

Assistive Technology to Support Home Safety

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Presenters

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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.
- **Maine Assistive Technology Solutions:** AT Assessment & Consulting.
- **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](http://mpowerloans.org)
- **Maine's Home and Community Based Waiver Programs** – mainecite.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/ATWaiverComparisonChart-9-2017.pdf
- **AlphaOne** - Independent Living alphaonenow.org

Additional Resources

Please visit mainecite.org/autism for more resources

Thank you!

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