The Value of Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology can be used as a creative solution to help with a person’s health and safety and can support a person’s desire for more independence at home, in the community, or at work. This service enables people to use equipment ranging from low-tech devices to advanced smart technology to increase their independence and reduce reliance on caregivers to help with a person’s needs.

Enabling Tech: Carl's Own Home
See page 2 of this document to learn more about accessing tools like Carl's in Missouri.

PLB Funded Initiatives in Assistive Technology and Adaptive Equipment
Our partners are experienced in assistive technology and adaptive equipment that supports individuals with gaining independence through traditional and innovative technologies. These partnerships will increase the availability of equipment and provide individuals with a choice of agencies. More information about our partner agencies can be found on page two of this document.
The Center for Specialized Services • (314) 983-9230
The Center provides individuals of all ages with adaptive equipment, assistive technology, maintenance and repairs, home modifications, vehicle modifications, sensory equipment, etc., to address health and safety concerns, and to increase or maintain accessibility, mobility, and independence.

UCP Heartland • (314) 994-1600
UCP Heartland (UCPH) has over sixty-five years of experience finding solutions for individuals of all ages. They have creatively sought out new products and built relationships with trusted experts to help individuals live without limits. In addition, UCPH has partnerships with local vendors for vehicle modifications, home modifications, adaptive equipment, assistive technology, mobility equipment, repairs, etc. UCPH provides follow-up with the participants and their caregivers to ensure continued care and to address any equipment issues right away.

Variety the Children’s Charity • (314) 720-7704
Variety provides equipment for mobility, communication, and independence and has had positive results for hundreds of children with disabilities from low-to-moderate income families. Variety’s programs aim to encourage long-term progress and development based on four factors: improve skills, boost socialization, enhance self-esteem, and establish a groundwork for independence. Once a child is enrolled with Variety and the family remains financially eligible, they will continue to receive new equipment or repairs as they grow or their needs change until the age of 21, resulting in no out-of-pocket expense for the family.

How Do I Acquire Assistive Technology or Adaptive Equipment?
- Contact one of PLB’s funded partners listed above.
- For individuals with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services, contact your VR Counselor and ask about Rehabilitation Technology.
- For individuals with Medicaid Waivers, contact your Support Coordinator and ask about Technology First.
- Contact Missouri Assistive Technology to see if they have a service that is right for you.

How Do I Know What Assistive Technology is Best for Me?

Paraquad Demonstration Center • (314) 289-4200
The Assistive Technology Demonstration Center, which includes both an apartment and a computer lab, offers universally designed spaces to demonstrate low to high-tech assistive technology. Through hands-on, interactive exploration, people with disabilities, family members, and professionals can explore and make informed decisions about what assistive technology is right for them. Some examples of available technology include computer adaptations, Smart Home applications, aids to daily living, environmental adaptations, vision aids, hearing technology, and other forms of assistive tech.

- Discuss the consultations and assessments that our partners use to meet unique needs.
- Equipment and/or device loans
- In-home trials
- Jim’s Place virtual tours

Searchable Databases
- App database
- Atvisor assistive technology search tool
- The Arc Tech Toolbox
- Technology Resource Center

For additional assistance please contact
Jennifer Boedeker at (314) 726-6016 x 114 or jboedeker@plboard.com