Assistive Technology Everywhere!

It is easy to forget how important assistive technology is to our communities, people we support, and our team members. Day, Employment, and Residential programs incorporate assistive technology such as iPads, communication boards, pottery wheel, sewing machine, playing card holders, and Alexa. For the people we support technology can be a game changer.

Smart Home Pilot
a different kind of natural support

3 Penn-Mar homes are being set up with Alexa, Ring or Arlo doorbell, smart plugs & light.

CEO's Blog
the time for tech is now

In one of his recent blogs, Greg Miller highlights the 2022 ANCOR (American Network of Community Options and Resources) Conference.

He shares, "It was made very clear at the ANCOR Conference that our field needs to use technology to create new opportunities for our DSPs and the people we support. By doing so, we will help to improve the demands of the job and create even more independent lives for people with IDD."

Assistive Technology Outreach & Connections:

where are they happening?

- Penn-Mar Leadership, Residential, Employment, and Day Programs.
- Freedom Center AT Lending Library
- MDTAP (Maryland Technology Assistance Program)
- TechOWL (Pennsylvania's Assistive Technology Act Program)
- Pennsylvania Enable Tech Group
- Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Network Group
- Weekly Assistive Tech information shared on Penn-Mar's social media platforms
- TechFirstShift Tech Huddles
- Connecting with other Maryland providers participating in TechFirstShift certification to develop a Maryland provider technology group.

Assistive Tech Initiative Launched!

example activities since blast off . . .

- Noise cancelling headphones
- Family & team member support on Dynovox Snap app
- AT Skills training material requested: Online safety material for individual who has been scammed in the online world.
- DSP seeking guidance on obtaining a reader pen from MDTAP library.
- Adaptive equipment – Weighted blanket
- Introduced Seeing AI app with individual who's visually impaired.

No Tech	*Low Tech*	*High Tech*
pencil grip	buzzers	e-readers
post-it-notes	portable word processors	touch screen devices
slanted surfaces	talking calculator	computerized testing
raised lined paper	mp3 player	speech recognition software
covered overlays	electronic organizers	word processors
tactile letters	switches/buzzers	text to speech (tts)
magnifying bars	lights	progress monitoring software
weighted pencils		