

DDS COP meeting

Elisa Velardo, Arlene Lugo, Mario, (AT Living Tech), Lara S (ARC NL), Chris Blake, Walter L, Tom Bradley, Robin Woods, Beverne, Ashley, Bob

- 9/15 event. Must register by today if you want to attend. 220 invitations sent, 200 can attend, only 40 have registered. Robin gave an overview of the day. Commissioner, Molly Cole, Robin and Kathy will speak. The keynote presentation and then a "walk-about to view committee display tables."
- Review of minutes.
 - the AT demo centers were listed in the recent DDS Direct to Families newsletter.
 - minutes are accepted.

Sub-committee reports.

- **Family friendly packet sub-committee** ... Elisa handed out brochure.
 - Feedback: Maybe use a real picture of for example Chris Blake using his device to read. Chris will take a picture and email to Elisa.
 - Could be mailed to families, with not too much info.
 - Enlarge font, more white space, could create two versions the brochure version and a larger one.
 - Could be translated into Spanish?
 - "Add statement- There is a lot more information, call us"
 - Add info about funding ... how to explain. Elisa and Arlene can wordsmith it.
 - add 211infoline and share this info with infoline.
 - Once it's a final product, Robin will share to every family member.
 - CREC just published a guide on AT and autism. May be worth reviewing.
- If is not final for 9/15 can put on board and talk about or share

- **DDS Peer Advocate / Mentor Position:**

- focus will be on advocacy for AT for independent living.
- CT Tech Act shared a lot of information about the position, policy manual, etc.
- want to align with peer support language, person first language, readability, supervision lines within dept have to be figured out. Working on developing outcomes. Will try to adapt forms from former Tech Mentor program.
- Would want the peer advocate/mentor to work with the individual to help support and implement the AT, help them with using and learning how to use.
- Feedback: General Worker position? minimum wage only - no benefits, if approved, could fill right away. The general worker position would be more of a show and tell person who could go to groups with a suitcase to demonstrate the devices to show what is available. Or would this be a waiver service? Could create the general worker position to start and continue to develop a position of Mentor. Tom Bradley thomasb0001@hotmail.com would like to help.
- Google Hangouts -- Robin wanted to plug it as an easy way to collaborate.

- **Tech Idol videos**

- Josh didn't believe any work as of yet, but he is stepping down so Lara will be doing it. Amy volunteered to help. James Campbell in the West Region has a person who uses the iPad and Proloque2Go and Paige Librandi would be good individuals to contact for Tech Idol videos. Walter Glomb's son is extremely independent and would be excellent to video. Amy also has someone in the North region who would be good to video. Tom would also like to help with this committee.
- If this committee could get a list of people and places who are already using technology to increase their independence, it would be helpful to know.
- Bob will send out an email to all Case Managers asking for nominations of individuals who are already using Tech. Laura will create a nomination template.
- Not everyone will be videoed but if articles are written up they can be used in various newsletters and publications. The CT Tech Act Project is always looking for content. If an article is provided by Sept. 30th, it can go in the Fall newsletter.

Technology Rights Campaign

- Opening Doors to IT (section 508), the AT Act of 1998. How can we make it more useful? There was a one page AT Bill of rights - Chris took it to the DD Council but they weren't sure what to change. Will create our own credo. Amy and Chris will get together to work on it.
- **9/15 Community of Practice event:**
 - Every committee (10) will have a table with some committee members to talk about what we've done, our goals and what we hope to accomplish. Will need to create a display. Will want materials.
 - Attendees will have an hour to walk around and visit the various tables.
 - Laura is willing to use YouTube videos to show videos of devices being used. She will bring laptop to present the videos. She will also have a page of links so families can take it home and view it later.
 - Bob is willing to be at the table. Mario can share brochures. Robin will also have Synergistic.
 - Elisa will send the brochure to Amy to print out in large print for the Board - she will send to Robin to put on Board.
 - Handouts: brochures (Elisa to send to Robin by Sept 3rd),

Other Info

- "Print-ability" uses people with disabilities to do printing jobs.
- Since the big meeting is in Sept - the committee's next meeting will be in October. Robin will send out a Wizard email to schedule next meeting.