Assistive Technology to Support Home Safety
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Today’s Objectives
Participants will:
- Explore how assistive technology can assist people with Autism and their families create a safer environment at home.
- Learn where to find assistive technology services, support and funding.

Maine CITE
- Maine’s State AT Act Program - Created/funded thru Federal AT Act.
- Promotes AT through Information, Education, Technical Assistance, Services.
- Collaborate with many Maine AT providers, organizations, and policy makers.
- Visit our website - mainecite.org - for
  - Webinars/training
  - Apps as AT
  - Funding info
  - AT Providers

Maine CITE Mission
- To improve access & acquisition of AT by people of all ages, all disabilities, in:
  - Education
  - Employment
  - Community Living
  - Information Tech & Telecommunications
- Programs
  - AT Equipment Demonstration/Loan
  - AT Reuse
  - Information about Paying for AT

What are Assistive Technology and Services?
- AT Devices are any item, piece of equipment, or product -- commercial or customized--that will increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of a person with a disability
- AT Services help a person learn about AT options and decide if using AT will benefit them.

Smart Home Technology
- Home automation and security systems have brought a level of safety and security to people of all ages and abilities.
- The options are plentiful.
- The technology is improving quickly.
• The prices are becoming more affordable.
• Installation and utilization have become easier and more intuitive.
• Most importantly it can make a difference in one’s ability to live independently and safely.

**Smart Home Monitoring/Automation/Security Systems**
- TrueSense
- Control 4
- Rest Assured
- Vivent
- Full Circle America

**Front Door Options**
- Smart home locking systems, cameras, and door bells.
- Door sensors

**In Home Safety**
- Smart switches/plugs
- Water temperature sensors
- Motion detectors
- Safety lighting and controls

**In Home Safety Continue...**
- Stove/oven sensors
- Temperature/HVAC sensors and controls
- Fire/smoke/CO2 sensors and alarms
- Closed-circuit television/video monitoring
- Pan and Tilt Camera
- Internal Door alarm/chime – lets you know when the door has been opened.

**Voice-First Options**
- Amazon Echo
- Google Home
- Apple HomePod
- Cable/Satellite controls
- Cortana/Siri/Alexa

**Wandering Prevention Technology**
- LOK8U Freedom Wandering Prevention and Emergency Alert Watch
- Tile
- Find My Friends – app
- Smart Sole – GPS

**Project LifeSaver**
- National Program used with local Police, Fire, Rescue
  - In Maine:
    - Auburn PD
    - Lewiston PD
Brunswick PD
- Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office
- Scarborough PD
- Ogunquit PD

General Safety Options
- Signs and Alerts
- Smoke Alarms

Tablets, Smart Phones and Watches
- Start using this technology early as these tools will offer endless opportunities for independence and safety.

Tablets, Smart Phones and Watches Continued...
- Communication
- Connection to family, friends and community
- Reminders and alerts
- Tasking accurately and safely
- Tracking
- Seizure monitoring
- Stress and anxiety management
- Personal Emergency Response
- Medication management
- Home automation

Creating a Safe Sensory Environment

Assistive Technology Considerations and Planning
- Be careful not to let AT replace the human touch and companionship.
- Be considerate of the cost of AT. Some of the best solutions are the most simple and inexpensive.
- Assure ethical practices when considering AT.
- Diligent support with blue tooth and Wi-Fi connectivity and assuring technology is working properly is vital to safety and success.
- Schedule practice and testing regularly.

Assistive Technology is Individualized
- Stay person-centered through the AT process.
- We are all unique. Our experiences as we go through life will be our own.
- The individual’s history and preferences should always be considered.
- Assistive technology is often trial and error.
- What works for one may not work at all for another.
- Communicate with your AT Services provider when things don’t go as planned or additional training is needed.
Acquiring Assistive Technology

Maine CITE - Demo & Loan Providers

- AT Demo & Loan service providers:
  - Pine Tree Society
  - Spurwink-ALLTECH
  - CARES Inc
  - UM Farmington – Spenciner Center/Library
- Each has an AT Device Inventory – all link to AT4Maine.org

AT Reuse

Get AT Stuff – online exchange/sales – GetATStuff.com

AT Reuse at Spurwink-ALLTECH – SpurwinkALLTECH.org

892 Riverside St, Portland. Phone 207-535-2017

AT Service Providers

- Spurwink / ALLTECH: Assessment, Demo/Loan, Reuse. SpurwinkALLTECH.org
- Bureau of Rehabilitation: Independent Living (IL), Education & Employment. maine.gov/rehab/
- Alpha One: AT/IL Assessment, Driving Evals, IL Grant. alphaonenow.org
- Iris Network: AT for visual impairments. theiris.org
- Mainely Access: AT Assessment for visual impairments. mainelyaccess.com
- Maine AgrAbility: AT for Farming, logging and aquaculture. umaine.edu/agrability
- Disability Rights Maine: Telecommunications Equipment & AT for Deaf/Blind. drme.org
- Pine Tree Society: AT for Communication. pinetreesociety.org
- C.A.R.E.S. Inc.: AT Demo & Loan. caresinc.org
- mPower Loan Program: Flexible loans to buy AT. mpowerloans.org
- Maine Center for Integrated Rehab: AT Assessment & OT Services.
- Gallant Therapy Services: OT Services. gallanttherapyservices.com
- AT Practitioners: ATP Certified by RESNA. See info resna.org/certification
  - Occupational Therapists
  - Physical Therapists
  - Speech Therapists
  - Local Durable Medical Equipment (DME) vendors and manufacturers

Where to Find AT

- Amazon.com
- Smarthome.com
- Abledata.com
- DME Stores
- Enabelingdevices.com
- Rehabmart.com
- Disability Rights Maine: Telecommunications Program
Paying for AT

- Maine CITE Funding Page mainecite.org/paying-for-at
- Maine’s Flexible Loans/Financing: mPower Loans - mpowerloans.org
- AlphaOne - Independent Living alphaonenow.org

Additional Resources
Please visit mainecite.org/autism for more resources

Thank you!
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