Leneway
Senior Research Associate
Merze Tate Center for Research and Education Reform
3210 Sangren Hall
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
Phone: (616) 387-2051
Fax: (616) 3876184
e-mail: bob.leneway@wmich.edu

CE Disabled Services

From our beginnings in 1982 as CE Disabled Services, with a staff of 3, to a current staff of 7, from having served 127 persons with disabilities in our first year, to providing services to over 1,500 individuals last year. In 1989, Disabled Network Center joined and became a part of our organization. CE Disabled Services has grown in size and in our commitment to serving those with disabilities.

CE Disabled Services takes pride in its almost two decades of education and advocacy efforts. We formed a coalition, which helped to promote awareness of disability access issues. We advocated with City, County, State and Federal agencies for regulations to reduce access problems. Our consumers advocated to make the Municipal Courts accessible. A settled lawsuit, filed by consumers, mandated the City of Oceanside become accessible. We strive to make our web site, those of the media, governmental entities and others accessible to users of speech output technology.

Contact: Dr Clyde Shideler
CE Disabled Services
P. O. Box 495
San Luis Rey, California 92068

DPI

DPI is a nonprofit agency working in partnership with Silicon Valley businesses and the community to prepare people with disabilities for competitive employment. Through adaptive computer access technology and career transition services, DPI creates opportunities for significant advances in universal access, social integration and employment for people with disabilities.

Founded in 1980 as Disabled Programmers, Inc., by a former IBM executive whose son was paralyzed in a diving accident, DPI formerly taught people with disabilities computer programming. The agency was renamed DPI in 1995 and

has since changed its focus to employment access for individuals with disabilities and work-related injuries.

DPI focuses on four primary programs:

School-To-Career

Internship

Computer Access Technology (CAT) Lab

Mobile Access Technology (MAT) Lab

DPI assists individuals 15-years of age or older that have all types of Served physical (ALS, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, stroke,...), sensory (Low Vision, Blindness, Hard of Hearing,...), and learning disabilities, and work-related injuries (Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, De Quervain's, Tendonitis, etc.).

There is no cost to enroll in the School-To-Career Program. The Computer Access Technology Labs may require a fee for the evaluation and training of adaptive computer equipment and ergonomic worksite evaluation. Approved clients may be eligible to receive funding for services on a case-by-case basis or through corporate funding, the Department of Rehabilitation or Worker's Compensation insurance carriers.

Nearly 26 million Americans are classified as "severely" disabled, requiring of DPI personal or technological assistance to perform daily activities. People with disabilities now represent the largest minority in the U.S. Most importantly, DPI offers persons with disabilities the opportunity to work successfully in a competitive job market.

Contact: Maria F. Nicolacoudis
Executive Director DPI
(408) 278-2001

CAST

Has been a leader in the development of the educational paradigm we call Universal Design for Learning(tm). We are working to make the general educational curriculum-the curriculum that "typical" learners encounter in our schools-accessible and educationally relevant for everyone, including learners with disabilities and even gifted learners. The threshold requirement is that all educational curricular material be produced in a digital version. Once that requirement is met, there are a lot of tools available (including a product derived from CAST's own research, the CAST eReader) that can make the material useful by people with all sorts of disabilities.

CAST recently became the lead organization in the new National Center on Accessing the General Curriculum, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education Programs and with our partners,

Harvard Law, Boston College School of Education and the Council for Exceptional Children. The National Center will explore the implications for policy, teacher education, training and practice, and curriculum design, implied by Universal Design for Learning. We find that Universal Design for Learning (UDL) excites those with whom we are able to communicate, and we think that UDL can play a major role in addressing the Digital Divide..

Contact: Donald R. Giller
Chief Resource Development Officer
CAST, Inc.
Center for Applied Special Technology
39 Cross Street
Peabody, MA 01960
Tel. +1 978 531 8555
TTY +1 978 538-3110
Fax +1 531-0192
Email: dgiller@cast.org

Bancroft e-solutions

Our project is designed to seek job openings that are conducive to telecommuting and matching them with applicants (who are based out of their homes) with skill sets based upon the job requirements. NH (as you may or may not know) has large disparity regarding access to the internet. Ideally we would like to go state wide with this project but are currently limited to high speed access areas only. Dr. Lann Thompson and I am Associate Director at the Riley Child Development Center, Riley Hospital for Children, Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis, IN. We have a Leadership Education In Nuerodevelopmental Disorders-MCH Interdisciplinary Training Project for graduate and post graduate students from 15 disciplines. One of our goals is not only to train them to have excellent clinical skills for working with persons with disabilities and their families but also how to effectively utilize assistive and telecommunications technology to enhance services and quality of life. We have a fiberoptic videoconferencing facility here and a closed circuit KidsTV network to hospital rooms and which can connect around the world as well as to over 270 schools right here in Indiana.

Contact: Dr. Lann E. Thompson, Associate Director
Riley Child Development Center
Riley Hospital for Children
702 Barnhill Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC)

The Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC) is a coalition under development that will be comprised of organizations representing people with disabilities and other stakeholders that are committed to maximizing the accessibility of the Internet. The UAP Coalition will facilitate access to the Internet and other distributed computer networks by providing a service that dynamically adapts interfaces and content to each end-user's individualized needs and preferences, particularly people with disabilities.

The result is optimal accessibility of the Internet by people with disabilities in addition to individually predetermined adaptations of the Internet according to individual preferences.

Contact: Greg McQuarter
858-452-9345
greg@mcquarter.com
Jane West
301-718-0979
jewest@aol.com

Access to Software for All People

Founded in 1994 by a successful computer software entrepreneur, Access to Software for All People (ASAP) makes the economic advantages of technology available to all by operating business ventures and computer access projects that both serve and employ people who are under represented in the technology industry. In particular, we serve low-income people, people of color and women & girls.

Contact: 2070 Allston Way Suite 2
Berkeley, CA 94704
Phone 510.540.7457
fax 510.540.6168
Email ASAP@ASAPonline.org

Virtual Buddies

Virtual Buddies here in North Carolina. The organization takes donated computers, and donated Internet accounts, and places them in the homes of low-income people with different disabilities. The Virtual Buddies program gives those of us who are socially isolated most of the time at our homes, a way to communicate with others, and better educate ourselves. We are just finishing a manual that will make it easier for Disabled people to take College Courses via their computer at home, so we can continue our education, and get jobs too...

Contact: Timothy Barbour
Smithfield NC
919-989-9718
tbarbour@interpath.com

RIPIN

I am the newly hired coordinator of a project here at RIPIN to help low income families who have children with disabilities gain access to hardware, software, training and support so they can gain information and better advocate for their children.

Contact: Millie Hillman
Rhode Island Parent Information Network
175 Main St.
Pawtucket, RI 02860
(401) 727-4144 ext. 35

High School High Tech (HSHT)

A program called High School High Tech (HSHT) is in its third year of funding and we are a grant funded program, in collaboration with Grant Wood AEA in CR.

Our program is for high school students with mild disabilities that have a desire to go onto a 2 or 4 year, that have a IEP or Accommodation Plan, they also have to have the desire to work in the field of Technology.

We currently work with 12 high schools, serve approx. 90 students and provide students with computer training, hands on web page design classes, job site tours, job site visits and internships. We also provide support for students that need the additional assistance getting to and from an activity, communicating with others and planning their future.

We currently are piloting the program in Iowa City and have been overwhelmed with the support from teachers, students and businesses. Between the two cities we have 35 businesses involved and we provide a wide array of activities to our students.

Contact: Deana Berg
319-393-3434
hsht@goodwillse Iowa.org

eTranscribe

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii has started an eTranscribe business to train individuals with disabilities to become medical transcriptionists and provide them contract work to perform from their homes using an array of technology including computers with voice activated software, the Internet, and Dictaphone equipment. Our eTranscribers prepare medical reports for doctors at an accuracy rate of 98%, with a 24-hour turnaround.

Contact:

Maureen Bates, EE&T Director
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii
email:maureenbates@juno.com
Tel: (808) 836-0313
Mail: 2610 Kiliahu Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

DO-IT

People with disabilities successfully pursuing academics and careers.
Programs to promote the use of technology to maximize the independence, productivity and participation of people with disabilities.
Recipient of the National Information Infrastructure Award; Education and the President's Award of Excellence in Mentoring and showcased at The President's summit on Volunteerism.
People helping people achieve success.
Resources for you!

Contact: Sheryl Burgstahler, Ph.D.
University of Washington
Box 354842
Seattle, WA 98195-4842
206-685-DOIT (3648) -- voice/TTY

ATTIC

ATTIC is an independent living center in SW Indiana. We have been a recipient of used computer equipment through the Christina Society and other groups. We have volunteer computer technicians who service or salvage the donated equipment, then we load donated software requested by individual to meet his/her needs, and system is given to consumers. This is a small project, but made a world of difference for some consumers especially students.

Contact: INATTIC1@aol.com

The Family Center on Technology and Disability

The Family Center on Technology and Disability, a project funded by the U. S. Department of Education is designed to bring technology to individuals with disabilities. One of the projects of the Family Center was to select model programs around the country who are bringing technology to individuals with disabilities. Two of the important criterion for selection as a model program were service to underserved (e.g. rural, minority) communities and collaboration with other organizations in the community.

Assistive Technology Library of Alaska (ATLA)

ATLA's goal is to help individuals and families overcome barriers to finding and accessing appropriate assistive technology. ATLA offers assessment/recommendations, provides sale or rental of technology products, and offers training in the use and maintenance of devices, and has a lending library. ATLA serves as a resource for people with disabilities from birth throughout the life span, parents, other family members, caregivers, educators and professionals.

A mix of state Technology Act funds, sales revenues, fee-for-service payments and membership fees supports the organization. In addition to maintaining a central office to coordinate on-site and off-site services, ATLA coordinates "The Alliance," a network of agencies and individuals throughout Alaska that offer technology assistance to families in outlying communities.

United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas (UCP-K)--Purchase of Assistive Technology Project

The overarching goal of this project is to assist families who have assistive technology needs to secure the necessary equipment. Its primary activities include collaborating with state, civic and charitable organizations to develop innovative funding packages that will enable residents who have disabilities to obtain assistive technology. Annually, it strives to secure assistive technology and related services valued in excess of \$300,000 for at least 200 families from across the state.

An annual allocation from the state legislature to Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) and a variety of grants and donations support the program.

Parents Helping Parents – iTECH Center

The goal of the iTECH Center is to ensure that children and adults with special needs, their families and the professionals who serve them are aware of and utilize technology to enhance potential and to broaden the quality and enjoyment of their lives. Underlying this goal is the belief that with the help of assistive technology, individuals with special needs will be able to enter the mainstream of all aspects of society and be fully contributing, visible members of society.

The iTECH Center is a resource center of the Alliance for Technology Access and also a program of Parents Helping Parents (PHP), Inc. in Santa Clara, CA. PHP, a nonprofit family resource center, is a Parent Training and Information Center and for 23 years has served children with physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities. The program is supported by a California Assistive Technology System (CATS) grant to provide information and referral services.

United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey (UCPA-NJ)

This agency's multiple technology-related projects share the common goal of helping individuals and families to identify the technology solutions that best meets their needs and to enable them to obtain and use the technology. The agency utilizes its extensive in-house technological expertise to assist individuals and families throughout the state by conducting evaluations and training, providing custom fabrication of devices, as well as other services.

Assistive Technology Resource Center of Hawaii

Through extensive collaborations with community-based organizations and private partners, HATTS works to fulfill its goals of promoting increased awareness and greater access to assistive technology, and increasing consumer and provider skills, involvement and empowerment with technology. Consistent with the requirements of the Technology Act, its activities focus on helping rural and underserved communities gain access to technology.

United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Suffolk- Mobility Opportunities Via Education (MOVE)

The Children's Center, a division of UCP of Greater Suffolk, New York incorporated the MOVE program into its services in 1997. MOVE is a therapeutic and educational program designed to help people learn the skills needed for sitting, standing, and walking. This collaborative program utilizes the services and knowledge of parents, educators, therapists and other support personnel to help participants learn and practice skills while engaged in activities of daily living.

Division of Services for the Blind (DSB): DSB directs delivery of services for persons who are blind, visually impaired or deaf-blind. The available services and eligibility criteria are the same as those in the general VR. The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind (RCB) in Topeka is a comprehensive rehabilitation program offering independent living skills training, and vocational assessment and technology services to help consumers identify their employment-related skills, aptitudes and interests. Mobile teams are used to offer specific services throughout the state. Kansas Seniors Achieving Independent Living (KAN-SAIL) provides independent living skills training in the home communities of older Kansans who experience blindness or visual loss. Rehabilitation Teaching: Through this program, rehabilitation specialists go to consumers' homes and provides training to help them adjust to blindness and increase their independent living skills. Some of the training areas offered are communications, orientation and mobility, and daily living skills. The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) offers persons who are legally blind the opportunity to manage food service operations, vending stands, snack bars and gift shops. BEP uses funds generated by the vending stand operations, rather than SGF, to match federal funds. Kansas Industries for the Blind (KIB) in Topeka offers employment in manufacturing work and laser cartridge refurbishing for people who are blind and who are not immediately able to succeed in competitive employment.

Contact: Carolyn Perez
Services for the Blind
785-296-3311

Nebraska Meeting Place

A listserv that connects persons with disabilities all across Nebraska. The program started with peer volunteers linked by computer e-mail. Peer volunteers who did not already have a computer were provided one on long term loan by the project and connected through free e-mail services such as Juno.

Computer Recycling

The Tech Act Project and works initiated this program with the Natl. Christina Foundation to solicit computers from business and industry for refurbishing and redistribution to persons with disabilities.

Computer Recycling within state agencies

In order to make the best use of limited funds, the Tech Act Project works with Voc Rehab and Services for the Visually Impaired to provide used computers for their consumers who need them. VR and SVI provide the funding for necessary software and accessibility modifications for the individual.

Rehabilitation Services for the Visually Impaired (RSVI)

One of many sources for assistive technology. To be eligible for services from our agency, an individual must be visually impaired. If there are services offered by RSVI which will enable the individual to achieve vocational or independent living goals, this includes voice synthesizers on computers, closed circuit TVs, and print reading machines.

Contact: Kathy Hoell
khoell@radiks.net

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4. RECRUITMENT ACCOMODATION-SERVICE-AWARENESS-TRAINING-OTHER (SPECIFY)

Able to Work - Best Practices

#	COMPANY	PROGRAM NAME	YEAR STARTED	AUDIENCE (EMPLOYEES, CLIENTS, ETC.)	PROGRAM TYPE*	PROGRAM OVERVIEW
6	IBM	ENTRY POINT PROGRAM	1996	COLLEGE STUDENTS	RECRUITMENT	ENTRY POINT IS A PARTNERSHIP WITH IBM/AAAS/ NASA TO RECRUIT COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES FOR SUMMER / INTERNSHIPS WITH THE GOAL OF HIRING THEM AT THE END OF A SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF INTERNSHIP ASSIGNMENTS.
7	IBM	PROJECT ABLE PROGRAM	1999	CANDIDATES FOR HIRE	RECRUITMENT	PROJECT ABLE IS A PARTNERSHIP WITH STAFFING AND GLOBAL DIVERSITY TO PROVIDE A FOCAL POINT FOR COLLEGE AND PROFESSIONAL HIRING OF CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES. LINE CHAMPIONS IN EACH BUSINESS UNIT WORK WITH MANAGEMENT AND AN EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE OVERSEES THE PROGRAM
8	IBM	COST RECOVERY PROCESS	1999	EMPLOYEES / MANAGERS	ACCOMMODATION	THE COST OF ACCOMMODATION IS PAID FOR AT THE ORGANIZATION LEVEL, REMOVING THE FINANCIAL COSTS AT THE DEPARTMENT MANAGER LEVEL.
9	IBM	SPECIAL NEEDS WEB SITE	1990	CUSTOMERS / EMPLOYEES	AWARENESS / POLICY / MARKETING	THE WEB SITE INCLUDES INFORMATION ABOUT IBM AND BUSINESS PARTNER PRODUCTS, WEB ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES, AND TRADE SHOWS (HTTP: WWW.IBM.COM/SNS)
10	IBM	HR CAMPAIGN	1999	HR PROFESSIONALS	AWARENESS	THE WEB SITE OFFERS INFORMATION ON RESOURCES AVAILABLE WHEN PROVIDING ACCOMMODATION TO EMPLOYEES. (HTTP:WWW.IBM.COM/ABLE)

ACCOMMODATION SERVICE AWARENESS-TRAINING-OTHER (SPECIFY)

Able to Work - Best Practices

#	COMPANY	PROGRAM NAME	YEAR STARTED	AUDIENCE (EMPLOYEES, CLIENTS, ETC.)	PROGRAM TYPE*	PROGRAM OVERVIEW
11	ROYAL BANK CANADA	EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL	1998	EMPLOYEES	ENVIRONMENT, ACCOMMODATION, SERVICE	THIS GROUP OF EMPLOYEES ARE SELF NOMINATED, AND MEET ON A QUARTERLY BASIS (VIRTUAL AND OR FACE TO FACE) WITH THE OBJECTIVE TO ASSIST RBFG IN BEING FINANCIAL SERVICES PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER OF CHOICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
12	ROYAL BANK CANADA	MAKE IT BARRIER FREE	1999	EMPLOYEES	ACCOMMODATION, RECRUITMENT	THE ACCOMMODATION POLICY OUTLINES NOT ONLY THE BANKS COMMITMENT, BUT OUR DUTY TO ACCOMMODATE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. THE POLICY PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK OR STEPS TO ASSIST MANAGERS THROUGH THE PROCESS. THE ACCOMMODATION POLICY CAN BE ACCESSED BY ALL EMPLOYEES, THROUGH HUMAN RESOURCES AS WELL AS OUR INTERNAL WEBSITE
13	ROYAL BANK CANADA	WELLSIZING THE WORKPLACE CONFERENCE	1999-2000	PUBLIC	AWARENESS, TRAINING	A ROYAL BANK SPONSORED EVENT. IT PROVIDES A FORUM FOR COMPANIES TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR COMMITMENT TO AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES. THE THREE DAY EVENT ALLOWS FOR THE SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES WORKING TOWARDS A COMMON VISION OF WORKPLACE ACCESSIBILITY.
14	ROYAL BANK CANADA	GOODWILL CALL CENTRE TRAINING PROGRAM FR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	1999-2000	—	RECRUITMENT	A PARTNERSHIP WITH GOODWILL WHICH PROVIDES WORKPLACE TRAINING FOR STUDIES AND ASSISTS WITH STUDENT PLACEMENT UPON GRADUATION.
15	ROYAL BANK CANADA	VALENTINE GALA	2000-2001	PUBLIC	AWARENESS	CEO JOHN CLEGHORN IS CO-CHAIR FOR THE EVENT-PURPOSE IS TO RAISE FUNDS AND AWARENESS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

* AWARENESS TRAINING-OTHER (SPECIFY)

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Able to Work - Best Practices

#	COMPANY	PROGRAM NAME	YEAR STARTED	AUDIENCE (EMPLOYEES, CLIENTS, ETC.)	PROGRAM TYPE*	PROGRAM OVERVIEW
20	ROYAL BANK CANADA	ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY POLICY	1999	MANAGERS/ EMPLOYEES	POLICY	THE ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY POLICY OUTLINES OUR COMMITMENT AND REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURING OUR TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS FOR EMPLOYEES AND CLIENTS WILL ACCOMMODATE ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES. AN ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE OF EXPERTISE WAS ALSO CREATED TO PROVIDE THE SYSTEMS DEVELOPERS AND BUSINESSES WITH SUPPORT IN MEETING THESE REQUIREMENTS
21	ROYAL BANK CANADA	DIVERSITY IN ACTION VIDEO	1995	EMPLOYEES	TRAINING/ AWARENESS	A VIDEO TAPE FEATURING 6 SCENARIOS THAT REPRESENT COMMON CHALLENGES EMPLOYEES FACE IN VALUING AND MANAGING DIVERSITY
22	ROYAL BANK CANADA	ROYAL BANK MAGAZINE - MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	1999	EMPLOYEES	AWARENESS/ ENVIRONMENT	THE MAGAZINE HIGHLIGHTS SOME EMPLOYEES AND THEIR WORKPLACE STORY AS IT RELATES TO DISABILITIES. CEO JOHN CLEGHORN IS INTERVIEWED SPEAKING ON DISABILITIES "LEADING BY EXAMPLE"
23	ROYAL BANK CANADA	REMOVING THE BARRIERS - PARTICIPANT & REFERENCE GUIDE	1998	EMPLOYEES	AWARENESS	A TOOL TO AID IN THE EDUCATION PROCESS OF ENSURING QUALITY SERVICE FOR CLIENTS ONE ON ONE
24	ROYAL BANK CANADA	COMMUNITY REPORT - MAGAZINE	1999	EMPLOYEES/ PUBLIC	AWARENESS	A MAGAZINE THAT DEPICTS OUR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND THE DIVERSITY OF EMPLOYEES. BEST PRACTICES ARE SHARED THROUGH STORIES OF SUCCESS

* POLICY AWARENESS TRAINING OTHER (SPECIFY)

Able to Work - Best Practices

#	COMPANY	PROGRAM NAME	YEAR STARTED	AUDIENCE (EMPLOYEES, CLIENTS, ETC.)	PROGRAM TYPE*	PROGRAM OVERVIEW
25	SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION	CENTRAL ACCOMMODATION FUND	—	EMPLOYEES	ACCOMMODATIONS	CENTRAL POOL OF RESOURCES TO COVER COST OF ACCOMMODATIONS
26	UNUMPROVIDENT	TRANSITIONAL WORK PROGRAM	—	EMPLOYEES	POLICY	TWP PROVIDES EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES WHO ARE UNABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR MOST RECENT POSITION IN A FULL TIME CAPACITY, AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK IN A TEMPORARY, TRANSITIONAL POSITION FOR UP TO 12 WEEKS. THIS ALLOWS THE EMPLOYEE TIME TO BUILD WORK CAPACITY AND LOCATE A SUITABLE POSITION WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT JOB PLACEMENT CAN BE MADE.
27	UNUMPROVIDENT	DISABILITY PLACEMENT PROGRAM	—	EMPLOYEES	POLICY	TO FACILITATE THE PLACEMENT OF QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE BEEN OUT OF WORK ON LONG TERM DISABILITY AND HAVE FULL TIME WORK CAPACITY. WHEN AN EMPLOYEE IS RELEASED TO RETURN TO WORK AND HAS BEEN ON LTD FOR 12 MONTHS OR LESS, UNUMPROVIDENT WILL ATTEMPT TO REASONABLY ACCOMMODATE A QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE IN HIS/HER PRE-DISABILITY POSITION OR A COMPARABLE POSITION.
28	UNUMPROVIDENT	ATTENDANCE SERVICE	—	EMPLOYEES	POLICY	UNUMPROVIDENT MAY PROVIDE PARTIAL SUBSIDY REIMBURSEMENT TO OFFSET THE COSTS OF WORK RELATED ATTENDANT SERVICES FOR UNUMPROVIDENT EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES. THIS SERVICE IS NOT REQUIRED BY ADA AND UNUMPROVIDENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY, ALTER, OR ELIMINATE THE PROGRAM AT ITS DISCRETION AT ANY TIME. MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT IS \$15,000 PER YEAR.

* IF OTHER, SPECIFY

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Carol Boyer <CBoyer@resna.org>

09/01/2000 01:23:31 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: NASIRE Awards 9 States IT Accessibility Awards

Jonathan,

Some very great news! Most of these awards deal with making state websites accessible to all their citizens. I guess Connecticut and Kentucky, states that have also passed legislation on website accessibility, were not eligible at the time nominations had to be done.

Some of these initiatives are through public-private collaboration and the work of many of the AT Act projects.

Carol

NASIRE (National Association of State Information Resource Executives) (<https://www.nasire.org>) offers awards in nine (9) categories, including Accessibility, Communications Infrastructure, Digital Government, and Information Architecture.

For Accessibility, the award is based on legislative and agency initiatives to ensure that information technology systems are accessible to all employees and that the public can access government information and services on the World Wide Web. Summary of all nine (9) states nominated for NASIRE Accessibility Awards is at

https://www.nasire.org/awards/2000awards_accessibility.cfm. The states are: Illinois, Maine, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. (Many of these state initiatives were carried out and/or initiated by the Assistive Technology Act projects, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.)

According to the Illinois Assistive Technology Project, "accessible web design is good web design. It's simple, easy to use, and cost-effective. It also benefits the largest number of people. Poor design is easy to correct and, for web managers and designers, worth the short time it takes."

NASIRE will hold their annual conference in Baltimore on September 24-27, 2000 at which these awards will be presented.



Carol Boyer <CBoyer@resna.org>

08/31/2000 05:40:29 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: National Consortium on Universal Design for Learning

Jonathan,

Here's the resource information I promised.

Carol

http://www.cast.org/initiatives/national_consortium.html

CAST has launched the National Consortium on Universal Design for Learning, a national partnership of educators, schools and experts committed to improving access to the general curriculum for students with disabilities, and indeed all students, through the application of the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). A key premise of UDL is that a curriculum should include alternatives to make it accessible and appropriate for students with different backgrounds, learning styles, abilities, and disabilities in widely varied learning contexts. The "universal" in Universal Design for Learning does not imply one optimal solution for everyone. Rather it reflects an awareness of the unique nature of each learner and the need to accommodate differences, creating learning experiences that suit the learner and maximize his or her ability to progress.



Carol Boyer <CBoyer@resna.org>

08/24/2000 06:07:01 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Section 508 Legislation in Kentucky!!

Jonathan,

As promised---

Kentucky [<http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/record/00rs/SB315.htm>]

The Kentucky Assistive Technology Services Network (KATS) helped to successfully pass an "Information Technology" Bill through an amendment to SB 315, a larger bill to create the Governor's Office of Technology.

The amendment requires state and state-assisted entities to insure that information technology equipment and software used by the entity provide access to individuals who are blind or visually impaired and those who are deaf or hard of hearing. The amendment requires technology access clauses in contracts for the purchase of information technology; requires the state Finance and Administration Cabinet to develop the contractual language and non-visual access standards; establishes that existing equipment when upgraded be brought into compliance and would permit a person injured by a violation of access requirements to seek injunctive relief. The bill with the amendment was signed by Kentucky's Governor, Paul Patton in April.

ARNOLD
PUBLIC RELATIONS
FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: July 6, 2000
TO: Jonathan Young
FAX: 202-456-0362
FR: Susan Barrett
PGS: 8 (includes cover)

COMMENTS:

Attached please find the sample *Wall Street Journal* pitches you requested.

Phone: (617) 587-8928

Fax: (617) 587-8930

ARNOLD PUBLIC RELATIONS

June 11, 2000

Albert R. Hunt
The Wall Street Journal
200 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10281-1003

Dear Mr. Hunt:

In your very eloquent article for The Wall Street Journal (The Disabilities Act is Creating a Better Society: 3.11.1999), you definitely came down on the side of the (ADA) angels, rather than align yourself for a moment with the scaremongers who held up all kinds of horrible negative scenarios for the nation if the ADA was signed into law.

This Saturday, June 17, ^{as} you may be aware, marks the official launch of the 'Spirit of the ADA Torch Relay' in San Francisco. From that city, the Torch will be carried on local roads and highways, across harbors and bays around the United States. The Relay will reach its grand finale in New York City on August 7. Each city will commemorate this historic 10th Anniversary with unique events.

The purpose of the Relay, which is sponsored by Volkswagen of America and presented by the American Association of People with Disabilities, is to emphasize the positive impact made on people's lives by the ADA while also reminding people that they need to re-affirm their support of the ADA in order that some 54 million disabled Americans can experience true equality. As you stated in your Journal piece, "As a society, we aren't there yet." And a laissez faire attitude to the implementation of the ADA isn't going to get society those last few miles!

Media coverage, as you certainly know, does have an impact. (Witness the recent high-profile given to the ADA by Mr. Clint Eastwood!) I am hoping that you might put pen to paper again--or consider debating the current state of the ADA with "The Capital Gang."

Andy Imperato, Chief Executive Officer of the AAPD is certainly available for interview and is a fountain of information. We are also taking advantage of the willingness of some wonderful disabled athletes to be national spokespeople. And each area visited by the Torch Relay has its own spokespeople, many of whom have remarkable stories to share. I know that you have your own family experience with disability which, I am sure, makes the continued and improved implementation of the ADA a personal as well as a public issue for you.

A DIVISION OF ARNOLD COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
101 HUNTINGTON AVENUE, BOSTON, MA 02199 617.587.8900 FAX 617.587.8930

ALBANY BALTIMORE DETROIT LONDON LOS ANGELES MILWAUKEE MINNEAPOLIS NEW YORK
PHILADELPHIA RICHMOND ROCHESTER SAN FRANCISCO TORONTO VANCOUVER WASHINGTON D.C.

You may also be interested to know that, with the AAPD's help, Arnold Public Relations also conducted a nationwide survey to (covering the top 20 television markets) to discover the level of awareness in the population of how dramatically the ADA has improved the quality of life for people with disabilities. The one hundred people interviewed from each city were also asked to "grade" their cities in terms of accessibility and general responsiveness to the needs of the disabled population. The results of this survey are quite interesting and will be made public at the time of the Torch Relay launch on June 17.

I would be more than happy to share these results with you and provide you with any other information or contacts that you might need.

It would be of immense help to our efforts to have your input and I will follow up this faxed letter with a phone call to see if you are able to lend your excellent journalistic skills to support the campaign.

Many thanks in advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Barrett". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Susan Barrett
Arnold Public Relations

June 11, 2000

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The Wall Street Journal
200 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10281-1003

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June 7, 2000

Did you know that one out of every five Americans has a disability? At 20 percent of the population, that means people with disabilities comprise the nation's largest minority group!

It is 10 years since President George Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Since 1990, much has been achieved on behalf of this "minority group" but much more still needs to be done.

To focus attention on this benchmark anniversary, and to highlight the achievements of and continuing obstacles faced by people with disabilities, the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) is hosting a 24-city, cross country torch relay throughout the summer.

The Spirit of ADA Torch Relay, which has its official launch in San Francisco on June 17, is sponsored by Volkswagen of America, and asks Americans to renew the pledge they made 10 years ago when the ADA was first passed into law.

Many of the people participating in the Relay have amazing stories to tell about what they have achieved in the face of sometimes tremendous obstacles. These people can testify to the effects of the ADA on their lives.

Andrew Imparato, Chief Executive Officer of the AAPD is coordinating all national and local efforts on behalf of the Relay. Imparato can provide background information on the ADA, achievements and changes during the last ten years, and details of efforts and programs for the disabled in the new century.

Please let me know if you would like to know more about the Relay or would like to speak to Andrew Imparato or one of the Relay participants.

I will follow up with you shortly, but in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me at 617-587-8928 or sbarrett@arn.com.

Thank you,

Susan Barrett

Barrett, Susan

Article 1 of 1
Politics & People

The Disabilities Act Is Creating a Better Society
By Albert R. Hunt

03/11/1999
The Wall Street Journal
Page A23
(Copyright (c) 1999, Dow Jones & Company, Inc.)

"The Americans With Disabilities Act is not sensitive to the needs of our businesses -- large and small -- and will subsequently have a negative impact on our judicial system and on our nation's productivity as a whole."

Rep. Tom DeLay (R., Texas),
February 22, 1990

As they did when the civil-rights bills passed a generation earlier, the political right warned that the Americans With Disabilities Act would undermine the American economy, produce a litigious nightmare and hurt the cause of those it purported to help, the disabled.

The legislation passed decisively but not without a huge struggle and vehement opposition. The three current GOP House leaders -- Dennis Hastert, Dick Armey and Tom DeLay -- all voted against it. Messrs. Armey and DeLay were apocalyptic in their prophecies; as recently as 1995, Mr. Armey still was proclaiming the ADA a "disaster" that benefited "gold diggers" who file frivolous suits.

It wasn't just conservatives complaining. Some well-heeled Democratic contributors, like real-estate developers, threatened to cut off financial contributions to prominent supporters of the ADA.

These doomsayers were almost totally wrong. In its seventh year, the ADA, which prohibits bias against the disabled in employment and public accommodations, has won widespread acceptance from the public and most businesses, and has significantly elevated the awareness of and respect for the millions of Americans with disabilities.

"We in the disabled community used to be patronized; others believed they would take care of us," says Tony Coelho, who has epilepsy, and who, as a member of Congress in 1990, was the driving force behind the passage of the legislation. "As a result of the ADA, we have come to terms with doing things for ourselves."

He derides the doomsday predictions of his former colleagues. "I would challenge them to name one business that has gone under because of ADA."

Some critics, even reputable ones, still claim the law is backfiring. One study by two prominent Massachusetts Institute of Technology economists claims that the costs have been so high to employers that it has resulted in hiring fewer, not more, disabled Americans.

But rival studies by the Census Bureau, the President's Commission on Disabilities and by Peter Blanck, a University of Iowa law-school professor who specializes in this field, come to a contrary conclusion. Anecdotal evidence suggests they are right. Professor Blanck notes that most firms have found that ADA is much easier to conform to than initially suspected. He studied Sears Roebuck, for example, and found that the average cost of conforming -- raising or lowering a desk, putting in a ramp, or altering a dress code -- was less than \$50; another survey found that three-quarters of all changes cost under \$100. And companies only have to conform to ADA's requirements if it won't cause an undue expense or burden.

Companies such as Sears, Manpower Inc., Sprint and Hewlett Packard have been at the forefront of making changes and say the ADA has not only not caused economic hardship but is generating a more productive and profitable workforce.

There has been some frivolous litigation. For example, there are more than a handful of complaints, under the ADA umbrella, pertaining to unspecified back injuries.

But the notion that this law would produce a rash of legal actions that would intimidate or bankrupt businesses is demonstrably untrue. Almost 90% of the cases brought to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission are thrown out. The American Bar Association recently did a survey that found that, of the cases that go to court, the defendants, usually businesses, win an astounding 98% of the time.

"There are people with legitimate issues like diabetes or epilepsy who are not able to make their claims," argues Robert Silverstein, director of the Center for the Study and Advancement of Disability Policy at George Washington University. "If anything, the courts are narrowing the law too much and throwing out cases that are legitimate."

Yet the most significant contribution of the ADA is that it clearly has changed the perception of the disabled. This is reflected in modern culture as well as the workforce and public accommodations. (As the father of a child in a wheelchair -- hopefully only temporarily -- it is terrific to be able to go to movies, restaurants and ball games with minimal hassle; conversely, it is outrageous that in Washington, D.C., we can't see the movie "Shakespeare in Love" because the one theater in the city where it's showing is not wheelchair accessible.)

Moreover, as Tony Coelho notes, some of the changes caused by the ADA have benefited more than the disabled. "Curb cuts are used by kids in rollerblades, delivery people and mothers with baby strollers. I use the volume controls at airports." Also, by raising awareness, the ADA has caused other institutions to reach out more for the disabled. Colleges and universities, for example, are making many more accommodations for physically impaired students or those with learning disabilities than they were a decade ago.

To be sure, the ADA has fallen short of its supporters most optimistic dreams; over half

of disabled Americans still are unemployed, though sometimes that has more to do with health insurance or Social Security regulations.

But overall there are two compelling reasons that the ADA has been one of government's great successes this decade, one negative, the other positive. The negative reason is the simple fact that when the Republicans achieved a conservative majority in the Congress, there was absolutely no appetite to repeal the law that Messrs. DeLay and Arney insisted was so onerous; if the ADA had failed in the marketplace, surely there would have been a serious move to do something.

The other is what Professor Silverstein describes as a new paradigm based on a simple premise: "Disability, like race and gender, is a natural and normal part of the human experience that in no way diminishes a person's right to live a normal life and participate in mainstream activities."

As a society, we aren't there yet. But, because of the Americans With Disabilities Act, we're a lot closer than we were at the start of this decade.

No Legal Morass

ADA charges filed with the EEOC

Charges filed 108,939

Charges resolved 106,988

Charges dismissed for want of merit

or closed for administrative reasons 92,259

Charges settled 14,729

Source: EEOC, FY 1992-FY 1998

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**PROGRAMS & PROJECTS WORKING TO BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE
AMONG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (DRAFT 00-03-09)**

[This is a work in progress, and will be updated with contact information, additional programs, and revisions of current descriptions]

ABLE-NET

ABLE-NET Internet Service, www.able-net.net, ABLE-NET Specializes in offering affordable, accessible Internet Access for People with Disabilities in 31 States and Canada.

Contact: John Kirby
(209) 556-9381
johnk@able-net.net

Access to Physics Interactive Video Tutor Project

The CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM) is collaborating with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Center for Advanced Educational Services to make an on-line interactive physics course accessible to students with disabilities. Known as "Access to PIVOT" (Physics Interactive Video Tutor), this three-year project will test, implement, document and promote the development of multimedia access solutions to make distance learning accessible to blind, low-vision, deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

Contact: Larry Goldberg
617-300-3722

Adaptive and Assistive Technology

The name of our program is "Adaptive and Assistive Technology" The Community Adaptive and Assistive Technology Center offers personalized AAT services to people with disabilities and their families. Through Its Computer Arts for Recreation And Employability Program offered after school and on Saturdays, the CAAT Center, in collaboration with local vocational education high schools, gives hands-on training in computer arts, adaptive equipment services, evaluations, assistance in getting on-line and accessing the Internet, and free equipment upon availability.

Contact: Elizabeth Sunshine, Executive Director
NYSID
930 Willowbrook Road - Bldg. 41-A
Staten Island, New York 10314
Office: phone/fax 717-494-6457

Adaptive Computer Empowerment Services

ACES, a 60-person all-volunteer organization, recycles used computer hardware and software and distributes it, along with tech support services and tutoring, to low-income disabled persons in San Diego County.

Contact: Mary L. Adams
LCSW
Executive Director
madams@adaptive.org

Assistive Technology Library of Alaska (ATLA)

ATLA's goal is to help individuals and families overcome barriers to finding and accessing appropriate assistive technology. ATLA offers assessment/recommendations, provides sale or rental of technology products, and offers training in the use and maintenance of devices, and has a lending library. ATLA serves as a resource for people with disabilities from birth throughout the life span, parents, other family members, caregivers, educators and professionals.

A mix of state Technology Act funds, sales revenues, fee-for-service payments and membership fees supports the organization. In addition to maintaining a central office to coordinate on-site and off-site services, ATLA coordinates "The Alliance," a network of agencies and individuals throughout Alaska that offer technology assistance to families in outlying communities.

Assistive Technology Resource Center of Hawaii

Through extensive collaborations with community-based organizations and private partners, HATTS works to fulfill its goals of promoting increased awareness and greater access to assistive technology, and increasing consumer and provider skills, involvement and empowerment with technology. Consistent with the requirements of the Technology Act, its activities focus on helping rural and underserved communities gain access to technology.

ATTIC

ATTIC is an independent living center in SW Indiana. We have been a recipient of used computer equipment through the Christina Society and other groups. We have volunteer computer technicians who service or salvage the donated equipment, then we load donated software requested by individual to meet his/her needs, and system is given to consumers. This is a small project, but made a world of difference for some consumers especially students.

Contact: INATTIC1@aol.com

Bancroft e-solutions

Contact: James Beck

Contact: Barbara Fischlowitz -
Leong

Our project is designed to seek job openings that are conducive to telecommuting and matching them with applicants (who are based out of their homes) with skill sets based upon the job requirements. NH (as you may or may not know) has large disparity regarding access to the internet. Ideally we would like to go state wide with this project but are currently limited to high speed access areas only.

We have a Leadership Education In Nuerodevelopmental Disorders-MCH Interdisciplinary Training Project for graduate and post graduate students from 15 disciplines. One of our goals is not only to train them to have excellent clinical skills for working with persons with disabilities and their families but also how to effectively utilize assistive and telecommunications technology to enhance services and quality of life. We have a fiberoptic videoconferencing facility here and a closed circuit KidsTV network to hospital rooms and which can connect around the world as well as to over 270 schools right here in Indiana.

Contact: Dr. Lann E. Thompson, Associate Director
Riley Child Development Center
Riley Hospital for Children
702 Barnhill Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Career Training for Success Program

The Career Training for Success Program is a 26 week program designed to provide and enhance basic and advanced skills in several areas. We offer training in the following skill areas: computer operating systems, word processing applications, spreadsheet applications, database applications, presentation applications, internet applications, typing, filing, basic grammar, basic math, customer service, data entry, accounting, medical technology, medical office, job seeking, employee development, GED preparation, and adult literacy. The program is interactive and self-paced so consumers learn at their own rate, and actually work with computers and office machines as they receive individualized attention from instructors. We then "follow along" to offer support and guidance in actual job exploration and placement.

Contact: Paul Hubbard
Kcgwcost@sound.net
(816) 842-7425, ext.242
The Helping Hand of Goodwill Industries
1817 Campbell
Kansas City, Missouri, 64108-1794

CAST

CAST has been a leader in the development of the educational paradigm we call Universal Design for Learning(tm). We are working to make the general educational curriculum--the curriculum that "typical" learners encounter in our schools--accessible

and educationally relevant for everyone, including learners with disabilities and even gifted learners. The threshold requirement is that all educational curricular material be produced in a digital version. Once that requirement is met, there are a lot of tools available (including a product derived from CAST's own research, the CAST eReader) that can make the material useful by people with all sorts of disabilities.

CAST recently became the lead organization in the new National Center on Accessing the General Curriculum, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education Programs and with our partners, Harvard Law, Boston College School of Education and the Council for Exceptional Children. The National Center will explore the implications for policy, teacher education, training and practice, and curriculum design, implied by Universal Design for Learning. We find that Universal Design for Learning (UDL) excites those with whom we are able to communicate, and we think that UDL can play a major role in addressing the Digital Divide..

Contact: Donald R. Giller
Chief Resource Development Officer
CAST, Inc.
Center for Applied Special Technology
39 Cross Street
Peabody, MA 01960
Tel. +1 978 531 8555
TTY +1 978 538-3110
Fax +1 531-0192
Email: dgiller@cast.org

CE Disabled Services

From our beginnings in 1982 as CE Disabled Services, with a staff of 3, to a current staff of 7, from having served 127 persons with disabilities in our first year, to providing services to over 1,500 individuals last year. In 1989, Disabled Network Center joined and became a part of our organization. CE Disabled Services has grown in size and in our commitment to serving those with disabilities.

CE Disabled Services takes pride in its almost two decades of education and advocacy efforts. We formed a coalition, which helped to promote awareness of disability access issues. We advocated with City, County, State and Federal agencies for regulations to reduce access problems. Our consumers advocated to make the Municipal Courts accessible. A settled lawsuit, filed by consumers, mandated the City of Oceanside become accessible. We strive to make our web site, those of the media, governmental entities and others accessible to users of speech output technology.

Contact: Dr Clyde Shideler
CE Disabled Services
P. O. Box 495

San Luis Rey, California 92068

Computer Recycling

The Tech Act Project and works initiated this program with the Natl. Christina Foundation to solicit computers from business and industry for refurbishing and redistribution to persons with disabilities.

Computer Recycling within state agencies

In order to make the best use of limited funds, the Tech Act Project works with Voc Rehab and Services for the Visually Impaired to provide used computers for their consumers who need them. VR and SVI provide the funding for necessary software and accessibility modifications for the individual.

Descriptive Video Service®, NCAM

The Caption Center, Descriptive Video Service® (DVS®), and the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM) hold two grants from NIDRR; both are directly addressing technical infrastructure barriers - the first of digital television and closed captioning and video description and the second regarding "convergence technology" and inaccessible user interfaces for such things as Web TV and other emerging hybrids of the Internet and television. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is also supporting our DTV Access work through a project called, "Accessing Public Broadcasting's Future."

Contact: Larry Goldberg
Director, Media Access
WGBH Educational Foundation
Internet: Larry_Goldberg@WGBH.org
617-300-3722 (direct voice/FAX)
617-300-3400 (main NCAM)
617-300-2489 (TTY)

DO-IT

People with disabilities successfully pursuing academics and careers.
Programs to promote the use of technology to maximize the independence, productivity and participation of people with disabilities.
Recipient of the National Information Infrastructure Award; Education and the President's Award of Excellence in Mentoring and showcased at The President's summit on Volunteerism.
People helping people achieve success.
Resources for you!

Contact: Sheryl Burgstahler, Ph.D.
University of Washington

Box 354842
Seattle, WA 98195-4842
206-685-DOIT (3648) -- voice/TTY

DPI

DPI is a nonprofit agency working in partnership with Silicon Valley businesses and the community to prepare people with disabilities for competitive employment. Through adaptive computer access technology and career transition services, DPI creates opportunities for significant advances in universal access, social integration and employment for people with disabilities.

Founded in 1980 as Disabled Programmers, Inc., by a former IBM executive whose son was paralyzed in a diving accident, DPI formerly taught people with disabilities computer programming. The agency was renamed DPI in 1995 and has since changed its focus to employment access for individuals with disabilities and work-related injuries.

DPI focuses on four primary programs:
School-To-Career
Internship
Computer Access Technology (CAT) Lab
Mobile Access Technology (MAT) Lab

DPI assists individuals 15-years of age or older that have all types of Served physical (ALS, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, stroke,..), sensory (Low Vision, Blindness, Hard of Hearing,..), and learning disabilities, and work-related injuries (Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, De Quervain's, Tendonitis, etc.).

There is no cost to enroll in the School-To-Career Program. The Computer Access Technology Labs may require a fee for the evaluation and training of adaptive computer equipment and ergonomic worksite evaluation. Approved clients may be eligible to receive funding for services on a case-by-case basis or through corporate funding, the Department of Rehabilitation or Worker's Compensation insurance carriers.

Nearly 26 million Americans are classified as "severely" disabled, requiring of DPI personal or technological assistance to perform daily activities. People with disabilities now represent the largest minority in the U.S. Most importantly, DPI offers persons with disabilities the opportunity to work successfully in a competitive job market.

Contact: Maria F. Nicolacoudis
Executive Director DPI
(408) 278-2001

eTranscribe

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii has started an eTranscribe business to

train individuals with disabilities to become medical transcriptionists and provide them contract work to perform from their homes using an array of technology including computers with voice activated software, the Internet, and Dictaphone equipment. Our eTranscribers prepare medical reports for doctors at an accuracy rate of 98%, with a 24-hour turnaround.

Contact: Maureen Bates, EE&T Director
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii
email:maureenbates@juno.com
Tel: (808) 836-0313
Mail: 2610 Kiliahu Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Florida Alliance for Assistive Service and Technology (FAAST)

The FAAST project is working with the Florida Department of Education's demonstration site to provide overlapping services for access to assistive technology outside the traditional school framework for adults beyond school age as well as those of school age. Minorities and the elderly are served.

Contact: Terry Ward PhD
Project Director
850/487-3278

Georgia Tools for Life

Nearly 27 percent (1,270,584) Georgians have one or more disabilities. Of these, nearly 14 percent (656,097) have severe disabilities requiring one or more kinds of assistive technology (LaPlante, et al, *Technology and Disabilities*, 6, pp. 17-28, 1997 and the 1990 U.S. Census Report). The Tools for Life project offers a computer-recycling center, called Re-Boot, that refurbished almost 1,000 computers in 1999. The ReBoot program is located at FODAC (Friends of Disabled Adults and Children) at Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Contact: Joy Kniskern
404/657-3084

Global Assistive Technology Explorer (GATE)

CRT will develop and sustain the Global Assistive Technology Explorer (GATE), a comprehensive, up-to-date, easy-to-use national public Internet site on disability-related resources. GATE will increase the availability of and access to information about AT, services, and resources for individuals with disabilities. The site will provide 24-hour access to all those with Internet capability.

High School High Tech (HSHT)

A program called High School High Tech (HSHT) is in its third year of funding and we are a grant funded program, in collaboration with Grant Wood AEA in CR. Our program is for high school students with mild disabilities that have a desire to go onto a 2 or 4 year, that have a IEP or Accommodation Plan, they also have to have the desire to work in the field of Technology.

We currently work with 12 high schools, serve approx. 90 students and provide students with computer training, hands on web page design classes, job site tours, job site visits and internships. We also provide support for students that need the additional assistance getting to and from an activity, communicating with others and planning their future.

We currently are piloting the program in Iowa City and have been overwhelmed with the support from teachers, students and businesses. Between the two cities we have 35 businesses involved and we provide a wide array of activities to our students.

Contact: Deana Berg
319-393-3434
hsht@goodwillse Iowa.org

Iowa Program for Assistive Technology

The Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (IPAT) worked with the Iowa Department for the Blind to develop a project to increase accessibility to the Internet for persons with disabilities. The first part of the project was the creation of a booklet, Designing Accessible Web Sites: Creating sites that are accessible to people with disabilities. The booklet discusses how persons with disabilities access and use the web, and contains instructions on how to create an accessible web site, including examples of accessible sites and other resources.

Another component of the project is to work with the state library system. Many individuals with disabilities do not own computers, but could access the Internet through their public library. The newsletter of the State Library is distributed to all of the state's 340 public and private libraries and will have an article about web access and the booklet. IPAT is coordinating with other entities and the State Librarian to work over the next few years on improving library access.

In order to ensure that future web sites become accessible, IPAT is collaborating with the Information Technology Services (ITS) office at the University of Iowa to develop training materials on web access as part of the ITS web master classes. Training materials will also be included in the ITS classes and courses on instructional design for faculty and students in the Department of Education.

Contacts: Mary Quigley
319/356-4402
Jane Gay

319/356-4463
Co-Directors
<http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech>

Lekotek

Lekotek is a nation-wide network of not-for-profit resource centers for children with disabilities and their families whose mission is to foster inclusion. We offer a variety of direct services including play with adapted toys and computers. One of our programs, called "Compuplay", utilizes a vast array of assistive technologies from switches to adapted keyboards to help children access the computer and the Internet.

Contact: Jennifer Frankfurter
lekotek@lekotek.org
Joyce Morimoto
jfrankfurter@yahoo.com
lekotek@lekotek.org
r-morimoto@nwu.edu

Merze Tate Center for Technology and Educational Reform

With the help of a \$200,000 grant from the IBM Community Access Program and another from Smartforce.com for 4,000 hours of on-line courseware, the Merze Tate Center for Technology and Educational Reform at Western Michigan University is leading a public-private initiative to develop a national on-line support center to help facilitate the training of people with disabilities for employment in the fast growing computer industry. An April 4, 2000 electronic ribbon cutting is planned in DC by the US Dept. of Ed Assistant Secretary for OSERS, Juith Heumann.

The purpose of this alliance is to provide on-line training support to member programs of the Association of Rehabilitation Programs in Computer Technology (ARPCT) and the Inter-national Association of Business, Industry and Rehabilitation (I-NABIR). It is estimated that this will involve about 120 training programs across the nation that specialize in providing computer related training and employment assistance to adults with disabilities especially those are homebound.

It is the goal of this project to provide on-line information and training on career opportunities in the Informational Processing Industry in support of local training programs for people with disabilities as well as the professionals that serve them. Within this group of permanently displaced workers on the other side of the digital divide are most individuals with disabilities. According to the 1998 Harris Poll, employment continues to be the area with the widest gulf between those who are disabled and those who are not.

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Fax: (616) 3876184
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Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership (MATP)

MATP has been very active in initiating and coordinating compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. The project was instrumental in orchestrating Executive Order 348 signing (1/1/93) which establishes state policy for access to electronic equipment and information technologies for citizens with disabilities. The project trained 80 ADA coordinators on Section 508; developed Section 508-compliant PC Standards through the Governor's Advisory Council on IT; made GSA/COCA's *Managing Information Resources* manual available electronically and in print to state agencies upon request; provides technical assistance to state agencies in purchasing 508-compliant equipment; provided technical assistance in the development of an amendment to Section 508 on the federal level; advocated that the U.S. Department of Education develop a policy guidance to the state Department of Education regarding accessibility of educational technology and widely distributed Secretary Riley's letter to Massachusetts special education departments; and provide technical assistance on Section 508 implementation on the state level to other AT Act grantees.

Contact: Marilyn Howe
617-355-7820
<http://www.matp.org>

Motion Picture Access Project

With initial funding from the Dept. of Ed's NIDRR, we have developed digital technology that allows people who are deaf or blind to access closed captions or video descriptions in movie theaters. We have partnered with various Hollywood studios and the General Cinema theater chain to roll this out across the country. Our 12th site will be opening soon in DC at the Mazza Gallerie

Contact: Larry Goldberg
Larry_Goldberg@wgbh.org

National AT Internet Site

The Center for Rehabilitation Technology will operate a National AT Internet Site. The AT Act authorized a National AT Internet Site that would provide information to individuals with disabilities and the general public to increase access to AT devices, services, and other related information.

Nebraska Meeting Place

Need Contact Info

*Robert Todd,
404/894-4621*

A listserv that connects persons with disabilities all across Nebraska. The program started with peer volunteers linked by computer e-mail. Peer volunteers who did not already have a computer were provided one on long term loan by the project and connected through free e-mail services such as Juno.

Net Corps

Americas sends high-tech volunteers throughout the Americas to custom design training for organizations and people who normally would not have access to information technology. We have recently developed a program specifically for people with disabilities and will start our pilot project sending volunteers to Transitions in Antigua, Guatemala.

Contact: Jessica Lewis
Organization of American States
1889 F Street, NW Second Floor
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 458-3229 phone
(202) 458-3526 fax
trustamericas@oas.org

New Mexico Technology Assistance Program

The project provides technical assistance and training to set up a package of electronic and information technology accessible hardware /software features with existing computers for public access with public agencies and ed tech computer labs in schools.

Contact: Bill N. Newroe
Project Director
505/954-8539
<http://www.nmtap.com>

New York State TRAIID Project

The New York AT project assisted with the New York state policy from the Director of state agencies on making all state agencies' web sites accessible by July 2000 by following the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Accessibility Initiative. The New York TRAIID Project is referenced in the State Technology Policy office for agencies wishing to receive technical assistance on making their web sites accessible.

Contact: Deborah Buck
518/474-2825
<http://www.state.ny.us/disabledAdvocate/technlog.htm>

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project

The North Carolina project assists with the "Virtual Buddies Program." This program is funded through a private foundation that provides recycled computers and Internet access to people with disabilities around the State. The program also works at the local level to identify people knowledgeable about computers to assist new users. To date, the program has provided 76 adults with disabilities services including the following: training, a computer system, Internet access, computer upgrades, or modem.

The North Carolina project also coordinates a financial loan program through Nations Bank for people with disabilities seeking low-interest loans for assistive technology.

Contact: Ricki Cook
Project Director
919/850-2787
<http://www.mindspring.com/~ncatp>

Parents Helping Parents – iTECH Center

The goal of the iTECH Center is to ensure that children and adults with special needs, their families and the professionals who serve them are aware of and utilize technology to enhance potential and to broaden the quality and enjoyment of their lives. Underlying this goal is the belief that with the help of assistive technology, individuals with special needs will be able to enter the mainstream of all aspects of society and be fully contributing, visible members of society.

The iTECH Center is a resource center of the Alliance for Technology Access and also a program of Parents Helping Parents (PHP), Inc. in Santa Clara, CA. PHP, a nonprofit family resource center, is a Parent Training and Information Center and for 23 years has served children with physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities. The program is supported by a California Assistive Technology System (CATS) grant to provide information and referral services.

ReBoot

ReBoot is a nonprofit, statewide, collaborative effort of many groups and organizations committed to recycling computers. All participants in ReBoot's Computer Re-Utilization Project receive the equipment as a donation; they do not buy the equipment. ReBoot acquires the equipment, evaluates it, repairs it (if needed), loads licensed software, distributes the equipment to people with disabilities; and trains the people on the equipment. The program is operated 85 percent by volunteers—by people with disabilities for people with disabilities. ReBoot has 10 training centers across the state.

Rehabilitation Services for the Visually Impaired (RSVI)

needs
contact
info



See Georgia Tools for

hibe Contact: Jory Kriskern
(see p. 7)
JS

One of many sources for assistive technology. To be eligible for services from our agency, an individual must be visually impaired. If there are services offered by RSVI which will enable the individual to achieve vocational or independent living goals, this includes voice synthesizers on computers, closed circuit TVs, and print reading machines.

Contact: Kathy Hoell
khoell@radiks.net

RIPIN

I am the newly hired coordinator of a project here at RIPIN to help low income families who have children with disabilities gain access to hardware, software, training and support so they can gain information and better advocate for their children.

Contact: Millie Hillman
Rhode Island Parent Information Network
175 Main St.
Pawtucket, RI 02860
(401) 727-4144 ext. 35

Technology Opportunities Project (Atlanta, GA)

Shepherd Center
Mike Jones, PhD, Research
Director, 404/350.7595

A Telerehabilitation Network to Support Community Re-entry Following Catastrophic Injury. The overall goal of this project is to develop effective telerehabilitation applications using advanced network technologies. A test-bed network will be developed in the metro-Atlanta area to link rehabilitation professionals with patients who have sustained catastrophic spinal cord and brain injuries, their family members, and caregivers. The test-bed will emulate capabilities of the Next Generation Internet, including high-bandwidth videoconferencing, remote monitoring, environmental control, and high-speed delivery of interactive, multimedia instruction.

The network will be used to develop, deliver, and evaluate telerehabilitation applications which (a) support community re-entry after catastrophic injury, (b) prevent or reduce the severity of secondary complications often associated with catastrophic injury, and (c) deliver health and wellness support and advocacy assistance to people with disabilities living in the community.

The project expects to find that individuals who receive telerehabilitation: (1) achieve greater success in community reintegration (e.g., return to work), (2) experience fewer secondary complications; (3) demonstrate greater independence and self-efficacy; (4) incur lower overall health care and support costs; and (5) report higher satisfaction with their health-related quality of life.

The Family Center on Technology and Disability

The Family Center on Technology and Disability, a project funded by the U. S. Department of Education is designed to bring technology to individuals with disabilities. One of the projects of the Family Center was to select model programs around the country who are bringing technology to individuals with disabilities. Two of the important criterion for selection as a model program were service to underserved (e.g. rural, minority) communities and collaboration with other organizations in the community.

United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey (UCPA-NJ)

This agency's multiple technology-related projects share the common goal of helping individuals and families to identify the technology solutions that best meets their needs and to enable them to obtain and use the technology. The agency utilizes its extensive in-house technological expertise to assist individuals and families throughout the state by conducting evaluations and training, providing custom fabrication of devices, as well as other services.

United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Suffolk- Mobility Opportunities Via Education (MOVE)

The Children's Center, a division of UCP of Greater Suffolk, New York incorporated the MOVE program into its services in 1997. MOVE is a therapeutic and educational program designed to help people learn the skills needed for sitting, standing, and walking. This collaborative program utilizes the services and knowledge of parents, educators, therapists and other support personnel to help participants learn and practice skills while engaged in activities of daily living.

Division of Services for the Blind (DSB): DSB directs delivery of services for persons who are blind, visually impaired or deaf-blind. The available services and eligibility criteria are the same as those in the general VR. The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind (RCB) in Topeka is a comprehensive rehabilitation program offering independent living skills training, and vocational assessment and technology services to help consumers identify their employment-related skills, aptitudes and interests. Mobile teams are used to offer specific services throughout the state. Kansas Seniors Achieving Independent Living (KAN-SAIL) provides independent living skills training in the home communities of older Kansans who experience blindness or visual loss. Rehabilitation Teaching: Through this program, rehabilitation specialists go to consumers' homes and provides training to help them adjust to blindness and increase their independent living skills. Some of the training areas offered are communications, orientation and mobility, and daily living skills. The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) offers persons who are legally blind the opportunity to manage food service operations, vending stands, snack bars and gift shops. BEP uses funds generated by the vending stand operations, rather than SGF, to match federal funds. Kansas Industries for the Blind (KIB) in Topeka offers employment in manufacturing work and laser cartridge refurbishing for people who are blind and who are not immediately able to succeed in competitive employment.

Contact: Carolyn Perez

Services for the Blind
785-296-3311
Family Center on Technology and Disability
Susan Goodman
Project Director
(202) 973-7141
sgoodman@ucpa.org

United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas (UCP-K)--Purchase of Assistive Technology Project

The overarching goal of this project is to assist families who have assistive technology needs to secure the necessary equipment. Its primary activities include collaborating with state, civic and charitable organizations to develop innovative funding packages that will enable residents who have disabilities to obtain assistive technology. Annually, it strives to secure assistive technology and related services valued in excess of \$300,000 for at least 200 families from across the state.

An annual allocation from the state legislature to Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) and a variety of grants and donations support the program.

Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC)

The Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC) is a coalition under development that will be comprised of organizations representing people with disabilities and other stakeholders that are committed to maximizing the accessibility of the Internet. The UAP Coalition will facilitate access to the Internet and other distributed computer networks by providing a service that dynamically adapts interfaces and content to each end-user's individualized needs and preferences, particularly people with disabilities. The result is optimal accessibility of the Internet by people with disabilities in addition to individually predetermined adaptations of the Internet according to individual preferences.

Contact: Greg McQuarter
858-452-9345
greg@mcquarter.com
Jane West
301-718-0979
jewest@aol.com

Virtual Buddies

The organization takes donated computers, and donated Internet accounts, and places them in the homes of low-income people with different disabilities. The Virtual Buddies program gives those of us who are socially isolated most of the time at our homes, a way to communicate with others, and better educate ourselves. We are just finishing a manual

that will make It easier for Disabled people to take College Courses via their computer at home, so we can continue our education, and get jobs too...

Contact: Timothy Barbour
Smithfield NC
919-989-9718
tbarbour@interpath.com

Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)

The Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) is an international project, hosted by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), focusing on making the Web accessible to the many millions of existing and potential Web users who have disabilities. The Web offers unprecedented access to information, electronic commerce, educational opportunities, employment opportunities, workplace communication, government services, recreation, and more; however there are currently barriers to accessing the Web for people with visual, hearing, physical and cognitive disabilities.

W3C's Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI), in coordination with industry, disability organizations, research centers and government, addresses accessibility of the Web through five complementary activities:

- Ensuring that Web technologies support accessibility
- Developing guidelines for accessibility
- Developing tools to evaluate & facilitate accessibility
- Conducting education and outreach
- Coordinating with research and development

WAI is supported in part by funding from the U.S. National Science Foundation and U.S. Department of Education's National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, as well as other national governments, and industry. WAI's most well-known resources are its guidelines for accessible Web sites, browsers, and authoring tools. It also produces a variety of educational materials and training events on Web accessibility. More information is available at <http://www.w3.org/WAI>.

Contact: Judy Brewer
Director, Web Accessibility Initiative
617-258-9741
jbrewer@w3.org.

Winners on Wheels (WOW)

Winners on Wheels (WOW) is a national non-profit organization with programs designed for youth in wheelchairs. We call our participants Winners. The WOW programs aim to create an environment that encourages self-esteem, independence, and empowerment through activities done in groups (Circles) or individually via our write in program (Kids Connection) and Online Internet activities

(Wheels Online). In each instance the activities the Winners work on "Wheels," are based on a scouting type of curriculum separated into six activities (Spokes) each. When a Winner completes all six Spokes he/she is then rewarded with a badge designed specifically for that Wheel.

Promoting our program online has been a main focus of 1999 and is for the year 2000 and beyond. Several foundations have granted funds for converting our Wheels for individual and interactive Online use. With that The California Endowment has also granted funds for our National office to buy and distribute 9 laptop computers to Circles across the country. Another grant recently received will give us the opportunity to deliver these laptops and provide a web camp day of instruction with delivery.

Contact: John Houseman,
Executive Director
800-969-8255 ext. 02887
559-294-2887
or
Stephanie King
Winners On Wheels
800-969-8255 extension 02344
email: stephking@wowusa.com

**PROGRAMS & PROJECTS WORKING TO BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE
AMONG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (DRAFT 00-03-09)**

ABLE-NET

ABLE-NET Internet Service, www.able-net.net, ABLE-NET Specializes in offering affordable, accessible Internet Access for People with Disabilities in 31 States and Canada.

Contact: John Kirby
(209) 556-9381
johnk@able-net.net

Adaptive and Assistive Technology

The name of our program is "Adaptive and Assistive Technology" The Community Adaptive and Assistive Technology Center offers personalized AAT services to people with disabilities and their families. Through Its Computer Arts for Recreation And Employability Program offered after school and on Saturdays, the CAAT Center, in collaboration with local vocational education high schools, gives hands-on training in computer arts, adaptive equipment services, evaluations, assistance in getting on-line and accessing the Internet, and free equipment upon availability.

Contact: Elizabeth Sunshine, Executive Director
NYSID
930 Willowbrook Road - Bldg. 41-A
Staten Island, New York 10314
Office: phone/fax 717-494-6457

Adaptive Computer Empowerment Services

ACES, a 60-person all-volunteer organization, recycles used computer hardware and software and distributes it, along with tech support services and tutoring, to low-income disabled persons in San Diego County.

Contact: Mary L. Adams
LCSW
Executive Director
madams@adaptive.org

Assistive Technology Library of Alaska (ATLA)

ATLA's goal is to help individuals and families overcome barriers to finding and accessing appropriate assistive technology. ATLA offers assessment/recommendations, provides sale or rental of technology products, and offers training in the use and

maintenance of devices, and has a lending library. ATLA serves as a resource for people with disabilities from birth throughout the life span, parents, other family members, caregivers, educators and professionals.

A mix of state Technology Act funds, sales revenues, fee-for-service payments and membership fees supports the organization. In addition to maintaining a central office to coordinate on-site and off-site services, ATLA coordinates "The Alliance," a network of agencies and individuals throughout Alaska that offer technology assistance to families in outlying communities.

Assistive Technology Resource Center of Hawaii

Through extensive collaborations with community-based organizations and private partners, HATTs works to fulfill its goals of promoting increased awareness and greater access to assistive technology, and increasing consumer and provider skills, involvement and empowerment with technology. Consistent with the requirements of the Technology Act, its activities focus on helping rural and underserved communities gain access to technology.

ATTIC

ATTIC is an independent living center in SW Indiana. We have been a recipient of used computer equipment through the Christina Society and other groups. We have volunteer computer technicians who service or salvage the donated equipment, then we load donated software requested by individual to meet his/her needs, and system is given to consumers. This is a small project, but made a world of difference for some consumers especially students.

Contact: INATTIC1@aol.com

Bancroft e-solutions

Our project is designed to seek job openings that are conducive to telecommuting and matching them with applicants (who are based out of their homes) with skill sets based upon the job requirements. NH (as you may or may not know) has large disparity regarding access to the internet. Ideally we would like to go state wide with this project but are currently limited to high speed access areas only.

We have a Leadership Education In Neurodevelopmental Disorders-MCH Interdisciplinary Training Project for graduate and post graduate students from 15 disciplines. One of our goals is not only to train them to have excellent clinical skills for working with persons with disabilities and their families but also how to effectively utilize assistive and telecommunications technology to enhance services and quality of life. We have a fiberoptic videoconferencing facility here and a closed circuit KidsTV network to hospital rooms and which can connect around the world as well as to over 270 schools right here in Indiana.

Contact: Dr. Lann E. Thompson, Associate Director
Riley Child Development Center
Riley Hospital for Children
702 Barnhill Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Career Training for Success Program

The Career Training for Success Program is a 26 week program designed to provide and enhance basic and advanced skills in several areas. We offer training in the following skill areas: computer operating systems, word processing applications, spreadsheet applications, database applications, presentation applications, internet applications, typing, filing, basic grammar, basic math, customer service, data entry, accounting, medical technology, medical office, job seeking, employee development, GED preparation, and adult literacy. The program is interactive and self-paced so consumers learn at their own rate, and actually work with computers and office machines as they receive individualized attention from instructors. We then "follow along" to offer support and guidance in actual job exploration and placement.

Contact: Paul Hubbard
Kcgwcost@sound.net
(816) 842-7425, ext.242
The Helping Hand of Goodwill Industries
1817 Campbell
Kansas City, Missouri, 64108-1794

CAST

CAST has been a leader in the development of the educational paradigm we call Universal Design for Learning(tm). We are working to make the general educational curriculum--the curriculum that "typical" learners encounter in our schools--accessible and educationally relevant for everyone, including learners with disabilities and even gifted learners. The threshold requirement is that all educational curricular material be produced in a digital version. Once that requirement is met, there are a lot of tools available (including a product derived from CAST's own research, the CAST eReader) that can make the material useful by people with all sorts of disabilities.

CAST recently became the lead organization in the new National Center on Accessing the General Curriculum, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education Programs and with our partners, Harvard Law, Boston College School of Education and the Council for Exceptional Children. The National Center will explore the implications for policy, teacher education, training and practice, and curriculum design, implied by Universal Design for Learning. We find that Universal Design for Learning (UDL) excites those with whom we are able

to communicate, and we think that UDL can play a major role in addressing the Digital Divide..

Contact: Donald R. Giller
Chief Resource Development Officer
CAST, Inc.
Center for Applied Special Technology
39 Cross Street
Peabody, MA 01960
Tel. +1 978 531 8555
TTY +1 978 538-3110
Fax +1 531-0192
Email: dgiller@cast.org

CE Disabled Services

From our beginnings in 1982 as CE Disabled Services, with a staff of 3, to a current staff of 7, from having served 127 persons with disabilities in our first year, to providing services to over 1,500 individuals last year. In 1989, Disabled Network Center joined and became a part of our organization. CE Disabled Services has grown in size and in our commitment to serving those with disabilities.

CE Disabled Services takes pride in its almost two decades of education and advocacy efforts. We formed a coalition, which helped to promote awareness of disability access issues. We advocated with City, County, State and Federal agencies for regulations to reduce access problems. Our consumers advocated to make the Municipal Courts accessible. A settled lawsuit, filed by consumers, mandated the City of Oceanside become accessible. We strive to make our web site, those of the media, governmental entities and others accessible to users of speech output technology.

Contact: Dr Clyde Shideler
CE Disabled Services
P. O. Box 495
San Luis Rey, California 92068

Computer Recycling

The Tech Act Project and works initiated this program with the Natl. Christina Foundation to solicit computers from business and industry for refurbishing and redistribution to persons with disabilities.

Computer Recycling within state agencies

In order to make the best use of limited funds, the Tech Act Project works with Voc Rehab and Services for the Visually Impaired to provide used computers for their

consumers who need them. VR and SVI provide the funding for necessary software and accessibility modifications for the individual.

Descriptive Video Service®, NCAM

The Caption Center, Descriptive Video Service® (DVS®), and the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM) hold two grants from NIDRR; both are directly addressing technical infrastructure barriers - the first of digital television and closed captioning and video description and the second regarding "convergence technology" and inaccessible user interfaces for such things as Web TV and other emerging hybrids of the Internet and television. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is also supporting our DTV Access work through a project called, "Accessing Public Broadcasting's Future."

Contact: Larry Goldberg
Director, Media Access
WGBH Educational Foundation
Internet: Larry_Goldberg@WGBH.org
617-300-3722 (direct voice/FAX)
617-300-3400 (main NCAM)
617-300-2489 (TTY)

DO-IT

People with disabilities successfully pursuing academics and careers.
Programs to promote the use of technology to maximize the independence, productivity and participation of people with disabilities.
Recipient of the National Information Infrastructure Award; Education and the President's Award of Excellence in Mentoring and showcased at The President's summit on Volunteerism.
People helping people achieve success.
Resources for you!

Contact: Sheryl Burgstahler, Ph.D.
University of Washington
Box 354842
Seattle, WA 98195-4842
206-685-DOIT (3648) -- voice/TTY

DPI

DPI is a nonprofit agency working in partnership with Silicon Valley businesses and the community to prepare people with disabilities for competitive employment. Through adaptive computer access technology and career transition services, DPI creates opportunities for significant advances in universal access, social integration and employment for people with disabilities.

Founded in 1980 as Disabled Programmers, Inc., by a former IBM executive whose son was paralyzed in a diving accident, DPI formerly taught people with disabilities computer programming. The agency was renamed DPI in 1995 and has since changed its focus to employment access for individuals with disabilities and work-related injuries.

DPI focuses on four primary programs:

School-To-Career

Internship

Computer Access Technology (CAT) Lab

Mobile Access Technology (MAT) Lab

DPI assists individuals 15-years of age or older that have all types of Served physical (ALS, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, stroke,...), sensory (Low Vision, Blindness, Hard of Hearing,...), and learning disabilities, and work-related injuries (Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, De Quervain's, Tendonitis, etc.).

There is no cost to enroll in the School-To-Career Program. The Computer Access Technology Labs may require a fee for the evaluation and training of adaptive computer equipment and ergonomic worksite evaluation. Approved clients may be eligible to receive funding for services on a case-by-case basis or through corporate funding, the Department of Rehabilitation or Worker's Compensation insurance carriers.

Nearly 26 million Americans are classified as "severely" disabled, requiring of DPI personal or technological assistance to perform daily activities. People with disabilities now represent the largest minority in the U.S. Most importantly, DPI offers persons with disabilities the opportunity to work successfully in a competitive job market.

Contact: Maria F. Nicolacoudis
Executive Director DPI
(408) 278-2001

eTranscribe

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii has started an eTranscribe business to train individuals with disabilities to become medical transcriptionists and provide them contract work to perform from their homes using an array of technology including computers with voice activated software, the Internet, and Dictaphone equipment. Our eTranscribers prepare medical reports for doctors at an accuracy rate of 98%, with a 24-hour turnaround.

Contact: Maureen Bates, EE&T Director
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii
email:maureenbates@juno.com
Tel: (808) 836-0313
Mail: 2610 Kiliahu Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Florida Alliance for Assistive Service and Technology (FAAST)

The FAAST project is working with the Florida Department of Education's demonstration site to provide overlapping services for access to assistive technology outside the traditional school framework for adults beyond school age as well as those of school age. Minorities and the elderly are served.

Contact: Terry Ward PhD
Project Director
850/487-3278

Georgia Tools for Life

Nearly 27 percent (1,270,584) Georgians have one or more disabilities. Of these, nearly 14 percent (656,097) have severe disabilities requiring one or more kinds of assistive technology (LaPlante, et al, *Technology and Disabilities*, 6, pp. 17-28, 1997 and the 1990 U.S. Census Report). The Tools for Life project offers a computer-recycling center, called Re-Boot, that refurbished almost 1,000 computers in 1999. The ReBoot program is located at FODAC (Friends of Disabled Adults and Children) at Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Contact: Joy Kniskern
404/657-3084

Global Assistive Technology Explorer (GATE)

CRT will develop and sustain the Global Assistive Technology Explorer (GATE), a comprehensive, up-to-date, easy-to-use national public Internet site on disability-related resources. GATE will increase the availability of and access to information about AT, services, and resources for individuals with disabilities. The site will provide 24-hour access to all those with Internet capability.

High School High Tech (HSHT)

A program called High School High Tech (HSHT) is in its third year of funding and we are a grant funded program, in collaboration with Grant Wood AEA in CR. Our program is for high school students with mild disabilities that have a desire to go onto a 2 or 4 year, that have a IEP or Accommodation Plan, they also have to have the desire to work in the field of Technology.

We currently work with 12 high schools, serve approx. 90 students and provide students with computer training, hands on web page design classes, job site tours, job site visits and internships. We also provide support for students that need the additional assistance getting to and from an activity, communicating with others and planning their future.

We currently are piloting the program in Iowa City and have been overwhelmed with the support from teachers, students and businesses. Between the two cities we have 35 businesses involved and we provide a wide array of activities to our students.

Contact: Deana Berg
319-393-3434
hsht@goodwillse Iowa.org

Iowa Program for Assistive Technology

The Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (IPAT) worked with the Iowa Department for the Blind to develop a project to increase accessibility to the Internet for persons with disabilities. The first part of the project was the creation of a booklet, Designing Accessible Web Sites: Creating sites that are accessible to people with disabilities. The booklet discusses how persons with disabilities access and use the web, and contains instructions on how to create an accessible web site, including examples of accessible sites and other resources.

Another component of the project is to work with the state library system. Many individuals with disabilities do not own computers, but could access the Internet through their public library. The newsletter of the State Library is distributed to all of the state's 340 public and private libraries and will have an article about web access and the booklet. IPAT is coordinating with other entities and the State Librarian to work over the next few years on improving library access.

In order to ensure that future web sites become accessible, IPAT is collaborating with the Information Technology Services (ITS) office at the University of Iowa to develop training materials on web access as part of the ITS web master classes. Training materials will also be included in the ITS classes and courses on instructional design for faculty and students in the Department of Education.

Contacts: Mary Quigley
319/356-4402
Jane Gay
319/356-4463
Co-Directors
<http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech>

Lekotek

Lekotek is a nation-wide network of not-for-profit resource centers for children with disabilities and their families whose mission is to foster inclusion. We offer a variety of direct services including play with adapted toys and computers. One of our programs, called "Compuplay", utilizes a vast array of assistive technologies from switches to adapted keyboards to help children access the computer and the Internet.

Contact: Jennifer Frankfurter
lekotek@lekotek.org
Joyce Morimoto
jfrankfurter@yahoo.com
lekotek@lekotek.org
r-morimoto@nwu.edu

Merze Tate Center for Technology and Educational Reform

With the help of a \$200,000 grant from the IBM Community Access Program and another from Smartforce.com for 4,000 hours of on-line courseware, the Merze Tate Center for Technology and Educational Reform at Western Michigan University is leading a public-private initiative to develop a national on-line support center to help facilitate the training of people with disabilities for employment in the fast growing computer industry. An April 4, 2000 electronic ribbon cutting is planned in DC by the US Dept. of Ed Assistant Secretary for OSERS, Juith Heumann.

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Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership (MATP)

MATP has been very active in initiating and coordinating compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. The project was instrumental in orchestrating Executive Order 348 signing (1/1/93) which establishes state policy for access to electronic equipment and information technologies for citizens with disabilities. The project trained 80 ADA

coordinators on Section 508; developed Section 508-compliant PC Standards through the Governor's Advisory Council on IT; made GSA/COCA's *Managing Information Resources* manual available electronically and in print to state agencies upon request; provides technical assistance to state agencies in purchasing 508-compliant equipment; provided technical assistance in the development of an amendment to Section 508 on the federal level; advocated that the U.S. Department of Education develop a policy guidance to the state Department of Education regarding accessibility of educational technology and widely distributed Secretary Riley's letter to Massachusetts special education departments; and provide technical assistance on Section 508 implementation on the state level to other AT Act grantees.

Contact: Marilyn Howe
617-355-7820
<http://www.matp.org>

Motion Picture Access Project

With initial funding from the Dept. of Ed's NIDRR, we have developed digital technology that allows people who are deaf or blind to access closed captions or video descriptions in movie theaters. We have partnered with various Hollywood studios and the General Cinema theater chain to roll this out across the country. Our 12th site will be opening soon in DC at the Mazza Gallerie

Contact: Larry Goldberg
Larry_Goldberg@wgbh.org

National AT Internet Site

The Center for Rehabilitation Technology will operate a National AT Internet Site. The AT Act authorized a National AT Internet Site that would provide information to individuals with disabilities and the general public to increase access to AT devices, services, and other related information.

Nebraska Meeting Place

A listserv that connects persons with disabilities all across Nebraska. The program started with peer volunteers linked by computer e-mail. Peer volunteers who did not already have a computer were provided one on long term loan by the project and connected through free e-mail services such as Juno.

Net Corps

Americas sends high-tech volunteers throughout the Americas to custom design training for organizations and people who normally would not have access to information technology. We have recently developed a program specifically for people with

disabilities and will start our pilot project sending volunteers to Transitions in Antigua, Guatemala.

Contact: Jessica Lewis
Organization of American States
1889 F Street, NW Second Floor
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 458-3229 phone
(202) 458-3526 fax
trustamericas@oas.org

New Mexico Technology Assistance Program

The project provides technical assistance and training to set up a package of electronic and information technology accessible hardware /software features with existing computers for public access with public agencies and ed tech computer labs in schools.

Contact: Bill N. Newroe
Project Director
505/954-8539
<http://www.nmtap.com>

New York State TRAIID Project

The New York AT project assisted with the New York state policy from the Director of state agencies on making all state agencies' web sites accessible by July 2000 by following the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Accessibility Initiative. The New York TRAIID Project is referenced in the State Technology Policy office for agencies wishing to receive technical assistance on making their web sites accessible.

Contact: Deborah Buck
518/474-2825
<http://www.state.ny.us/disabledAdvocate/technlog.htm>

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project

The North Carolina project assists with the "Virtual Buddies Program." This program is funded through a private foundation that provides recycled computers and Internet access to people with disabilities around the State. The program also works at the local level to identify people knowledgeable about computers to assist new users. To date, the program has provided 76 adults with disabilities services including the following: training, a computer system, Internet access, computer upgrades, or modem.

The North Carolina project also coordinates a financial loan program through Nations Bank for people with disabilities seeking low-interest loans for assistive technology.

Contact: Ricki Cook
Project Director
919/850-2787
<http://www.mindspring.com/~ncatp>

Parents Helping Parents – iTECH Center

The goal of the iTECH Center is to ensure that children and adults with special needs, their families and the professionals who serve them are aware of and utilize technology to enhance potential and to broaden the quality and enjoyment of their lives. Underlying this goal is the belief that with the help of assistive technology, individuals with special needs will be able to enter the mainstream of all aspects of society and be fully contributing, visible members of society.

The iTECH Center is a resource center of the Alliance for Technology Access and also a program of Parents Helping Parents (PHP), Inc. in Santa Clara, CA. PHP, a nonprofit family resource center, is a Parent Training and Information Center and for 23 years has served children with physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities. The program is supported by a California Assistive Technology System (CATS) grant to provide information and referral services.

ReBoot

ReBoot is a nonprofit, statewide, collaborative effort of many groups and organizations committed to recycling computers. All participants in ReBoot's Computer Re-Utilization Project receive the equipment as a donation; they do not buy the equipment. ReBoot acquires the equipment, evaluates it, repairs it (if needed), loads licensed software, distributes the equipment to people with disabilities; and trains the people on the equipment. The program is operated 85 percent by volunteers—by people with disabilities for people with disabilities. ReBoot has 10 training centers across the state.

Rehabilitation Services for the Visually Impaired (RSVI)

One of many sources for assistive technology. To be eligible for services from our agency, an individual must be visually impaired. If there are services offered by RSVI which will enable the individual to achieve vocational or independent living goals, this includes voice synthesizers on computers, closed circuit TVs, and print reading machines.

Contact: Kathy Hoell
khoell@radiks.net

RIPIN

I am the newly hired coordinator of a project here at RIPIN to help low income families who have children with disabilities gain access to hardware, software, training and support so they can gain information and better advocate for their children.

Contact: Millie Hillman
Rhode Island Parent Information Network
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Pawtucket, RI 02860
(401) 727-4144 ext. 35

Technology Opportunities Project (Atlanta, GA)

A Telerehabilitation Network to Support Community Re-entry Following Catastrophic Injury. The overall goal of this project is to develop effective telerehabilitation applications using advanced network technologies. A test-bed network will be developed in the metro-Atlanta area to link rehabilitation professionals with patients who have sustained catastrophic spinal cord and brain injuries, their family members, and caregivers. The test-bed will emulate capabilities of the Next Generation Internet, including high-bandwidth videoconferencing, remote monitoring, environmental control, and high-speed delivery of interactive, multimedia instruction.

The network will be used to develop, deliver, and evaluate telerehabilitation applications which (a) support community re-entry after catastrophic injury, (b) prevent or reduce the severity of secondary complications often associated with catastrophic injury, and (c) deliver health and wellness support and advocacy assistance to people with disabilities living in the community.

The project expects to find that individuals who receive telerehabilitation: (1) achieve greater success in community reintegration (e.g., return to work), (2) experience fewer secondary complications; (3) demonstrate greater independence and self-efficacy; (4) incur lower overall health care and support costs; and (5) report higher satisfaction with their health-related quality of life.

The Family Center on Technology and Disability

The Family Center on Technology and Disability, a project funded by the U. S. Department of Education is designed to bring technology to individuals with disabilities. One of the projects of the Family Center was to select model programs around the country who are bringing technology to individuals with disabilities. Two of the important criterion for selection as a model program were service to underserved (e.g. rural, minority) communities and collaboration with other organizations in the community.

United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey (UCPA-NJ)

This agency's multiple technology-related projects share the common goal of helping individuals and families to identify the technology solutions that best meets their needs and to enable them to obtain and use the technology. The agency utilizes its extensive in-house technological expertise to assist individuals and families throughout the state by

conducting evaluations and training, providing custom fabrication of devices, as well as other services.

United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Suffolk- Mobility Opportunities Via Education (MOVE)

The Children's Center, a division of UCP of Greater Suffolk, New York incorporated the MOVE program into its services in 1997. MOVE is a therapeutic and educational program designed to help people learn the skills needed for sitting, standing, and walking. This collaborative program utilizes the services and knowledge of parents, educators, therapists and other support personnel to help participants learn and practice skills while engaged in activities of daily living.

Division of Services for the Blind (DSB): DSB directs delivery of services for persons who are blind, visually impaired or deaf-blind. The available services and eligibility criteria are the same as those in the general VR. The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind (RCB) in Topeka is a comprehensive rehabilitation program offering independent living skills training, and vocational assessment and technology services to help consumers identify their employment-related skills, aptitudes and interests. Mobile teams are used to offer specific services throughout the state. Kansas Seniors Achieving Independent Living (KAN-SAIL) provides independent living skills training in the home communities of older Kansans who experience blindness or visual loss. Rehabilitation Teaching: Through this program, rehabilitation specialists go to consumers' homes and provides training to help them adjust to blindness and increase their independent living skills. Some of the training areas offered are communications, orientation and mobility, and daily living skills. The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) offers persons who are legally blind the opportunity to manage food service operations, vending stands, snack bars and gift shops. BEP uses funds generated by the vending stand operations, rather than SGF, to match federal funds. Kansas Industries for the Blind (KIB) in Topeka offers employment in manufacturing work and laser cartridge refurbishing for people who are blind and who are not immediately able to succeed in competitive employment.

Contact: Carolyn Perez
Services for the Blind
785-296-3311
Family Center on Technology and Disability
Susan Goodman
Project Director
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sgoodman@ucpa.org

United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas (UCP-K)--Purchase of Assistive Technology Project

The overarching goal of this project is to assist families who have assistive technology needs to secure the necessary equipment. Its primary activities include collaborating with state, civic and charitable organizations to develop innovative funding packages that will enable residents who have disabilities to obtain assistive technology. Annually, it strives

to secure assistive technology and related services valued in excess of \$300,000 for at least 200 families from across the state.

An annual allocation from the state legislature to Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) and a variety of grants and donations support the program.

Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC)

The Universal Access Protocol Coalition (UAPC) is a coalition under development that will be comprised of organizations representing people with disabilities and other stakeholders that are committed to maximizing the accessibility of the Internet. The UAP Coalition will facilitate access to the Internet and other distributed computer networks by providing a service that dynamically adapts interfaces and content to each end-user's individualized needs and preferences, particularly people with disabilities. The result is optimal accessibility of the Internet by people with disabilities in addition to individually predetermined adaptations of the Internet according to individual preferences.

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Virtual Buddies

The organization takes donated computers, and donated Internet accounts, and places them in the homes of low-income people with different disabilities. The Virtual Buddies program gives those of us who are socially isolated most of the time at our homes, a way to communicate with others, and better educate ourselves. We are just finishing a manual that will make it easier for Disabled people to take College Courses via their computer at home, so we can continue our education, and get jobs too...

Contact: Timothy Barbour
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Winners on Wheels (WOW)

Winners on Wheels (WOW) is a national non-profit organization with programs designed for youth in wheelchairs. We call our participants Winners. The WOW programs aim to create an environment that encourages self-esteem, independence, and empowerment through activities done in groups (Circles) or individually via our write in program (Kids Connection) and Online Internet activities

(Wheels Online). In each instance the activities the Winners work on "Wheels," are based on a scouting type of curriculum separated into six activities (Spokes) each. When a Winner completes all six Spokes he/she is then rewarded with a badge designed specifically for that Wheel.

Promoting our program online has been a main focus of 1999 and is for the year 2000 and beyond. Several foundations have granted funds for converting our Wheels for individual and interactive Online use. With that The California Endowment has also granted funds for our National office to buy and distribute 9 laptop computers to Circles across the country. Another grant recently received will give us the opportunity to deliver these laptops and provide a web camp day of instruction with delivery.

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