

Oklahoma ABLE Tech

Assistive Technology
Small Changes...Big Differences



SoonerStart 2017 Recognition Winner

3rd Quarter:

Oklahoma County Team

This SoonerStart team will receive new assistive technology (AT) to include in their county kit. Infants and toddlers under 3 years old and their families will be able to receive demonstrations of the new AT items. These services help families determine appropriate accommodations for children and decide whether or not they need AT.

Congratulations,
Oklahoma County!

Spotlight on Success

A little one was working hard to communicate with his family but was struggling to speak and use his hands to sign. That's when his SoonerStart team looked into him using a communication device. The family trialed an iPad with various apps for speech generation through ABLE Tech and found one, **GoTalk Now**, that helps him use some short sentences to make requests!

Oklahoma ABLE Tech National Ranking

CATADA, The Center for Assistive Technology Act Data Assistance produces an annual summary of data highlights for all AT Programs. Recently, CATADA published 2016 AT data. Oklahoma ABLE Tech Ranks High in National Data Summary. Once again, as shown by the graphic below, Oklahoma ABLE Tech ranks as a high-performing state Assistive Technology Act Program.

To view the full report, go to: <http://www.catada.info/>

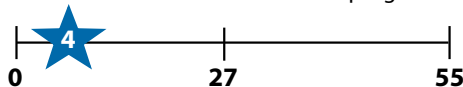
ABLE Tech ranks 1st in the nation for number of devices exchanged out of 36 reutilization programs.



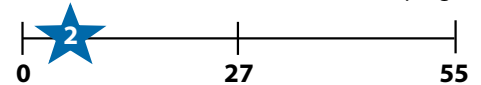
ABLE Tech ranks 6th in the nation for number of financial loans made out of 28 state financial loan programs.



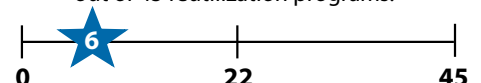
ABLE Tech ranks 4th in the nation for number of device loans out of 55 AT short-term loan programs.



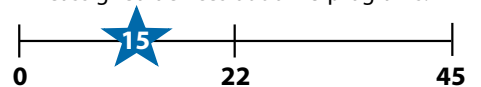
ABLE Tech ranks 2nd in the nation for number of device demonstrations out of 55 AT demonstration programs.



ABLE Tech ranks 6th in the nation in reuse savings out of 45 reutilization programs.



ABLE Tech ranks 15th in the nation for number of reassigned devices out of 45 programs.



DRS Honors ABLE Tech

The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services recently selected Oklahoma ABLE Tech as the 2016 Access for All Partner of the Year. Linda Jaco, Rob Carr and Brenda Dawes were honored and presented a legislative citation, on Disabilities Awareness Day, Tuesday, March 28th, at the State Capitol.

ABLE Tech provides a number of services in partnership with DRS including accessibility-, technical-, and workforce-related programs. Disabilities Awareness Day attracts citizens from around the state to meet with Oklahoma legislators and view the offerings from 80 exhibitors about disability programs and services. Congratulations Linda, Brenda and Rob!



Brenda Dawes, representing Oklahoma ABLE Tech, accepted the 2016 DRS Access for All Partner of the Year Award on behalf of the agency from DRS Interim Director Noel Tyler.

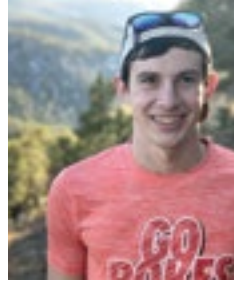
Student Worker Feature

Oklahoma ABLE Tech employs a number of Oklahoma State University students every year who provide invaluable assistance in executing the work of all sponsored programs. We're going to profile these students in the next few issues of this newsletter.



Alison McMurran is a senior at OSU graduating in May. Working at ABLE Tech, in the equipment loan program, has shown Alison a unique facet that her future career field offers as far as helping children and/or adults who are minimally verbal or nonverbal with speech generating devices. Although she is excited for the next chapter in her life, Alison is sad to be leaving such an impactful

place with people who genuinely make a difference to those they work with. Alison plans on attending the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center to pursue a Masters degree in Speech-Language Pathology.



Briar Lostlen is a junior at Oklahoma State University studying Recreational Therapy. He has worked for Oklahoma ABLE Tech as a student employee since August 2016 and specifically assists staff with ABLE Tech's Access for All Workforce initiative which is collaborative program with the Department of Rehabilitation Services. He is also familiar with various types of assistive technology and

has helped staff with information and assistance questions regarding AT. Briar's interests include SGA, O.I.L., MAC, RT Club and the student organization he founded, Cowboy Recess. He plans to pursue an Occupational Therapy degree in graduate school.

Oklahoma State Department of Education Update



ABLE Tech is wrapping up educator trainings for the OSDE contract by awarding nine district AT

Support Teams each \$250 worth of assistive technology devices to use with their students who have disabilities. That investment of \$2,250 has an important role in growing ABLE Tech's training.

Program manager Brenda Dawes says the award serves as an incentive to motivate the teams to complete the activities and assignments that go along with the in person workshops. The winners are chosen randomly from the list of teams meeting the deadlines.

"The assignments involve doing assessments and implementing AT with a student," Dawes said. "This gives the participants tangible experience and makes the training meaningful to them."

The AT awards are a tool we've found incentivize teams to fit the assignments into their busy schedules, as well providing ABLE Tech a way to recognize teams for their efforts.

Planning is in full force for next year's training program, with ABLE Tech staff adding website resources, including an AT Curriculum which educators can use to access videos, lessons and guidance forms at their convenience.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Update

Section 508 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act gives federal agencies and contractors a set of standards to use to determine what makes a website or software accessible to individuals with disabilities.

The current Section 508 has been the same since 2008, although it is now changing because technology has changed a lot since then. In January the United States Access Board published its final update to Section 508 and the updated version takes effect in March, 2018. The new Section 508 refers to a newer version of the international Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), version 2, and also

specifically covers so-called "non-web" material. Non-web material includes things like Microsoft Word, Adobe PDF and other file formats that are commonly used online.

While Section 508 does not and will not broadly apply to state government, it is the basis for Oklahoma's Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility (EITA) law and standards. ABLE Tech will work with the appropriate groups in Oklahoma to update Oklahoma's EITA. There is more to come as we work to modernize accessibility policy in Oklahoma!

National Consumer Assistance Plan

There are new requirements and updates to the guidelines for credit reporting by the three nationwide credit reporting agencies, Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion. The National Consumer Assistance Plan is a comprehensive series of initiatives that will enhance the accuracy of credit reports and make the process of dealing with credit information easier and more transparent for consumers.

While there are beneficial components to this plan, one in particular is beneficial to consumers with a disability and/or medical conditions. It requires a 180-day waiting period between the time an account is created and the time it can be

recorded on a credit report as due for collection. This will give the consumers and their medical providers time to resolve insurance payments and other billing issues.

"This will give the consumers and their medical providers time to resolve insurance payments and other billing issues."

This is just one component of the National Consumer Assistance Plan, including standards to increase accuracy in reporting, additional free report for consumers who are trying to resolve a dispute, and enhanced dispute resolution process.

For more information on the Plan, you can visit: www.nationalconsumerassistanceplan.com

Oklahoma Equipment Exchange

The Oklahoma Equipment Exchange (OEE) is a FREE program to help Oklahomans with disabilities acquire affordable equipment. To donate, sell, or locate equipment, visit our website or call us at 888.885.5588 (v/tty).



In Oklahoma City, you may call the Oklahoma Durable Medical Equipment Reuse Program (OKDMERP) at 405.523.4810 for FREE durable medical equipment such as canes, scooters, and hospital beds. Donations are always welcome!

Available Items	
CCTVs	For Sale
Child's APS Carseat	For Sale
Disposable Underwear for men, women, and children	FREE
Several types of knee and ankle braces	FREE
Oxygen Cannula Tubings - All sizes	FREE
Many other types of medical equipment	FREE

Partner Success Story

Coldyn is a 10 year old patient at The Children's Center (TCC). He has cerebral palsy and Hypoxic Brain Injury. He enjoys playing and needs his toys adapted.



The therapist has adapted his nerf gun for special activity play. They have used the sensitrac to allow him to aim at the targets using adjustments of the sensitrac when the nerf gun is mounted. This activity provided Coldyn independent play and provides fun for him.



Upcoming Webinars

Join ABLE Tech for our next monthly AT Discovery webinar on May 9th, 2017. "Computer Access, Ergonomics" with presenter Shelby Sanders, Occupational Therapy Specialist.

Full details available at: www.bitly/ABTwebinars

05/09/2017	Computer Access, Ergonomics
------------	-----------------------------

Oklahoma AT Center Locations

Oklahoma ABLE Tech and its partners operate device demonstration and device loan programs to increase access to AT. Inventory is available and searchable online, and individuals may borrow devices for up to six weeks at no cost. Please go to: at.okstate.edu



Oklahoma ABLE Tech



Hearing Loss Association



NewView Oklahoma



Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders



Total Source For Hearing Loss and Access



The Children's Center



Pathways Therapy Center



John W. Keys Speech and Hearing Center

The partners below are mobility dealers offering vans, scooters and adaptive equipment for your current vehicle. They don't loan vehicles but can demonstrate all capabilities of the equipment.



Handicapped Vehicle Services, Tulsa



Newby-Vance Mobility, Guthrie



United Access Mobility, Oklahoma City

Assistive Technology Device Feature



Tobii Dynavox I-12

The Tobii Dynavox I-12 is a speech generating device that can be controlled through gaze interaction via the built-in eye tracker. This I-12 series is especially beneficial for individuals with CP, Rett, ASL, Stroke/Aphasia, and others who rely on augmentative and alternative communication.

The Tobii Dynavox I-12 has a 12.1" Gorilla Glass screen and a 9 hour battery life. It is equipped with input jacks, three USB ports, HDMI, Wifi, and Ethernet compatible.

iDevice App Feature



ClearCaptions

ClearCaptions adds free captions to your phone calls, displaying them on your device. When you use ClearCaptions with your calls, it's similar to turning on closed captions for your TV shows; you hear AND read what's being said. ClearCaptions gives your hearing a helping hand. ClearCaptions is FREE to download and available on Apple iTunes and Google Play.

OSU Department of Wellness

1514 W. Hall of Fame | Stillwater, OK 74078

Ph: 405.744.9748 or 888.885.5588 (V/TTY)

Fax: 405.744.2487 | abletech@okstate.edu



Todd Misener, Chief Wellness Officer
OSU Department of Wellness

Oklahoma ABLE Tech

Linda Jaco, Associate Director for
Sponsored Programs

Dina Anderson,
Occupational Therapist Specialist

Kimberly Berry, AT Teacher

Rob Carr, Accessibility Coordinator

Carolina Colclasure
OKDMERP/ORC Grant Coordinator

Lisa Croston,
Sponsored Programs Coordinator

Brenda Dawes, Program Manager

Shannon Esmeyer,
SERC Administrative Assistant

Shelley Gladden, Loan Coordinator

Milissa Gofourth, Program Manager

Lynda Halley, Marketing Coordinator

Tammie Honeyman, Sponsored Programs
Administrative Associate

Jo Anne Pool Blades,
SERC Program Manager

Allyson Robinson, SLP, AT Specialist

Shelby Sanders, AT Specialist

Brian Sargent,
OKDMERP Site Coordinator

Diana Sargent,
Senior Administration Support Specialist

Katie Woodward,
OKDMERP Program Manager



Events and Training

- APRIL 28 | Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development OSU/OKC
- APRIL 28 | Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Quarterly Meeting
- MAY 8 | DRS Commission Meeting, - State Office Bldg., OKC
- MAY 9 | AT Discovery Webinar: Computer Access & Ergonomics, Shelby Sanders
- MAY 15 | National ADA Symposium: The ADA, The Web and You, Rob Carr
- MAY 16 | National ADA Symposium: Multimedia Accessibility and Captioning, Rob Carr
- MAY 18 | ORC Quarterly Meeting - State Office Bldg., OKC
- JUN 6 | AT Bootcamp for OSDE, OKC
- JUN 8 | OSDE AEM and AT Quarterly Meeting
- JUN 12 | DRS Commission Meeting, - State Office Bldg., OKC

Connect with us >>>



This publication is available in alternative formats; please call 800.257.1705 (V/TTY) for more information. The Oklahoma State University Department of Wellness is the lead agency for Oklahoma ABLE Tech. ABLE Tech is funded through the Administration for Community Living of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and maintains coordination and collaboration efforts with partners throughout the state of Oklahoma.