Connecticut's Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services

Assistive Technologies and Medical Equipment

Access Independence - Creates 3-D printing, 3D scanning and 3D modeling. Includes items but not limited to prosthetic hands, fingers and arms. http://www.accessinct.org/

Angel Sense- Angel Sense is a company that provides child GPS Trackers and an app for the parent, designed to protect children with special needs from wandering, bullying and mistreatment. Offers a variety of tracking device options (monthly fee). https://www.angelsense.com/product-tour/

Chelsea Hutchinson Foundation- Loans medical equipment and supplies, including crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, stair glides, I.V. poles and commodes, at no cost to Connecticut residents who have no means of obtaining them independently or through insurance. assist with obtaining a seizure response dog and seizure monitoring equipment. https://chelseahutchisonfoundation.org/

Connecticut Radio Information System, Inc. - CRIS is a free service providing daily readings of newspapers and magazines (including children's magazines) in English and Spanish for people who are unable to read printed material due to low vision, blindness, or other physical disability. Eligible residents can receive the service on a specially tuned radio (provided free), cable systems, telephone and online at crisradio.org Children's programming is available on-line and on-demand. https://crisradio.org/

Connecticut Tech and Act Project: Assistive Technology Loan Program (ATLP) - low-interest financial loan to help individuals with disabilities or their family members purchase assistive technology devices and services needed to enhance independence and/or functioning in the community, education and/or employment. https://cttechact.com/

Emma Davis Medical Equipment Ministry – Offers medical equipment free of charge. https://firstchurchofmilford.org/

En-Vision America - ScripTalk Station is a device that reads ScripTalk prescription labels that are attached to prescription containers for blind or visually impaired persons. The reader and the prescription labels are available free at local pharmacies. To obtain a reader and accessible labels call En-Vision to arrange with a local pharmacy that offers the products. https://www.envisionamerica.com/

FODAC - Programs include free or low-cost wheelchairs and other durable medical equipment, vehicle and home adaptations and more. https://fodac.org/

Guilford Interfaith Volunteers - Charlie's Closet at Guilford Interfaith Volunteers sells used hospital beds, wheelchairs, electric scooters, walkers and other used medical equipment for a nominal fee to residents of the Shoreline area. Guilford Interfaith Volunteers | Volunteer Organization

H.O.P.E Partners of Farmington - Agency loans out equipment, such as commodes, shower benches, walkers, wheelchairs, and crutches, to any age resident for short- and long-term use. H.O.P.E. Partners of Farmington

Hospital for Special Care - Provides used durable medical equipment and supplies to individuals in need. Equipment is provided for short- and long-term use. Center also accepts donations of tub and shower chairs, commodes, walkers, canes, raised toilet seats, crutches, and manual wheelchairs. https://hfsc.org/

McLindon Family Foundation - On a case-by-case basis. Priority is to Louisiana residents. provides adaptive bicycles for children with special needs. Adaptive Bikes for Children with Special Needs

Miracle Ear Foundation- Provides free hearing aids to individuals in need. Visit website or call 1-800-464-8002. Official Miracle-Ear® Hearing Aids Website | Book your Free Hearing Test.

Oak Hill- NEAT Center at Oak Hill - The NEAT Equipment Restoration Center (ERC) restores donated adaptive devices and medical equipment. Restored items are available for sale through vendors at lower cost than a new item. OTHER INFORMATION: NOTE: NEAT Center does not give away adaptive devices and medical equipment; All items are for sale only! https://assistivetechnology.oakhillct.org/

Project Lifesaver- A nonprofit organization that provides tracking devices to local law enforcement agencies for individuals with autism at little to no cost to families. Training is provided to law enforcement, schools, and other organizations to address the issue of wandering. Contact your local law enforcement agency to see if they are part of the Project Lifesaver network, or contact Project Lifesaver at 1-877-580-5433 for more information.

Southeast Connecticut Community Center of the Blind - The Center offers specialized equipment for demonstration, including a computer with speech capabilities, large print and braille printers, and household and health aids for people who are blind or visually impaired. Those who are interested can purchase by order. https://centeroftheblind.org/

Starkey Hearing Foundation- Hearing foundation provides hearing aids to deaf or hearing-impaired individuals with limited financial resources. Applicants must find a hearing healthcare professional who is willing to work with them and the HEAR NOW Program. https://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/

Suffield Community Aid - Medical loan closet may have used medical equipment such as canes, walkers, commodes, and wheelchairs. Equipment can be borrowed for short- and long-term use. https://suffieldcommunityaid.org/

The M.O.R.G.A.N Project- Organization has donated pediatric equipment and a sensory store with items that can be shipped to your home. http://themorganproject.org/

Town of Darien, Human Services- Medical loan closet for residents in need of equipment such as wheelchairs, crutches and canes. Equipment is provided for short term use only. http://www.darienct.gov/humanservices

Town of New Canaan- Human Services Department - Medical equipment may be available to borrow, such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes and shower chairs. https://www.newcanaan.info/

VNA Thrift Shop- Newtown - For Newtown Residents. Loan closet is available free of charge to Newtown residents; includes wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, commodes and shower seats. Call 203-270- 4377.

Voice of Joanie - Offers communication devices to those afflicted with ALS or other debilitating illnesses; includes computer systems, voice synthesizers, and other support systems. The Hospital for Special Care in New Britain CT is now taking over for the work of Voice for Joanie. Please contact: 860-827-1958 x-2035

Wheelchairs for Kids- Provides children ages 21 and younger living with disabilities with a wheelchair. Other assistance include custom wheelchairs, widened doors, built ramps and wheelchair lifts. https://wheelchairs4kids.org/

Wheel It Forward- Agency accepts donations and loans out durable medical equipment. https://www.wheelitforwardusa.org/

Windham Region Community Council - The Equipment Restoration Center (ERC) at ECAT has a large inventory of gently used, durable medical equipment. At the ERC you can purchase restored equipment (walkers, canes, shower benches, wheelchairs, scooters and more). To learn more visit https://wrcc.online/

World-Wide Lighthouse Missions - Loans medical equipment for individuals and agencies in need who have an agency or church referral. Equipment is loaned based on availability and can be for short- or long-term use. Equipment includes wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, crutches, shower chairs and canes. https://www.wwlm.org/

Other Suggestions:

Husky Member Services- Contact Husky Member Services to inquire about different types of safety devices and resources that might be covered under Medicaid. Your child may need a wandering diagnosis, as well as a GPS recommendation letter, for example, and diagnostic letter from his/her physician supporting the medical necessity for the AT device. HUSKY Health Program | HUSKY Health Members | Contact Us or call 1-800-859-9889.

School District - You may also want to explore the possibility of having your child's school purchase the assistive technology for him/her as part of the child's IEP under assistive technology/safety device

Contact other Organizations- International and national organizations such as Easter Seals, United Way, Lions Club International, March of Dimes, and Kiwanis may also have assistance programs for funding assistive technology (AT). Local civic organizations such as Knights of Columbus, local Lions Clubs, and faith-based organizations may also offer funding.

Assistive Technologies Literature

Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules (AFIRM) - A series of free online learning modules with stepby-step information on how to plan, implement and monitor specific evidenced based practices with learners with ASD from birth to 22 years of age. http://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/

Autism Parenting Magazine - Article titled 'Assistive Technology for Autism: What are the Benefits?' Provides information how AT can assist in the areas of social skills, play, communication, writing, reading, math, Activities of Daily Living, executive functioning, and AT in the IEP. https://www.autismparentingmagazine.com/assistive-technology-benefits-with-autism/

Autism Speaks- provides literature, guides and roadmaps related to using assistive devises and technologies. https://www.autismspeaks.org/

Center on Technology and Disability- Assists families and professionals in advocating, acquiring and implementing effective assistive and instructional technology practices, devices and services as well as offers an extensive library and an interactive learning center. https://www.air.org/project/center-technology-and-disability

Child Development Programs - Provides information and guidance to families and professionals, covering a wide range of topics dealing with augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) for children at various ages and stages of communicating abilities. https://www.childdevelopmentprograms.ca/resource/aac-an-introduction/

EdTech - Article titled '3 Ways Assistive Technology Can Help Students with Autism' https://edtechmagazine.com/k12/article/2016/08/3-ways-technology-can-help-students-autism

Neat Center at Oak Hill - Provides information, assistive technology assessments, instruction and demonstration of the latest adaptive equipment. http://www.neatmarketplace.org/

The Edvocate- Article titled 'Assistive Technology to Help Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Succeed Academically' https://www.theedadvocate.org/assistive-technology-to-help-children-with-autism-spectrum-disorder-asd-succeed-academically/

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