

Assistive Technology for Kansans



ATK Serves Kansans

Coordinated at the
University of Kansas

Program Impact in 2017

1,817 Kansans with disabilities and chronic health conditions and/or service providers received more than 3,743 Assistive Technology (AT) Services provided by ATK staff.

Specific Kansas Populations Receiving AT Services:

- 73 Infants and toddlers with disabilities and their family members
- 169 Adults with disabilities who were retraining or obtaining part-time employment
- 103 Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers with disabilities
- 919 Seniors needing services to stay in their homes and/or to be active in their community
- 669 Kansans received hands-on training on use and maintenance of an AT device

Assistive Technology for Kansans receives \$408,621 of federal funds. These funds provide operational expenses to each of the five regional AT Access Sites, a toll-free telephone number that allows customers to easily reach their regional site and equipment loan program, and support for statewide and regional AT training.

STATEWIDE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (AT) PROGRAM SERVES KANSANS IN ALL 105 COUNTIES

- **Customers include seniors, infants and toddlers, students, working age adults, farmers with disabilities, active duty soldiers and veterans with disabilities, individuals with vision and hearing loss, and other persons with disabilities and chronic health conditions.**
- **Comprehensive AT services** include product information, equipment loan, device demonstration, device reuse/recycle, assessment, funding assistance, and training.
- **ATK provides technology solutions** in the areas of vision, hearing, speech communications, learning, cognition, mobility, seating, daily living, environmental adaptations, vehicle modifications, computer and related technology, recreation and sports adaptations.
- **24 staff associated with ATK have expertise and certifications in a broad range of assistive technology categories** including speech language pathology, special education, occupational therapy, certified assistive technology practitioner, computer technology and programming, early childhood education, and construction management.
- **Nationally recognized AT program provides support and technical assistance to other states.**
- **5 Assistive Technology Access Sites:** Topeka, Salina, Wichita, Oakley, and Parsons with an additional reuse program in Garden City.

ATK website - www.atk.ku.edu



Assistive Technology for Kansans

...connects people with disabilities and health conditions of all ages with the assistive technology they need to learn, work, play, and participate in community life safely and independently.



Examples...

A nine-year-old boy uses a power wheelchair at school and a manual wheelchair at home. ATK staff and the family looked at transportation options. ATK staff raised 1/3 of the adapted van's cost through nonprofit donations. His mom applied for a K-Loan to pay for the rest of the van. Now the whole family travels together. Life couldn't be better.

A woman has severe neuropathy and diabetes. She fell in 2016 and broke her leg. During her recovery she didn't have the strength to use her walker. To leave the rehabilitation facility she had to be mobile. ATK staff helped her acquire a lightly used power wheelchair, a hospital bed, and a commode through the ATK Reuse program.

ATK staff identified the devices needed for a two-year-old toddler with cerebral palsy to stand, walk, learn, and communicate. Multiple devices were loaned, funding was secured, and a gait trainer was selected as well as an iPad with a blue-tooth scanning switch. The family continues to work with ATK to consider equipment needed as she grows.

A high school student has cerebral palsy and plans to go to college. Following device demonstrations and a short-term equipment loan provided by ATK staff, she was able to choose the technology solutions she needs for note-taking and completing her assignments. Kansas Rehabilitation Services funded her technology and she is ready to follow her passion of helping others.

A man who is blind and has arthritis needs to work from home. ATK staff and Kansas Rehabilitation Services helped him determine the assistive technology he required. Following device and software demonstrations and short-term loans, he has what he needs to complete the exam and work as a vision specialist serving individuals living in rural Kansas.

ATK partnered with Families Together, the state's parent training organization, to host an event for moms, grandmothers, and foster moms to learn about education and health resources, effective advocacy strategies, and tips on reducing stress while they received facials, manicures, and massages. Gift baskets with treats and resource information were given to each mom and to the cosmetologists and massage therapists for use with future customers.

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