

## **Aging and Disability Services Nevada Assistive Technology Collaborative Federal Fiscal Year 2019**

### **Goals and Objectives**

#### Assistive Technology Device Demonstrations

Prospective collaborative partners must provide and carry out an assistive technology device demonstration program. Device demonstrations compare the features and benefits of a particular AT device or category of devices for an individual or small group of individuals. The purpose of a device demonstration is to enable an individual to make an informed choice. Whenever possible, the participant should be shown a variety of devices. Device demonstrations should not be confused with training activities where devices may be demonstrated. Training activities are instructional events designed to increase knowledge, skills, and competencies, generally for larger audiences. Device demonstrations also should not be confused with public awareness activities where devices may be demonstrated. The key difference is that device demonstrations are intended to enable an individual to make an informed choice rather than merely making him or her aware of a variety of AT. The program must have access to and/or inventory of a broad range of current AT. A program could also facilitate demonstrations directly from product manufacturers or dealers as long the program ensures that consumer driven choice is not clouded by a sales pitch. A proposed Device Demonstration program must also be incorporated with Device Loan, Training, Technical Assistance, and Public Awareness and Information and Assistance activities.

#### Assistive Technology Device Loans

Prospective collaborative partners must provide and carry out an assistive technology device loan program providing AT to individuals (across the life span) on a short-term basis, to enable them to try and AT device to assist in decision making, serve as loaner during device repair or while waiting for funding, provide an accommodation on a short-term basis, or conduct training, self-education or other professional development activity. The program must be able to maintain an inventory of a broad range of current AT as well as maintain a list of AT needed to meet the needs in the community. Quarterly inventory of the AT available must be provided. A program may also facilitate loans directly from product manufacturers or dealers as long the program ensures that consumer driven choice is not clouded by sales. A proposed Device Loan program must also be incorporated with provision of Device Demonstration, Training, Technical Assistance, and Public Awareness and Information and Assistance activities.

## State Leadership Activities

### Training

Prospective collaborative partners must provide and carry out assistive technology training. Training activities are instructional events, usually planned in advance for a specific purpose or audiences that are designed to increase participants' knowledge, skills, and competencies regarding AT. Such events can be delivered to large or small groups, in-person, or via telecommunications or other distance education mechanisms. In general, participants in training can be individually identified and could complete an evaluation of the training. Examples of training include classes, workshops, and presentations that have a goal of increasing skills, knowledge, and competency, as opposed to training intended only to increase general awareness of AT. Each program must provide trainings specific to transition as required under the AT Act with a portion of the funding available.

### Technical Assistance

Prospective collaborative partners must provide and carry out Technical Assistance. Technical Assistance (TA) is defined as direct problem-solving service provided by Statewide AT Program staff to assist programs and agencies in improving their services, management, policies and/or outcomes. TA may be provided in person, by electronic media such as telephone, video or e-mail and by other means. The following are examples of technical assistance: needs assessment, program planning or development, curriculum or materials development, administrative or management consultation, program evaluation and site reviews of external organizations, and policy development. Each program must provide technical assistance specific to transition as required under the AT Act with a portion of the funding available.

### Public Awareness & Information and Assistance

Prospective collaborative partners must provide and carry out Public Awareness and Information & Assistance. Public awareness activities are designed to reach large numbers of people, including activities such as public service announcements, radio talks shows and news reports, newspaper stories and columns, newsletters, brochures, and public forums. Information and assistance (I&A) activities are those in which the AT program responds to requests for information and/or puts individuals in contact with other agencies, organizations, or companies that can provide them with needed information on AT products, devices, services, funding sources, or other related disability topics, or providing intensive assistance to individuals about AT products, devices, services, funding sources, or other related disability topics.

## Goals

- As part of our outreach, information and assistance and public awareness activities, consumers will be made aware of how to best contact the program. Efforts will include a single point of access to the NATRC program. This may

be accomplished with a general phone number, general email address, and the website. The program will ensure a staff person will be in contact with the consumer within a reasonable amount of time. An acceptable time frame target would be within 48 hours.

- Provide information and assistance. Including, basic AT and program information, a general description of items available for demonstration and loan, and other resources that may be available to them in their community.
- Engage the potential consumer to access demo or loan programs. With a target of providing device demonstrations to 225 people. With a target of providing device loans to 100 individuals. Provide assistive technology device demonstrations in either a group or one-on-one setting. As part of that process additional information will be provided when appropriate regarding the costs of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, and suggestions about where to obtain assistance in paying for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.
- Seek opportunities to provide training and technical assistance. Collect information from device demonstration activities that should lead to trainings and technical assistance. Seek opportunities with organizations and agencies to provide training and technical assistance.
- Plan and Provide:
  - 1) high impact transition training
  - 2) high impact transition technical assistance
  - 3) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) accessibility training,
- Conduct public awareness activities including but not limited to presentations PSA's social media in group events. Target of reaching 20,000 people.
- Collect meaningful data to help drive assistive technology services in a positive direction. Collect information about the barriers that exist for people with disabilities that are engaging the NATRC programs. Collect appropriate data to guide AT purchases for demo and loan.
- Collaborate with NATC Partners throughout the year when opportunities to provide services become available.
- Collect data as required under the assistive technology act. Report monthly updates on general activities in order to guide the trajectory towards the target goals and objectives to the funder.