



CONNECTICUT ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION *Conference*

Thursday, June 22, 2023
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sheraton Hartford South Hotel,
100 Capital Blvd., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Welcome to the Assistive Technology Innovation Conference 2023!

We are happy you are joining us as we focus on enhancing awareness, understanding and access to Assistive Technology devices and services in Connecticut.

Today we have planned a variety of breakout sessions on topics such as remote supports for fostering independence, Assistive Technology for employment and increasing independence in the home. We hope you will visit with the many exhibitors showcasing their devices and services. Don't forget to stop by the SHOW (the Smart Home On Wheels) out in the back parking lot near the ramp.

Please be sure to participate in the Exhibitor Scavenger Hunt for a chance to win door prizes generously provided by our exhibitors!

Have a gre**AT** day!

Keynote Speaker

Harold Sloves

Harold Sloves is an Innovation Consultant for Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Services, Systems & Networks entailing consultation and speaking engagements in multiple states. The focus of these engagements has been the paradigm shift toward integrating enabling technology supports as a primary option for people with intellectual disabilities. Harold is also a principal collaborator in the launch of the Technology First Alliance (TFA), a nonprofit think tank, consulting and membership organization designed to be a national and international Technology First catalyst.

This professional chapter follows his role as Director of the Division of Program Innovation within Tennessee's Department of Intellectual Disabilities. During his tenure as Innovation Director, Harold led a multidisciplinary team to find, develop, test and offer innovative solutions for people, their families and providers. The Division encompassed Enabling Technology, Employment Innovation and Community Inclusion, and Workforce Transformation. During this time, Tennessee assumed a leading role in fostering a national Technology First Movement through the creation of a national Consortium of Technology States.

Harold has held numerous provider leadership roles, providing a range of community services for adults and adolescents with cognitive disabilities and behavioral health issues.

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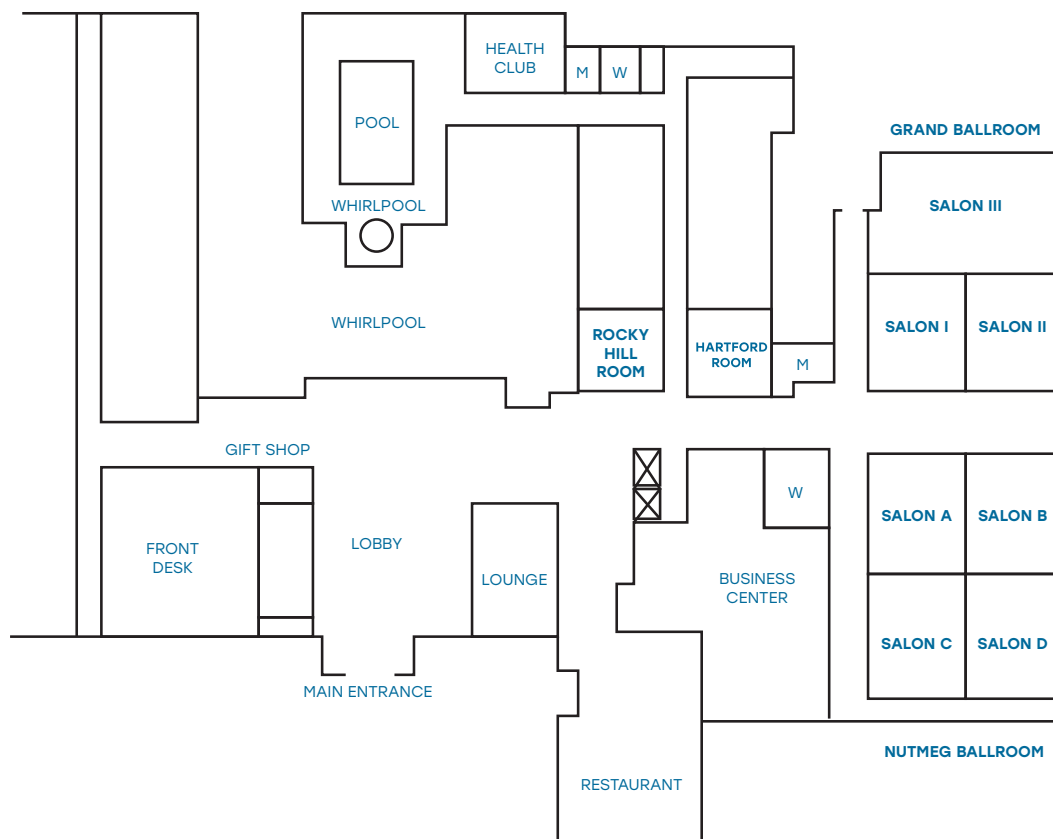
Agenda

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration/ Morning Refreshments at Grand Ballroom
9:00 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.	Welcome, Opening Remarks and Introduction
9:20 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Self-Advocate Coordinators Natasha Cole, Paige Librandi, Varian Salters, & Kevin Arce
9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Keynote Speaker, Harold Sloves
10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Explore Exhibits and Smart Home on Wheels
10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	AT Exhibitor Demos (Accessible Pharmacy)
10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	AT & Me
11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initiatives for Accessing Assistive Technology for Individuals with DDS and Private Provider Incentives• Accessibility Features for Your Smartphones and Tablets• Assistive Technology Evaluations for Determining Technology Needs
11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	AT & Me
12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	LUNCH (Explore exhibits, AT Demo & Smart Home on Wheels)
12:45 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	AT Exhibitor Demos (Grandcare)
12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	AT & Me
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	AT Exhibitor Demos (Simply Home)
1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assistive Technology for Employment• Accessibility Features for Your Smartphones and Tablets• Remote Supports to Foster Independent and Supportive Living: Pilot on remote supports and future direction

1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	AT & Me
2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Explore Exhibits & Smart Home on Wheels
2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	AT Exhibitor Demos (MOVIA Robotics)
2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	AT & Me
2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	AT Exhibitor Demos (ATECH)
2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	<p>Breakout Sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiatives for Accessing Assistive Technology for Individuals with DDS and Private Provider Incentives • Assistive Technology for the Home • Assistive Technology Evaluations for Determining Technology Needs
3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks, Door Prizes & Evaluations

***AT Demos Located in Nutmeg Ballroom Salon B**

MEETING ROOMS



AT & Me

Location: Nutmeg Ballroom Salon D

Schedule

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

** Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS) participants should plan to attend this and indicate so on their conference registration form. Participants must attend one session. Pre-register for a specific time when checking in at the conference as class size is limited for each session.*

The ability to use digital media safely and independently has become a necessity. An increasing number of needs can be met only online, such as applying for a job, scheduling a COVID test, paying bills, and ordering a Uber or Lyft ride.

Participants in these sessions will receive training under AT & Me, which helps ensure online access and support for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The initiative provides those eligible for DDS services the opportunity to use, obtain and mentor others on technology:

- The curriculum will teach individuals how to use digital media and information communication technology (ICT) independently and safely.
- The goal is to educate 200 people, who will then educate two additional people each, making a total of 600 educated on the uses of technology.
- Assistive Technology equipment for learning, laptops, cell phones, headphones, hot spots, chargers and computer backpacks will be provided and given to those who attend the AT & Me class then successfully teach two other individuals.
- Individuals will need to participate in a Post Learning Survey.
- Individuals will need to list two additional individuals receiving services from DDS that they will train.

Breakouts

Grand Ballroom Salon I	11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. & 2:45 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
<p>Initiatives for Accessing Assistive Technology for Individuals with DDS and Private Provider Incentives</p> <p>Presenter: Patricia Cymbala, DDS Director of Assistive Technology</p>	<p>The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has developed several Notice of Opportunities for Individuals and Families receiving supports from DDS and Qualified Providers interested in receiving grants to fund Assistive Technology to benefit individuals who are currently supported by DDS and are living in a Community Companion Home (CCH), Community Living Arrangement (CLA), or Continuous Residential Supports (CRS) or who are residing independently with In Home Supports (IHS). DDS grants assist with procuring and utilizing Assistive Technology, hardware, software, equipment, and internet connectivity to enhance access to virtual supports and services, including the development of remote supports. This may include training, assessments, and environmental modifications/adaptations designed to increase accessibility, safety, and independence. The intent of the grant is to support and advance the creative use of Assistive Technology to enhance independence and virtual interpersonal and community participation for individuals with intellectual disabilities.</p>
Grand Ballroom Salon II	11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. & 1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
<p>Accessibility Features for Your Smartphones and Tablets</p> <p>Presenters: Miriam Johnson, UCP and Will Seaman, NEAT</p>	<p>Bridging the Digital Divide is a new program in CT, a collaboration between the CT State Unit on Aging, the CT Tech Act Project, United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Eastern CT and the NEAT Center at Oakhill. Two Digital Divide Coordinators will provide an overview of the Accessibility features built into tablets and smartphones to help individuals with disabilities and aging adults have greater access to their devices and to use them as effectively as possible. They will also provide a general overview of the Bridging the Digital Divide program.</p>
Grand Ballroom Salon III	11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. & 2:45 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
<p>Assistive Technology Evaluations for Determining Technology Needs</p> <p>Presenter: Shannon Taber, UCP</p>	<p>Learn more about why an Assistive Technology Evaluation is a critical component for any individual with a disability to live and work independently. Today's technology can be used to enhance home and workplace environments by removing barriers to independence, offering vocational opportunities, and improving accessibility.</p> <p>The Assistive Technology Evaluation identifies adaptations, modifications, technology, and resources for the environment and the individual.</p>

Grand Ballroom Salon I	1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
<p>Assistive Technology for Employment</p> <p>Presenters: Arlene Lugo, CT Tech Act Project, Amy Norton, EASTCONN, and Darrell Spears, DDS</p>	<p>Learn about commonly used Assistive Technology devices that can help people with disabilities to effectively perform job functions from office settings to retail to teleworking from home. Several AT devices will be shared and discussed that can be used for a variety of disabilities and barriers one may experience in the workplace. Connecticut programs and services will be provided and helpful resources will be shared.</p>

Grand Ballroom Salon III	1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
<p>Remote Supports to Foster Independent and Supportive Living: Pilot on remote supports and future direction</p> <p>Presenters: Pam Fields, MidState Arc and ATECH, Yvette Horton, The Arc Eastern, Amy Rubin Mindell, MidState Arc and ATECH, and Michelle Torres, The Arc Eastern</p>	<p>Join us for an exciting overview of a pilot to introduce remote supports into independent and supportive living. Gain insights from two providers involved in the project and get answers to your questions about remote supports.</p>

Grand Ballroom Salon II	2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
<p>Assistive Technology for the Home</p> <p>Presenters: Ramón Hernández, NEAT and Kristen Gilfeather, NEAT</p>	<p>Join us for an enlightening presentation as we delve into the world of assistive technology, uncovering its profound impact on individuals with disabilities and aging populations within their homes. Discover a multitude of devices, including smart buttons, smart lights, and virtual assistants, designed to enhance independence and support daily living. We will showcase the versatility of smart lights, highlighting their role in fall prevention and alert systems. Moreover, we will explore the remarkable capabilities of virtual assistants like Alexa and Google, illuminating how they simplify both simple and complex tasks. Be inspired as we provide practical insights on implementing assistive technology in your own home, enabling a more accessible and empowered lifestyle. Don't miss this opportunity to unlock the potential of assistive technology and revolutionize your living space.</p>

Meet Your Presenters

Kevin Arce

Self-Advocate, Department of Developmental Services (DDS) North Region

Kevin Arce is one of three Self-Advocate Coordinators currently serving the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) North Region. Kevin graduated from New Britain High School in 2014 and attended the CLIMB Program, where he learned about life skills that assisted him in getting his current position at DDS. “The one accomplishment I am proud of is staying true to who I am,” Kevin says. “Many people try to change who they are to satisfy someone else, but I try to help others while being myself. I don’t let anyone change who I am, and if I must change, I change for the better in my way.”

Kevin serves as a resource for nine advocacy groups and offers presentations and trainings in advocacy. He also helps with the Healthy Relationship series with Planned Parenthood and serves on other DDS Committees. He says, “I had always dreamed of having a great job with a great team, and I could not have asked for a better group to spread self-advocacy with. I learn something new every day.”

Natasha Cole

Self-Advocate, Department of Developmental Services (DDS) West Region

Natasha tells us:

I live independently in Torrington in my own condo. Some fun things I like to do is go to Energy Fitness to work out, shopping in different towns for the holidays, cooking food at my place—vegetarian, Mexican, Indian and Italian food. I enjoy getting manicures and massages. During the summer I like swimming and during the winter I like going skiing and having hot coffee at Starbucks. In the winter I celebrate my birthday and Christmas, my favorite holiday. I like listening to music of the 60’s, 70’s, and 90’s, watching movies like Lord of the Rings, Scarlett, and Gone with the Wind and Broadway shows Beauty and the Beast, Oklahoma, and State Fair, and going on vacation to Spain, England, Vermont and Canada. I am passionate about being considerate to others, I am strong-willed, I strongly believe in my work as a Self -Advocate Coordinator, and my beliefs in my life are my family, boyfriend, and my loving grandparents that I miss. I am a good coworker in my field as a Self-Advocate Coordinator for DDS.

Accomplishments that I am proud of is being a part of the Special Olympics, head coach for an Advocacy Fit club, and Health Leader for FIT 5 so I could teach individuals how to eat healthy and stay fit while going to the gym.

Technology devices I use are my computer, tablet, iPhone, and Samsung cell phone. These devices help me communicate with family, friends, coworkers, direct support professionals. They assist me in doing my job as a Self-Advocate Coordinator and help me wake up in the morning with my alarm.

Patricia Cymbala

Director of Assistive Technology, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Patricia has 35 dedicated years of experience working at DDS in various capacities. She is the Assistive Technology ARPA lead and has developed and begun the implementation of numerous initiatives to assist individuals supported by the Department to lead full, productive, and inclusive lives in their communities through the use of Assistive Technology. Patricia has a master's degree in Assistive Technology and Human Services from California State University, along with her ATACP and Certified Living in Place Professional certifications.

Pamela Fields

Founder/CEO, The Assistive Technology Training Center (ATECH), and CEO, MidState Arc

Pamela Fields is a leader in the field of Assistive Technology for independence, especially in devising new approaches to independence as it relates to people with intellectual disabilities (I/DD). Her pioneering efforts are grounded in a 40-year career in leading agencies that provide services for people with I/DD and other complex disabilities and medical needs.

With an undergraduate degree in human services and an MBA with a concentration in nonprofits, Pam has the foundation and the vision needed to move the field of Assistive Technology forward in new and exciting ways. Pam also holds Enabling Technology Leadership Certification from Tech First SHIFT. As a passionate advocate for the rights of people with developmental disabilities and their services, Pam founded the Assistive Technology Training Center to assure service providers have a place to gain knowledge and build capacity in cutting-edge assistive technologies and that families can benefit from best practices in how to support their loved ones with disabilities.

Pam envisions a world where each person can be as independent as possible, fully connected to and autonomous in their communities, regardless of their barrier issues.

Kristen Gilfeather

Assistive Technology Specialist, NEAT

Kristen Gilfeather is an Assistive Technology Specialist at NEAT. She developed her passion for working with special education students when she became a paraprofessional for preschool students in the public schools. She soon found her way into occupational therapy and applied her skills across the lifespan, from school-aged students to adults in a nursing home. During her time in the public schools, Kristen also developed her love for Assistive Technology and began training staff on various types of AT across the district. Kristen is excited to combine her knowledge of strategies for improving an individual's participation in daily activities with her love for Assistive Technology to help people of all ages and abilities achieve their highest levels of independence.

Ramón Hernández

Assistive Technology Specialist, NEAT

Ramón Hernández is an accomplished Assistive Technology Specialist at NEAT with a background in Communication, Information Technology, Filmmaking, Marketing, and Special Education. With almost four years of experience in the field, Ramón specializes in assisting individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities as well as those in Transition programs. He maintains close partnerships with the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services and the Department of Development Services and also provides Smart Tech/Home Services and tours of NEAT's Smart Home on Wheels (SHOW).

Yvette Horton

Director of Individual Services, In-Home Supports, The Arc Eastern Connecticut

Yvette Horton supervises a team of over 80 employees, and coordinates with DDS, participants, and their families to ensure that The Arc Eastern Connecticut is providing the best possible services that meet each person's specific needs. Yvette coordinates meetings with DDS, families, and individuals, develops and implements new programs, and creates daily schedules tailored to each individual that include individual goals and guidelines. Her duties include the oversight of staff's assistance with each participant's finance, medical and behavioral needs.

Yvette has participated in the Remote Supports Pilot through DDS and is trained and qualified through Tech First SHIFT with an Enabling Technology Leadership Certification. Through the pilot, The Arc Eastern Connecticut has been credited as a Remote Services Vendor through DDS. She coordinated the installation and training for staff and participants on devices such as the Claris System, the CookStop, and the MedSmart Box, and continues to expand the use of Assistive Technology based on each individual's needs.

Yvette believes that Assistive Technology is the way forward in our ability to provide each of the people we support with the tools to increase their level of independence. In the fall of 2023, Yvette will be supervising and coordinating The Arc Eastern CT's New Assistive Independent Living Apartments.

Miriam Johnson

Manager of Inclusion and Accessibility, Digital Divide Coordinator, United Cerebral Palsy Association of Eastern Connecticut

Miriam joined UCP two years ago as an advocate for people with disabilities. During her time as an advocate, Miriam was introduced to Assistive Technology Services. She completed her Assistive Technology Specialist Certification through California State University at Northridge in early 2022. Miriam enjoys making technology accessible for everyone including our senior population. She hopes to continue to bring awareness of the need for technology training through programs such as Bridging the Digital Divide. As the Manager of Inclusion and Accessibility Services, she oversees the Assistive Technology Lending Center staff. Her focus is independent living with a secondary focus on Smart Home technology. She is a fierce advocate for all people with disabilities and strives to remove barriers to ensure that every person can live a life without limits.

Paige Librandi

Self-Advocate, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Paige says: My name is Paige Librandi. I live in Milford, CT with my parents. For fun, I am a Sunday School Teacher at my church, I've been doing this for the past 17 years. One of my passions is to strive for independence. My biggest accomplishment is that I graduated from Gateway Community College with a Certificate in Human Services. I am now employed as a Self-Advocate Coordinator in the New Haven office for DDS. I really enjoy my job!

Arlene Lugo

Assistive Technology Professional, Program Director, CT Tech Act Project

Arlene Lugo, ATP, is the Program Director for the CT Tech Act Project and Assistive Technology Consultant for the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services. She received degrees in Deaf Studies and Interpreting from Northwestern Connecticut Community College, a bachelor's from the University of Albany, NY and a master's from Central Connecticut State University in 2003.

Ms. Lugo began her career as a sign language interpreter prior to becoming a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Connecticut Bureau of Rehabilitation Services. In 2006, she was promoted to Education Consultant for the Bureau and became the Program Director for the Connecticut Tech Act Project, where she helps individuals with disabilities access Assistive Technology for all areas of life including education, employment and the community. As a certified Assistive Technology Practitioner, Ms. Lugo offers training, technical assistance and consultation on Assistive Technology devices and services. She oversees several grants, in addition to providing direct services to individuals with disabilities and older adults.

Amy Rubin Mindell

Director of Community Outreach & Assistive Technology, The Assistive Technology Training Center (ATECH) & MidState Arc

Amy brings over 30 years of experience as an Assistive Technology specialist to her role at The Assistive Technology Training Center. In addition to a master's degree in assistive and educational technology, she holds Enabling Technology Integration Specialist Certification (ETIS) from Tech First SHIFT and Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) Certification from RESNA.

As one of the original founders of the Center for Educational and Assistive Technology at Southern Connecticut State University, Amy developed a program that was one of the first of its type in the country. Following SCSU, Amy spent the next decade at CAST, Inc., developing innovative Assistive Technology solutions for students and adults with disabilities and helped create the Universal Design for Learning principles that support all people. Amy brings her passion about Assistive Technology, access, and independence, along with her extensive experience in Assistive Technology professional development and assessments to the operations of the ATECH Center.

Amy has presented at national Assistive Technology and educational technology conferences on innovative uses of Assistive Technology to support learners and adults with a wide range of disabilities as they strive to have full access to education, employment, and independent living.

Amy Norton

Assistive Technology Professional, Transition Coordinator, EASTCONN

Amy Norton is the Coordinator of Assistive Technology as well as an Assistive Technology Professional and Transition Coordinator at EASTCONN. She works with individuals with disabilities across the lifespan providing assessment, consultation, coaching and training. She assists districts with integrating the use of Assistive Technology into the general education classroom, curriculum and transition planning. Additionally, she works with the CT Tech Act (CTTAP) and the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) to assess the Assistive Technology needs of adults with disabilities in preparing for work and in accomplishing tasks in the work settings. She assists in meeting the telecommunications needs of individuals who are deaf/blind through the Access through Technology Program coordinated by the CTTAP. She provides training on the creation and remediation of accessible documents as part of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Accessibility initiative of the CTTAP. Amy received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Stonehill College and a master's degree in special education from Boston College. She is a RESNA certified Assistive Technology Professional (ATP), a Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) and a Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador. She has presented on a wide variety of Assistive Technology topics at the regional, state and national level.

Varian Salters

Self-Advocate, Department of Developmental Services North Region (DDS)

Varian Salters is currently employed at the CT Department of Developmental Services / Self-Determination Division, in the capacity of a Self-Advocate Coordinator. He works in the DDS Willimantic office one day a week and virtually from home. He has served the department for over 17 years and has assisted with the implementation of major policy changes in CT including a change in the Department name from DMR to DDS in 2007, the passing of the "Person First Language Bill" in 2011, drafting the DDS Mission Statement in 2012, and most recently, the "We are People.Call Us by Our Names." pledge and campaign. Varian is currently living with his mom and working on saving for a condo or house.

He is a leader in the initiation and implementation of several self-advocacy groups with various individuals and provider agencies in his catchment area. Varian's advocacy groups are long standing, and feature educational and fun topics such as Bullying, Voting, Employment, Healthy Eating, Independence, Healthy Relationships, and Budgeting. He has collaborated with Planned Parenthood to facilitate the Healthy Relationship classes series for several years. Varian has been a member of Best Buddies ECSU for 13 years. Other activities he enjoys include basketball games, hockey games, bowling, going to flea markets, walking, Night to Shine, Special Olympics Mansfield/Tolland Track & Field, Willimantic Special Olympics Swimming, dances and dancing. He is an 11-year member of "People First Connecticut" and currently serves on the Statewide Assistive Technology and Sexual Abuse & Prevention Committees.

Accomplishments he is most proud of include saving for a condo or house, speaking at the AAIDD Regional Conference, having the Hybrid Rock & Roll Express Self-Advocacy Group in Willimantic, taking Partners in Policymaking and speaking at NAMD the National Association of Medicaid Directors in November 2019.

Will Seaman

Accessibility Specialist, Digital Divide Coordinator, NEAT

Will first learned about the accessibility field while participating in the Digital Accessibility Specialist Training Program, a collaborative initiative with the CT State College & Universities, Western Connecticut State University, the CT Department of Aging and Disability Services, and NEAT. After successfully finishing the training program, he went on to complete the International Association of Accessibility Professionals requirements to become a Certified Professional in Accessibility Core Competencies (CPACC). He immediately put his credentials to work as a Digital Accessibility Specialist Assistant intern at Oak Hill before moving on to his current role within the agency at NEAT. Will is passionate about technology and making the world more accessible for everyone, and approaches this vision with both personal and professional experiences in the disability community. As NEAT's Digital Divide Coordinator, he strives to combine these two passions by getting people the technology they need to access the world, and helping them perfect their usage of it. Will works directly with the Bridging the Digital Divide program through the CT Tech Act Project and the CT Department of Aging & Disability Services State Unit on Aging.

Darrell Spears Jr

Transition Advisor, CT Department of Developmental Services

Darrell Spears Jr is currently a Transition Advisor in the Employment and Day Services unit for the CT Department of Developmental Services. Darrell has been in the field of disability services for 6+ years and has worked with several different populations ranging from work and research in CT's homeless population, collegiate Disability Services and Persons with ID/DD with an emphasis on Autism.

Darrell is a proud alumnus of Central CT State University, having studied Special Education with a specialization in inclusion and transition. Darrell possesses a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Transition Specialist. Darrell was awarded an CCSU Graduate Academic Award by the Graduate Studies department for academic excellence. Darrell enjoys time with family, the arts and traveling.

Shannon Taber

Assistive Technology Specialist, Certified Living In Place Professional, Director of Inclusion and Accessibility, UCP

Shannon started with United Cerebral Palsy of Eastern Connecticut in 2012 in the Residential Program before moving into the Inclusion & Accessibility Services Program. With over 10 years of experience working with individuals with developmental and acquired disabilities, Shannon provides Assistive Technology evaluations, device trials and loans, device demonstrations, and modifications for all individuals with disabilities. She is currently a member of the Connecticut Assistive Technology Advisory Council where she collaborates with others to provide input and perspectives regarding the AT Act federal grant and resulting statewide and comprehensive activities implemented by the Connecticut Tech Act Project. Shannon is an experienced professional with experience working with all ages and all stages. She has a passion for helping individuals with a diverse set of needs find solutions for increased independence, as well as supporting their families and loved ones. Shannon is an advocate, technology geek, and passionate about equality for all.

Michelle Torres

Assistant of Individual Services, In-Home Supports, The Arc Eastern Connecticut

Michelle Torres assists the Director of Individual Services with supervising a team of over 80 employees, and coordinates with DDS, participants, and their families to ensure that The Arc Eastern Connecticut is providing the best possible services that meet each person's specific needs. Michelle assists with coordinating meetings with DDS, families, and individuals, develops and implements new programs, and creates daily schedules tailored to each individual that include individual goals and guidelines. Her duties include the oversight of staff, assisting each individual of IHS with finance, medical and behavioral needs.

Michelle has participated in the Remote Supports Pilot through DDS. She is trained and qualified through Tech First SHIFT with an Enabling Technology Leadership Certification. Through the pilot, The Arc Eastern Connecticut has been credited as a Remote Services Vendor through DDS. She assisted with coordinating the installation and training for staff and participants on devices such as the Claris System, the CookStop, and the MedSmart Box, and continues to expand the use of Assistive Technology based on each individual's needs.

Michelle believes that Assistive Technology is an innovative movement toward increasing an individual's independence and ability. In the fall of 2023, Michelle will be assisting the Director of Individual Services with supervising and coordinating The Arc Eastern CT's New Assistive Independent Living Apartments.

Exhibitors

- Accessible Pharmacy Services
- Assisted Living Technologies, Inc.
- Bureau of Rehabilitation Services
- Control Bionics
- CT Dept. of Developmental Services
- CT State Independent Living Council
- CT Tech Act Project & AT Partners
- GrandCare
- Level Up Your Home
- Lincare AAC
- LoganTech
- MidState Arc/Assistive Technology Training Center (ATECH)
- MOVIA Robotics
- SimplyHome
- Smart Clothing Tech
- Talk To Me Technologies
- T-Mobile
- Tobii Dynavox

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