

Expanding AT Services in Maine July 24, 2015



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Overview of AT Resources & Funding in Maine

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Session Objectives

- Review and Define AT
- How AT can be essential in achieving learning, living, working, being productive & independence
- Funding AT through Maine Care
- AT resources in Maine & nationally
- Q & A

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Laws that Support AT

- Rehab Act of 1973/Section 504
- IDEA, amended in 2004
- AT Act of 1989, amended in 2004
- Americans with Disabilities Act 1990 *(Happy 25th!!)*
- Maine Human Rights Act
- Fair Housing Act
- Hearing Aid Compatibility Act
- Higher Education Accessibility Act
- Telecommunications Act
- Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act
- Social Security "Ticket to Work"



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Maine CITE



- Maine's State AT Act Program
- Created/funded thru the Federal AT Act of 1989
- Promotes information and education on AT
- Collaborates with many Maine AT Consortia provider organizations - *handout*
- www.maine cite.org
 - Webinars, AT App lists, Provider & funding info

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The Mission of Maine CITE



To improve the access & acquisition of AT by people of *all ages, all disabilities*, in the areas of:

Education

Employment

Community Living

Information Technology & Telecommunications

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What is AT??

- **AT Devices** are any item, piece of equipment, or product--whether acquired commercially or customized--that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of a person with a disability

AT can be Low Tech >>>> High Tech

- **AT Services** help a person learn about their AT options and decide if the AT will benefit them

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Tech is universal in all our lives: Benefits of Using AT....

**Using AT can
facilitate, maintain, increase,
maximize ---
learning, safety, function, mobility,
development, success, self esteem,
productivity, independence.....**

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Maine CITE AT Services include....

- Device Demonstrations - learn how AT works
– ALLTECH, Pine Tree Society, CARES
- Device Loans -- borrow AT “try before you buy”
– ALLTECH, Pine Tree Society, CARES
- AT Reuse & AT Recycling
– ALLTECH and www.GetATStuff.com
- Alternative Financing -low interest loans \$\$\$
– mPower Loans/Alpha One
- Information & Assistance
- Training, workshops, webinars & in-services

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ATP & SMS Certifications

- RESNA is the certifying organization
 - Visit Resna.org for certification information
 - Prepare & take a certification exam
 - Ongoing re-cert with 20 CEUS every 2 years
 - RESNA offers AT conferences & webinars

**** ATIA.org >>> more AT training!!!**

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Funding is the Key to Access of AT

- This is the key issue for the consumer & family!!
- Professionals need to know about purchasing / funding options for AT
- Funding decisions are based on need & eligibility
- Learn about the eligibility & documentation requirements of funders
- **Do your homework...**



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Maine Care Policy

<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/10/ch101.htm>

- New ME Medicaid Waiver programs support AT
 - Sections 18, 19, 20, 21, 29
- DME Section 60 (AAC devices & hearing aids)
- OT Section 68
- PT Section 85
- ST Section 109

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Maine CARE Waivers

- Section 18: Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) for Adults with Brain Injury
- Section 19: HCBS for the Elderly and for Adults with Disabilities
- Section 20: HCBS for Adults with Other Related Conditions (ORC)
- Section 21: HCBS for Members with Intellectual Disabilities or Autistic Disorder
- Section 29: Support Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autistic Disorder

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What is new?

#1!! The new Maine CARE Waivers support people living in the community

– Avoid more costly institutional care (shifts funding)

- Creates funding for AT use in the community to increase safety & independence (\$\$\$\$)
- Expands *practice opportunities* for therapists
- New funding for home based remote monitoring
- Supports training on how to use AT

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Why AT & Why Now?

Access equality:

– *Independent Living in today's world:*

- *Less reliance vs paid staff*
- *Increase in communication*

– *Access to options:*

- *Living environment*
- *Community of choice*



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Continued.....

- **Access to Information & Resources:**

- Google it!!!
- Education
- Employment
- Social Networks
- Medical Providers
- Services
- Solutions



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Maine Home and Community Based Waivers, AT Comparison Chart

By Kelley McTague, COTA/L, ATP Kelley.mctague@goodwillnne.org (Revised 7/13/15)

	Section 18 BI Waiver	Section 19 Elderly & AWD	Section 20 DRC Waiver	Section 21 ID & Autism	Section 29 Community Supports
AT Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
A. Assessment	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
B. Coordination of Therapies	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
C. Training for Member	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
D. Training for supports	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
E. Acquisition of AT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
F. Selection, customization, Maintenance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Limits	\$6,000 per year / 8hrs per year**	\$1,000 per yr. Cost part of cap.	\$6,000 per yr	\$6,000 per yr / 8hrs per yr	\$6,000 per year / 8hrs per year
Assessment Rates	\$14.44 per 1/4 hr	None	\$16.04 per 1/4 hr	\$14.44 per 1/4 hr	\$14.44 per 1/4 hr
Transmission rates	\$50 per mo	\$50 per mo	per invoice	\$50 per mo	\$50 per mo



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What Can AT Services Do For You?

Referral

- We qualify to do AT Assessments under Maine Care Sections 18, 20, 21 & 29
- When we receive your referral we will be sure you are in touch with the best services to meet your specific needs

Assessment

- We will see you where ever you currently reside
- Our assessments are holistic, taking into consideration all parts of your life and who you are

Acquisition of AT

- We will research & recommend the best products to meet your needs
- We will assist your team in the process of purchasing your equipment



work that works for you.

AT Services, Continued...

Installation

- We will work with vendors to get your equipment installed

Training

- We will develop a training plan with you
- We will assist you and your team to carry out the training plan

Maintenance

- We offer technical support and guidance if your AT is not working properly
- We will assist you and your team to work with vendors for repair or replacement



Continued...

Follow Up

- We will follow up to be sure you and your team are using your AT effectively and it meets your needs

Follow Through

- We will continue to work with you until your AT is right for you
- We are available to start the process over with you as your needs change and you grow in your independence



Expand your practice!

Enroll as a Maine Care provider in all 5 waivers!

<https://mainecare.maine.gov/Provider%20Enrollment%20Guides/Forms/OnLine%20Display%20View.aspx>

- Enrolling in 18 & 20 contact: kirsten.capeless@maine.gov
- Enrolling in 21 & 29 contact: martha.l.owen@maine.gov
- Enrolling in 19 contact: bruce.plaisted@maine.gov

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AT Resources

- www.mainequote.org
- www.resna.org
- www.ctdinstitute.org Center Tech & Disability
- www.wheelchairnet.org
- www.abledata.org AT product database
- www.assistivetech.net
- www.afb.org

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More Resources!

- www.atia.org
- www.jan.wvu.edu Job Accommodation Network
- www.Disabilityinfo.gov
- www.usbln.org Business Leadership Network
- www.passonline.org Soc Security -- PASS program
- www.workrerc.org
- www.passitoncenter.org lists AT Reuse programs

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Questions???

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Thank YOU!!



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Breakout Group Questions

1. What are the most common (3-5) AT devices being used by your clients/consumers?
2. Any ideas for how we can promote more info about AT across Maine?
-- to what groups?
3. Suggestions for more training events/topics? webinars?
4. Name 3 "Take Aways" for the day.
5. Other input for us?

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