A New Partnership

ABLE Tech to partner with Total Health

Oklahoma ABLE Tech, the assistive technology program for Oklahoma, is excited to announce a new partnership with Stillwater Medical Center, Total Health, a rehabilitation facility offering physical, occupational, cardiac, speech, and pediatric therapy for all ages. This partnership will expand the statewide reach of the assistive technology demonstration and loan programs and increase accessibility and utilization of AT. The program is available to Oklahoma residents with disabilities, their family members, and the professionals that support them.

Oklahoma ABLE Tech has provided Total Health with AmTrykes, allowing them to provide a short-term loan to parents and professionals. AmTrykes are therapeutic tricycles for toddlers and children with disabilities.

“Total Health has been an AmTryke demonstration site since 2004, but with the additional AmTrykes from Oklahoma ABLE Tech, we can now offer short-term loans to families at no charge,” Cadance Lynch, Physical Therapy Supervisor said. “They can try the tricycle with their child to make sure it meets their needs.”

AmTrykes are unique tricycles designed to improve motor coordination for children with disabilities. It gives children the opportunity to experience the fun and independence of riding a bicycle with their siblings and friends. Physical and occupational therapists acknowledge the AmTryke tricycle’s therapeutic benefits to patients, citing improved motor skills and strength development.

Total Health is located in Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1810 N. Perkins Road, and is gaining more recognition as a rehabilitation facility not only serving Stillwater but surrounding rural and metro areas. Total Health also offers a health club to help people achieve optimal health and improve their quality of life. For more information contact Cadance Lynch at 405-624-6592.

ABLE Tech and the partnering Assistive Technology Centers offer:

- Experienced AT providers available to discuss personal needs and options
- Time to explore and “try before you buy”
- Short-term loan of AT equipment and devices
- Online Inventory at http://oec.okstate.edu/loan

Save a tree!
Please email us if you would like to receive ABLE Tech e-News via email at abletech@okstate.edu.
New Book Could Improve Web Accessibility

Sometimes when people first learn about Web accessibility they look for quick ways of improving the sites they build. This often leads to misuse or overuse of certain HTML features that are meant to aid accessibility, but when used wrongly have no effect and can actually have the opposite effect by making the page less accessible and less usable.

Since accessibility is something every Web professional needs to be familiar with, it’s excellent to have one more book on the subject to refer people to. And this is not just another book on the subject - *Web Accessibility: Web Standards and Regulatory Compliance* is an excellent and very well-written book that explains the various aspects of Web accessibility. The book can be found on Amazon.com for $31.49.

Fire Safety and Prevention for People with Disabilities

**Fire Safety Course taught by DDSD Trainers**

In October 2006, the Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD) partnered with Oklahoma ABLE Tech and Fire Protection Publications at Oklahoma State University to teach a fire safety course to 56 adults with developmental disabilities. The course consisted of three group classes and a home visit.

DDSD trainers attended two training sessions that covered the curriculum and teaching methods, then began recruiting participants through local assisted living providers. Overall, given the dedication of the DDSD trainers and the effective fire safety materials and curriculum principles, these participants will be safer. Each participant now understands how to test the smoke alarm, when to test it, how to dust it to keep it functioning properly, how to escape during a fire and where to go to stay safe. Finally, they all feel confident in their new knowledge of fire safety. For the full report, visit Oklahoma ABLE Tech’s Web site, www.ok.gov/abletech/Fire_Safety/DDSDreport.html.

DDSD trainers are available to provide the training to individuals with developmental disabilities living in the community. For more information, please contact Michaela Bishop at 405-521-6264.
Oklahoma ABLE Tech and partners operate assistive technology (AT) device demonstration and short-term loan programs to increase accessibility to AT. The program is available to Oklahoma residents with disabilities, their family members, and the professionals that support them. The Assistive Technology inventory is available and searchable online at http://oec.okstate.edu/loan. Individuals can “try before they buy” a variety of items to help them determine if specific devices or software will meet their needs for use at home, community, school, or workplace.

**Oklahoma ABLE Tech Program, Stillwater**

Type-to-text communication device allows deaf/hard of hearing people and those with communication barriers to communicate with anyone, face-to-face, without a third party. Text appears simultaneously on a split screen on each UbiDuo, in “real time.” Because of its “instant on” button, the UbiDuo is effortless to use. Since it weighs a mere six pounds and folds up neatly, it is completely portable. Within three seconds, you can talk independently and privately with anyone, anytime, anywhere. All at the touch of a button! sComm: $1995

**Visual Services of the Department of Rehabilitation Services, Oklahoma City**

The AT Center at DRS Visual Services loans a device called the Pocketviewer, which is great for curling up with a book on those cold, snowy evenings. This video magnifier also fits into your pocket or purse. It displays a quality high contrast image of 7x on a 4-inch flat panel display and gives you a 4” field of view which allows you to see more of your reading material at a time. Pulse Data, $745.00

**Hearing Loss Association of Oklahoma City, Integris Third Age Life Center.**

The Hearing Loss Association serves a large population through a large variety of assistive technology. The Known Ringer Amplifier with a strobe light is one of those technologies. Krown Manufacturing Inc. $34.95.

**Oklahoma League for the Blind, Oklahoma City**

The Oklahoma League for the Blind is a good resource serving a large audience ranging with needs of low vision to blindness. With cold weather here, the game dominos can make the indoors seem more enjoyable. Braille Dominos can be loaned from the Oklahoma League of the Blind, featuring a Rectangular shaped game board with 30 domino pieces. The game board has a tan background and white pieces with black imprint and tactile markings. LS&S, $21.75

**Mary K. Chapman Center for Communicative Disorders, University of Tulsa**

LightWriters are text-to-speech devices and require some degree of literacy. This device is unique in having dual displays, one facing the user so they can see what they are typing, and a second outfacing display to allow communication in a natural face-to-face position. LightWriters use DECtalk speech synthesis, which is a high quality synthesizer with excellent intelligibility and clarity. Zygo, $2995.00, http://www.zygo-usa.com.

**Total Source for Hearing Loss and Access, Tulsa**

The “WhyCry” is a Baby Cry Analyzer that shows parents and caregivers what is happening with their baby. It analyzes the baby’s crying power, frequency and crying intervals and illuminates the corresponding illustrated face diagram on the front. Beyond Hearing Aids, $149.95

**Oklahoma State Department of Career and Technology Education**

Be safe this winter by checking your tires regularly with the talking digital tire gauge. The digital tire pressure gauge displays your tire pressure as well as “announces” it. Pressure measurement is also displayed on the easy-to-read LCD display. For more information, please contact the AT Center at CareerTech. MaxiAids, $24.00.

**ASK - AMBUCS Share 4 Life Computers**

The ASK program provides computers to people with disabilities. Donated computers are refurbished, loaded with software, and given away to adults and children with disabilities at no charge. Almost 4,500 computers have been provided to disabled people since 1994. Individuals may apply by writing to: Sooner AMBUCS, P O Box 118, Norman, OK 73070, calling 405-360-1521 or printing the application from http://www.soonerambucs.org/.

**Total Health:**

Total Health and ABLE Tech partner to provide AmTrykes, which are therapeutic tricycles suitable for children approximately 3 to 8 years of age. Three trykes are available with either a bucket or a saddle seat and come with an appropriate helmet.
The Special Education Resolution Center is providing innovative programs for parents and school districts to help resolve disputes over special education at the earliest stage possible. Through a specially funded program by the Oklahoma State Department of Education, SERC is providing a neutral third party facilitator to attend Resolution Sessions held between parents and school districts. To date the program has been highly successful – resolving the issues during every session held. The aim of the program is to provide the parties with the opportunity to discuss their concerns in a structured setting. SERC and the State Department of Education are working through these types of innovative programs to resolve disputes and offer the parties opportunities to build positive relationships for working together in the future.

To find out more about this program contact Jo Anne Pool, Program Manager of the Special Education Resolution Center at jo.pool@okstate.edu; phone: 918-712-9632, toll free: 888-267-0028.

Alternative Financing Success Stories for Oklahomans with Disabilities

Oklahoma ABLE Tech in partnership with BancFirst and the Oklahoma Assistive Technology Foundation (OkAT) offers an Alternative Financing Program (AFP) to Oklahomans with disabilities. The AFP is a low interest and/or guarantee bank loan that provides individuals or those that have dependents with a disability the opportunity to borrow money for the purchase of needed assistive technology.

Oklahoma ABLE Tech’s Alternative Financing Program received a loan application from a 53 year old man needing assistance with the purchase of a power wheelchair. He has a T-8 spinal cord injury that left him paralyzed from the waist down. He has been using a manual wheelchair for the past 5 years and would like more freedom with his main goal being ranch related. Because he wanted a ranch mobility related outcome, ABLE Tech partnered with the Oklahoma AgrAbility Program to assess his needs in finding the right power wheelchair that could manage rugged terrain. After a successful meeting with the coordinator from the AgrAbility Project, the Alternative Financing Program and OkAT approved his $10,000 request for a Frontier electric wheelchair.

Since receiving the Frontier electric wheelchair, this client has been very active in feeding the animals and working on the ranch. The low interest loan made the wheelchair very affordable. He is very appreciative of all the help he received during this process and thanks ABLE Tech very much.

- Submitted by Linda Jaco, Program Director

OKLAHOMA AGRABILITY SEEKS FUNDS FOR 2008

In 2007, the Oklahoma State Legislature signed into law the Oklahoma AgrAbility Project under state statutes, Agriculture, Title 2, Section 5-501. The Oklahoma AgrAbility Project Act ensures that farmers and ranchers with disabilities in Oklahoma have access to the education, assistance and support they need to help them be more independent with their agricultural operation. The unanimous passage of this law was a giant step forward in recognizing the contributions of all Oklahomans, including those with a disability. However, the Oklahoma Legislature did not choose to appropriate any funds which would support expanded services for the Oklahoma AgrAbility Project and provide the program with a more permanent ability to be sustained in the state of Oklahoma.

Currently, over 25% of Oklahoma’s agricultural producers report having a health impairment that is creating a condition of disability (NIOSH, 2000). In the years 2002 and 2006, the United States Department of Agriculture provided seed grant funding to the Oklahoma AgrAbility Project for the initiation of AgrAbility program services to farmers and ranchers with injuries and disabilities.

The Oklahoma AgrAbility Project will actively continue to work with the Oklahoma Legislature in 2008 to seek state appropriations in the amount of $200,000. State funded support will allow the program to expand client services through funding for work accommodations and assistive technologies, as well as the addition of a health care professional to increase case management services, thereby increasing educational opportunities for professionals and the expansion of the peer support program.

- Submitted by Linda Jaco, Program Director
The Oklahoma Equipment Exchange is a free program to help Oklahomans with disabilities acquire affordable, used equipment. Log on to the Equipment Exchange website or call ABLE Tech to list your devices or inquire about a product at 1-888-885-5588. Below is a list of items currently for sale or FREE on http://oec.okstate.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Living</th>
<th>Vehicle Modification and Transportation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambulatory Walker with Seat (INVACARE), Free</td>
<td>Portable hand controls for vehicle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Chair</td>
<td>Scooter lift for auto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Chair/Potty Chair with stainless steel frame</td>
<td>Van - 1998 GMC Savanna with Millennium series lift by Braum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Seat</td>
<td>Van - 1999 Windstar Mini Van with lift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathtub Lift (BATHMASTER), Good Condition</td>
<td>Van – 2001 Dodge Caravan Mini Van with Lift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Gel Hospital Bed Overlay</td>
<td>Wheelchair Lift for Van, Braun Millennium Series L955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machine, health dyne tranquility plus, for sleep apnea</td>
<td>Wheelchair Ramp, Tilt-O-Rack, Fits into 2 inch trailer hitch receiver.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clip on vegetable peeler</td>
<td>Wheelchair-Scooter Lift for Pickup Truck, PVI-1100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Chair/Potty Chair with stainless steel frame</td>
<td>Wheelchair-Scooter Lift for Vehicle (7 available) for car not van.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Seat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full body large mesh sling #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homecare Lift (ELECTRIC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Bed (ELECTRIC), remote control included</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Bed (ELECTRIC), twin-sized, like new</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Bed (INVACARE), includes gel mattress and trapeze</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Bed (INVACARE ELECTRIC), includes new mattress and side rails</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Bed (INVACARE ELECTRIC), Model G5301, Hydraulic In-Home Lift (INVACARE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoyer Patient Lift (INVACARE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lift Chair Recliner (Lazy-Boy Electric), Very Smooth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mattress (SENTECH STAGE IV 3000), Very Good Condition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mattress (DERMAFLOAT), light-weight and durable offset trapeze bar (INVACARE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patient Lift (ELECTRIC), Never used</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roll in Shower Chair (RIFTON), small adult or child</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shower chair (TILT IN SPACE PLUS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swivel Clamp and Bracket (INVACARE), Excellent Condition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Talking Blood Glucose Meter (ACCU-CHEK VOICEMATE), English and Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trapeze bar (INVACARE), Brand New</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trapeze bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tub chair and shower chair (INVACARE), Two chairs for one price.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walker, Excellent condition, free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation, Sports, and Leisure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handicapped bicycle, HAVERICH, used twice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Adaptations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Automatic Door Opener, Power Access 4300, for home or business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portable Ramps (HANDI RAMP), Easy to Handle and folds in half.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vision</td>
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<td>Traveller Portable Magnifier CCTV</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCTV Smart View 3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Microphone (SHURE), with clamp-on stand adapter</td>
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<td>Items Needed:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Seat, Child/pediatric, Need a fiber mesh bath seat</td>
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<tr>
<td>AlphaSmart, to help a student with severe writing deficits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Stroller, for community outings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Color cards of nouns and/or verbs for therapy use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lift Chair – Recliner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lift Mesh Sling – For Hoyer Lift</td>
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<tr>
<td>Power heavy duty wheelchair, will be used in outdoor terrain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scooter, Electric</td>
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<tr>
<td>Van - Mini with lift</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheelchair – Heavy duty</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Seretean Wellness Center
Oklahoma State University
1514 W. Hall of Fame
Stillwater, OK 74078
Phone: 800-257-1705 VTDD
405-744-9748 VTDD
Fax: 405-744-2487

This publication is available in alternative formats; please call 1-800-257-1705 VTDD for more information.

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This publication does not necessarily reflect the position of the policy of RSA/ED, and no official endorsement of the material should be inferred.

Resources and Events

- Oklahoma ABLE Tech AT Demo and Loan Program; http://okabletech.okstate.edu
- AT Equipment Exchange Program; http://oec.okstate.edu
- AgrAbility; http://agrability.okstate.edu/
- Fire Safety; http://www.ok.gov/abletech/Fire_Safety

February 5-6: OFCEC, Midwest City
At the Reed Center, the ABLE Tech booth will feature information about programs and services. There will also be sample assistive technology devices.

February 12: ABLE Tech Open House, Stillwater
ABLE Tech will hold their annual Open House from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the OSU Seretean Wellness Center. They will feature mini lessons on Windows Accessibility at 1:30, 2:30, and 3:30. Receive a free tutorial CD and view alternative keyboards and mice.

February 26: On the Road, Family Perspective Conference, Burns Flat
ABLE Tech and assistive technology overview. For more information, contact Sally Selvidge, OASIS Outreach Coordinator at 800-426-2747 or at sally-selvidge@ouhsc.edu

March 11: On the Road Family Perspective Conference, Vinita
For more information, contact Sally Selvidge, Outreach Coordinator, OASIS-Information and Referral for Children/Adults with Disabilities, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, at 800-426-2747.

April 3: Oklahoma Association of Public Procurement, Oklahoma City

Summer Camps for kids will be featured in Spring Issue! Visit: http://www.okrehab.org/guide/Ch12/12-01A.asp for early information on summer camps.