South Carolina
Assistive Technology
Program
CENTER FOR DISABILITY RESOURCES
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Improving lives through Assistive Technology
Annual Report 2022

SCATP Mission
Our mission is to enhance the independence, productivity and quality of life for all South Carolinians through access and acquisition of assistive technology.

SCATP Overview
The South Carolina Assistive Technology Program (SCATP) uses assistive technology devices and services to help people with disabilities live, work and learn more independently. We are federally funded and part of a national network of technology-related assistance programs that provide services that increase, maintain or improve functional capabilities.

South Carolina
Assistive Technology Program

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Advisory Council
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Dear families, colleagues, and friends,
I am delighted to be writing to you as the new program manager for the South Carolina Assistive Technology Program (SCATP). Assistive technology is my passion, and I am honored to be a part of the incredible team at SCATP, Center for Disability Resources at the University of South Carolina. While I have only been here a few months, we have already accomplished a great deal, and we will keep the momentum going. We will continue to provide our core services to improve lives using assistive technology while expanding our resource center and trainings to include the most up-to-date assistive technology available. We are excited about our program's accomplishments in 2022, and we look forward to this new chapter in 2023 as we continue to serve individuals of all ages and abilities and the professionals who serve them.

Kind Regards,
Rachell Johnson, MCD, CCC-SLP, ATP
Program Manager, SC Assistive Technology Program

2022 Key Activities

Device Demonstrations
Our Assistive Technology (AT) program staff guide individuals with disabilities and their support providers through demonstrations of various adaptive devices to help them make informed AT purchases. Support providers may include a speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, vision itinerant specialist, teacher, service coordinator, parent, spouse or other family member.

We do not charge for demonstrations and we do not write reports. We do not sell products, so our demonstrations are impartial. To schedule a demonstration, call (803) 935-5263.

224 SCATP provided 224 AT device demonstrations to 618 South Carolinians.

2022 Key Activities

Device Loans
We believe it is important to try a device in the environment where it will be used before making the decision to buy. We loan AT devices for two to four weeks for free with a signed agreement. To borrow a device, call (803) 935-5337.

435 SCATP provided 435 short-term equipment loans to 277 individuals allowing them to try AT devices to help them with the decision-making process.

Sarah at USC football game.

" Sarah's Story

Sarah is recovering from hip surgery. The wheelchair provided by the SCATP's Reuse Service made it possible for her to access the USC football stadium to watch the game with her grandson and his family, Sarah was able to tour the USC campus the next day. Having the wheelchair was essential to the success of her visit.

Sarah was very thankful for the SCATP's Reuse Service.

" Alexus' Story

Alexus has cerebral palsy. Alexus knew when she decided to go to college that she would need help from many people to be successful. Alexus started building her team of support. Several of the staff at SCATP are members of Alexus' team and demonstrate AT to determine which AT is the best fit.
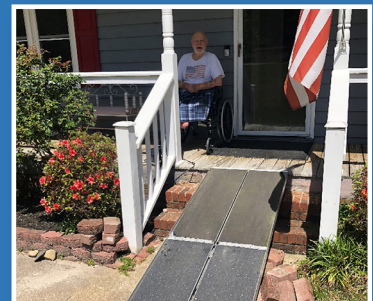
After the demonstrations the SCATP staff helped her setup her laptop with Apps and Extensions. She connected the SCATP staff, her tutor, the admissions office and the office of disability services at the university to determine accommodations for her classwork. Alexus case manager, SCATP staff, and other assistive technology professionals help with her power wheelchair including being able to demonstrate using her joystick wheelchair driver control to move her mouse on her computer screen more independently! Alexus is working very hard to reach her goals, and there is never a doubt that she will get there!

Alexus sitting outside library.

" Irvin's Story

Irvin is a Navy Veteran. He lost both of his legs post-military service; he has been in the Veteran's Administration's (VA) system for many years. He recently moved to the Columbia area to be with his children and grandchildren at the age of 91. While waiting for his VA benefits to start, there were many accessibility issues while living in his daughter's home. He was able to borrow an 8-foot aluminum wheelchair ramp from the SCATP's Reuse Service to get in and out of the house to go to doctor's visits and in case of any emergency. Irvin said, "It was wonderful to have this ramp available until the VA could build a permanent ramp." Irvin and his daughter and son-in-law are very pleased and thankful for the Program's ability to help him during this interim period. The ramp was used almost every day and provided accessibility in and out of the home.

Irvin with daughter and son-in-law at new residence.

"Ayden's Story

Kim Philbrick, an occupational therapist with the Clover School District called SCATP to ask if we had feeding equipment she could trial with Ayden, a student with Arthrogryposis. Arthrogryposis causes a person's limbs to not bend. In Ayden's case he cannot bend his arms so his mode of self-feeding was to lean down to the plate and lick up the food. He would not eat much in front of his peers. With the Obi feeding robot, an assistive eating device, Ayden eats much more of his lunch and he asked for seconds on the first day. Ayden loves the Obi. He took to it immediately and named it "Bread". He was very proud and smiling a lot. The school's AT team felt that The Obi feeding device increased Ayden's self-feeding independence tremendously. The SC Assistive Technology Program is a valuable resource for school district AT teams to assist with AT decision-making for students with disabilities. The loan process is very easy and the staff is accommodating and knowledgeable.

Ayden getting ready to receive food from the Obi device.

Ayden taking a bite of food from the Obi eating device.

"Faith's Story

Faith loves the wheelchair. It has a lot of special features that can be used when traveling to places where the power wheelchair cannot be taken. She will be able to recline when on long rides to family vacations and will be able to raise her feet to keep them from swelling.

Faith sitting in new reuse wheelchair.

2022 Key Activities

SCATP has two ways to help you get the assistive technology you need.

AT Reuse Service
The Reuse Service can help individuals acquire used AT, including durable medical equipment, for free. Call (803) 935-5273 to ask if we have what you are looking for and to donate used equipment.

The Reuse Service provided 304 South Carolinians with 719 pieces of equipment for a savings of

$411,889.

South Carolina Assistive Technology Exchange
The South Carolina Assistive Technology Exchange is a free online reuse database that helps individuals connect with each other to find, give away or sell used equipment. On the database you can list items you need or are looking to sell or give away.

Any individual, agency representative or family member can participate in the exchange. If you need help, call us at (803) 935-5273 for assistance.

The SCATP Equipment Exchange facilitated the exchange of equipment from individual to individual for a savings of

$6,000.

Trainings
Assistive technology professionals provide free or low-cost workshops and hands-on training on functional strategies and the latest devices, along with information on accessible web and information technology. Trainings are held via Zoom, at SCATP and we will also come to your location.

SCATP partnered with the SC Department of Education AT staff to provide trainings for school staff to increase knowledge of assistive technology.

6,938 people
participated in SCATP trainings.

282 people attended trainings on document and website accessibility.

Free4All Event

The AT Reuse Service hosted the Free4AllEvent in May in Columbia, SC. Individuals drove from all parts of the state to get needed DME. The event was a huge success and plans are being made to host the next Free4All Event.

33 people received 169 pieces of DME equipment at a savings of

$26,894.

Therapists excited about finding equipment for pediatric patients at clinic.

Young woman found the equipment she needed for use in her home.

Thank you to B106.7 Radio for sponsoring this event.

2022 Key Activities

Adapted Toy Project

SCATP offered its fourth Adapted Toy Workshop just in time for the holidays.

Children with disabilities often have difficulty interacting with toys. SCATP invited families, professionals and school staff to bring battery-operated toys to adapt for switch use. The staff also taught workshop participants to make switches. SCATP hosts the Adapted Toy Workshop annually because the need for these toys is so great.

SCATP has many switches and toys adapted for switch use available for demonstration and loan. For more information please call 803-935-5263.

63 toys were adapted at the Adapted Toy Workshop at a value of $5,335.

SC Assistive Technology Expo

SCATP hosted the 29th annual SC Assistive Technology Expo. The 2022 Expo was the second Virtual Expo.

723 individuals attended the 2nd Virtual Expo on Zoom.

Transition

Transition services prepare students for further education, employment and independent living. Assistive technology helps every child with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meet their transition goals. Our organization helps assess needs and provides loaner devices and training in the use of assistive technology.

SCATP collaborates with AbleSC's SC Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) for young adults with disabilities.

The Transition Alliance of South Carolina (TASC) helps young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities make a successful transition from high school to adult life. SCATP is on the TASC Board of Directors and collaborates on transition activities.

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023
TIME: 8:30 A.M. – 4 P.M.

PLACE: COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN CONVENTION CENTER
1101 LINCOLN STREET COLUMBIA, SC 29201

For more information go to www.sc.edu/medicine/scatp

EXHIBITS AND WORKSHOPS SHOWCASING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES
Imagine everything you need all under one roof! The 30th SC Assistive Technology Expo is the go-to event for people with disabilities, their families, seniors, educators, veterans and healthcare professionals.

You Fuel Our Success

SC Assistive Technology has a long history of providing hope and support to families and professionals.

Our Partners
Thank you to all of the agencies and organizations that we partner with throughout South Carolina. The work we do is made possible and maximized by working with agencies and organizations that have a similar mission.

You can help us improve lives through assistive technology. It's easy!
Make a referral. Do you know an individual with a disability that could benefit from using assistive technology? If the answer is yes, refer them to 803-935-5263.

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