

# Welcome!

Assistive Technology - Tools, Devices  
and Apps for Everyday Living

Presented by Brian Norton



The logo for OASIS COMMUNITY features a stylized orange and purple circular icon on the left, followed by the word "OASIS" in large, thin, orange letters, and the word "COMMUNITY" in smaller, thin, purple letters below it.

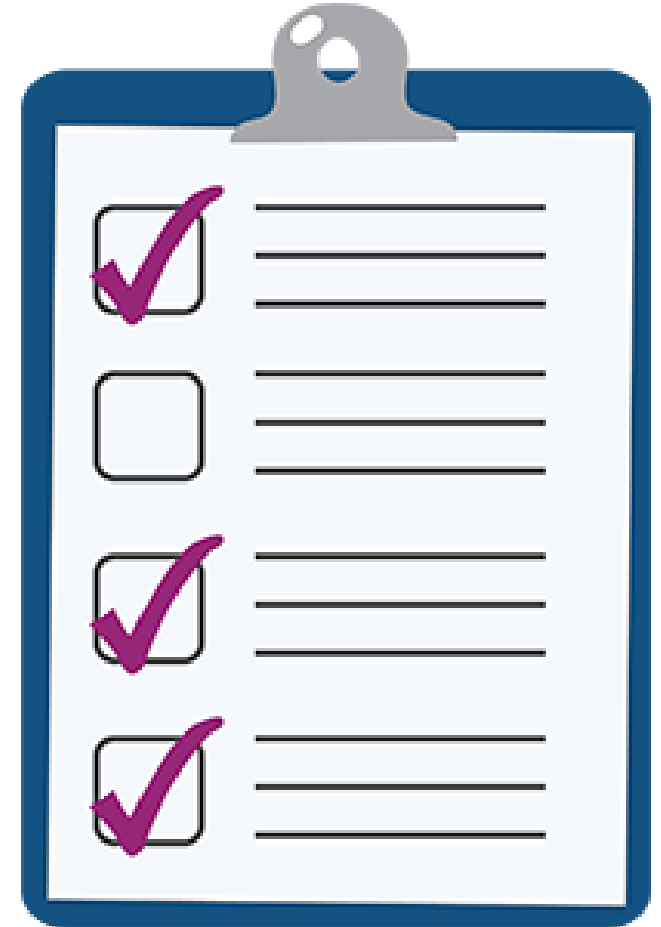
# OASIS COMMUNITY



- Founded in 2020 by 3 families of sons with disabilities.
- Now over 470 interested people on the mailing list.
- Vision: An inclusive community where every resident with and without an intellectual or developmental disability (IDD) belongs and is valued for who they are.
- Mission: To create and maintain an inclusive, safe, person-centered housing community for residents with and without IDD.

# Today's Agenda

- Who is this guy?
  - Better understand my perspective
- Technology Show and Tell
- Resources – where to get help



# Who is this guy?

- Director of Assistive Technology
  - Easterseals Crossroads
  - INDATA Project
- Started as job coach in Supported Employment
- 25+ years in assistive technology
- Host of ATFAQ Podcast



# Easterseals Crossroads

**Emphasizing Ability for the past 80 years. As we help individuals with disabilities and special needs live better lives by promoting inclusion, independence and dignity.**



## General Information

- Easterseals Agency
- United Way Agency
- CARF Accredited
- INDATA

## Who we serve?

- All inclusive
- Mobility
  - Intellectual Cognitive
  - Blind or Low Vision
  - Sensory
  - Developmental

## Geography

- Central Indiana
- AT - Statewide



# Easterseals Crossroads Services

## Children's Medical

- Speech Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Enrichment Programs – Camps
- First Steps

## Autism Services

- Diagnostic Clinic
- Behavioral Services
- Family Resource Center

## Community Day Supports

- Adult Day
- Customized Life Skills
- Recreational Therapy
- Respite Services

## Deaf and HoH Services

- ASL Interpreters
- Case Management
- Hear Indiana

## Employment Services

- Employment Services
- Project Search
- Benefit Analysis
- Transition Services

## Veteran Services

- Employment Services
- Rally Point Events
- Community Events



# Assistive Technology Services

- INDATA – Indiana Assistive Technology Act Program
- Clinical Assistive Technology
- Home Modification
- Digital Literacy
- Web/Document Accessibility
- Augmentative Communication



# Assistive Technology

## the basics...



# About Disability

## Visual

- Blindness, low vision, colorblindness, etc.

## Motor

- Limited dexterity or fine/gross motor skills, slow response time, etc.



## Cognitive

- Learning disabilities, reading level, impaired memory, etc.

## Audio

- Deafness or Hard of Hearing



# About Disability



## Temporary disabilities:

- Hand in cast
- Ear infection
  - (or went to loud concert the night before!)
- Laryngitis
- Fatigue



- Situational disabilities:
  - Broken mouse, speakers
  - Loud train
  - Distractions (pets, telemarketers, etc.)

# Assistive Technology?

Generic term for devices and modifications that help people overcome or remove barriers created by their disability.

## Not always a device or tool...

Also includes changes to how things are done to enable someone to do something they would otherwise be unable to do.

which a ...  
broadcast signal is rec

**def·i·ni·tion** n. 1.  
The teacher gave de  
of the new words.  
(pict)

← **Low-Tech** ————— **Mid-Tech** ————— **High Tech** →

**LARGE  
PRINT**



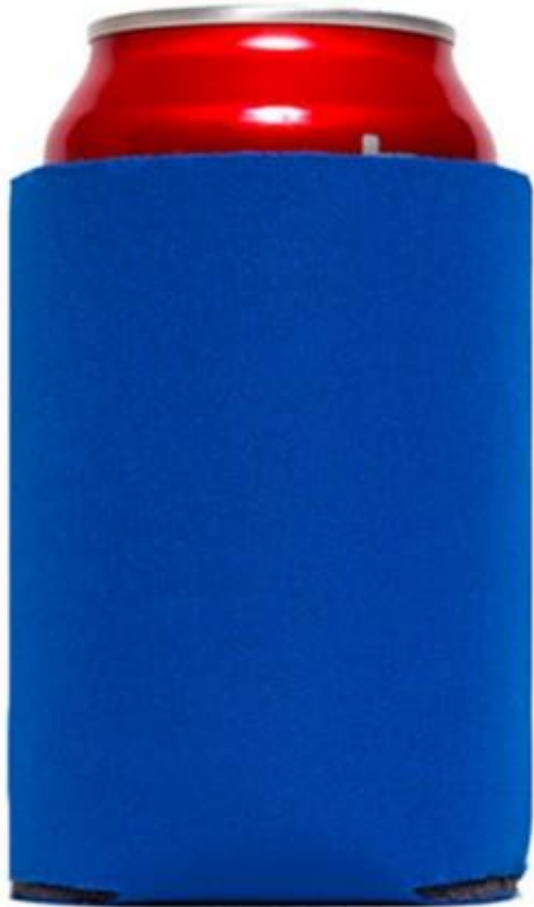
More expensive does not always mean better

# Block of Wood





# Cup Koozie



# Importance of Assistive Technology

For persons without disabilities, technology makes things easier.

- Alarm clocks, coffee makers, smartphones, computers, etc.

For persons with disabilities, technology makes things possible.



# One Size Does Not Fit All



We are all different – preferences matter – Love it or Leave it

# The impact of technology

# Technology has rapidly changed and expanded in every area of our lives.



For better? ...Absolutely!



For worse? ...Not a topic for today.



# Areas of Impact

- How we interact
- How we learn
- How we get things done
- How we take care of ourselves



# AT Show and Tell

## Accessibility is Everywhere

Everyone is paying more attention to accessibility and assistive technology even more so now than ever before.

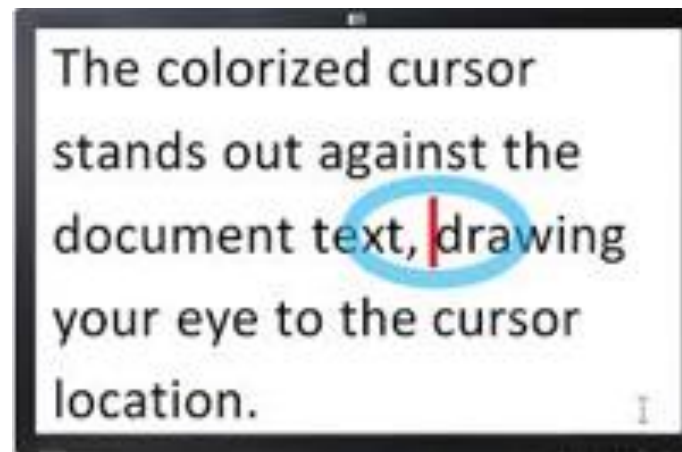
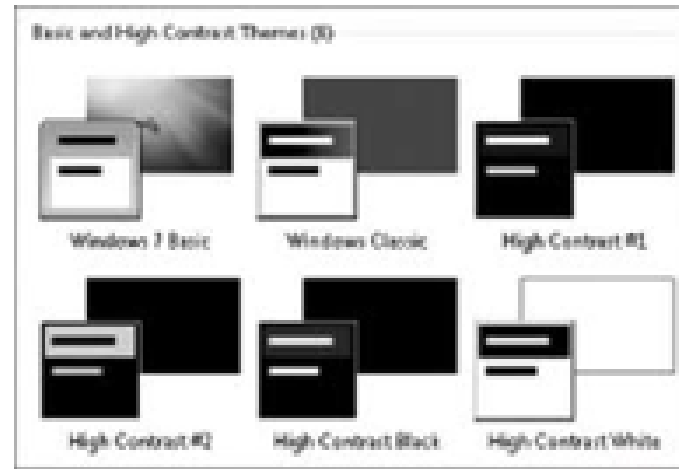
amazon

Google

 Apple

 Windows

# Assistive Technology for Vision



# Assistive Technology for Mobility





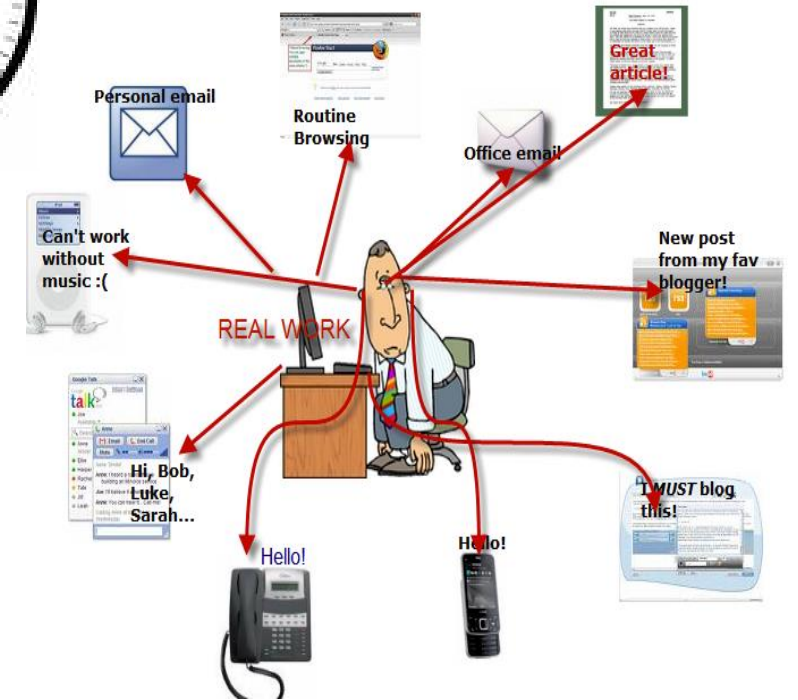
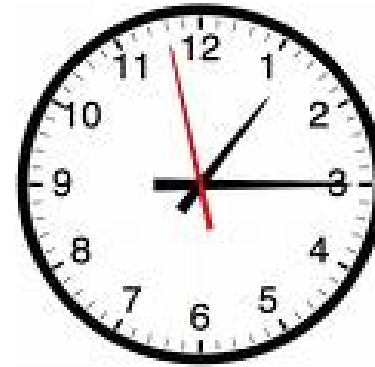
# Assistive Technology for Hearing



# Assistive Technology for Environmental Control



# Assistive Technology for Learning Difficulties

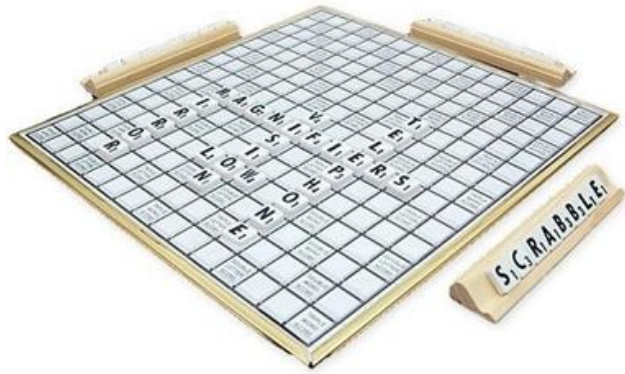




# Assistive Technology for Sensory Impairment



# Assistive Technology for Play



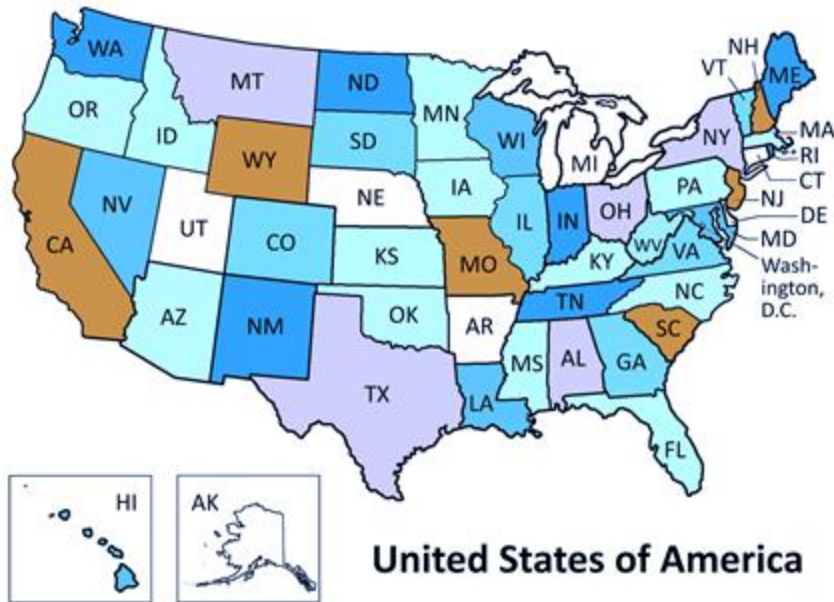


# Resources

# INDATA (Indiana Assistive Technology Act Program)

## State AT Programs

56 programs – every state and Territory



## 2 Primary Goals

Spread the Word!

Get Your Hands On it!

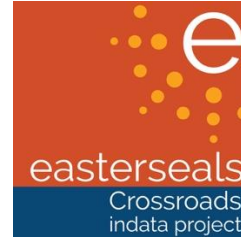


# Outreach and Information

## Information and Assistance

888-466-1214

[Tech@eastersealscrossroads.org](mailto:Tech@eastersealscrossroads.org)



## AT Hours

One hour (or so) talks with hands-on AT experience



## Full Day Training

4 times /year with streaming



## Guest Lectures

Indiana Colleges and Universities

## Podcasts

ATUpdate

Accessibility Minute

ATFAQ

## Social Media

Blog, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Others

[www.eastersealstech.com](http://www.eastersealstech.com)

# Demonstration and Loan

To your door demonstrations of various assistive devices

## Demos

- 20-30 minute “test drives”
- No recommendations

## Lending Library

- 2500+ items
- 30-day Loans
- Indiana only

## Library Purpose:

- Assist in decision making
- Serve as a loaner during device repair or while waiting on AT funding
- Provide a short-term accommodation



Devices for persons with visual, cognitive, hearing, mobility, learning or other needs

[www.eastersealstech.com/library](http://www.eastersealstech.com/library)

# Alternative Financing Program

Available through a partnership between Easterseals Crossroads and STAR Financial

## What can it be used for?

- Adaptive vehicles
- Vehicle Modifications
- Aug. comm. devices
- Braille equipment
- Computers
- Hearing aids
- Home modifications
- And much, much more!



[www.eastersealstech.com/financing](http://www.eastersealstech.com/financing)

## Who Qualifies?

- Indiana residents
- Documented disability

## *How do I get started?*

### *Easy as 1, 2, 3!*

1. Call us at 888-466-1314 with documentation of a disability.
2. Complete an AFP loan application.
3. If approved, complete a loan agreement with Star Financial and arrange payments.

# The INDATA Depot

## Computer and Assistive Technology Recycling Program

### Assistive Technology Recycling

- Video magnifiers and other AT devices
- Equipment is sanitized and repaired
- Available to Indiana residents

### Computer Recycling

- Accept donated computers
- Wiped of all previous data and refurbished
- Install Win 10 and MS Office

### Who qualifies?

- Resident of Indiana
- Document of Disability



[www.eastersealstech.com/depot](http://www.eastersealstech.com/depot)



# Clinical Assistive Technology

## Evaluation / Consultation

- A qualified professional meets with individual and employer
- Results in a detailed report with recommendations
- Typically takes 5-7hrs

## Training

- Essential part of the accommodation process
- Individualized to the user
- In-person or on-line

## Support

- 24-hour technical support line



# PATINS Project

Promoting Achievement through Technology and INstruction for all Students

- Lending Library
  - Tools, devices, software, and resource materials
  - Items shipped directly to the school
  - Six-week evaluation period
- ICAM – Indiana Center on Accessible Material
  - Provides accessible textbooks
  - accessible formats in a
  - students with a documented print disability.



[www.patinsproject.org](http://www.patinsproject.org)

# App Resources:



**BRIDGING**APPS®

[bridgingapps.org](https://bridgingapps.org)

Helps users choose apps that are appropriate for you.

Insignio App search tool helps you find apps Expert App reviews – learn the pros and cons for experts. Basic training modules on mobile devices.



[applevis.com](https://applevis.com)

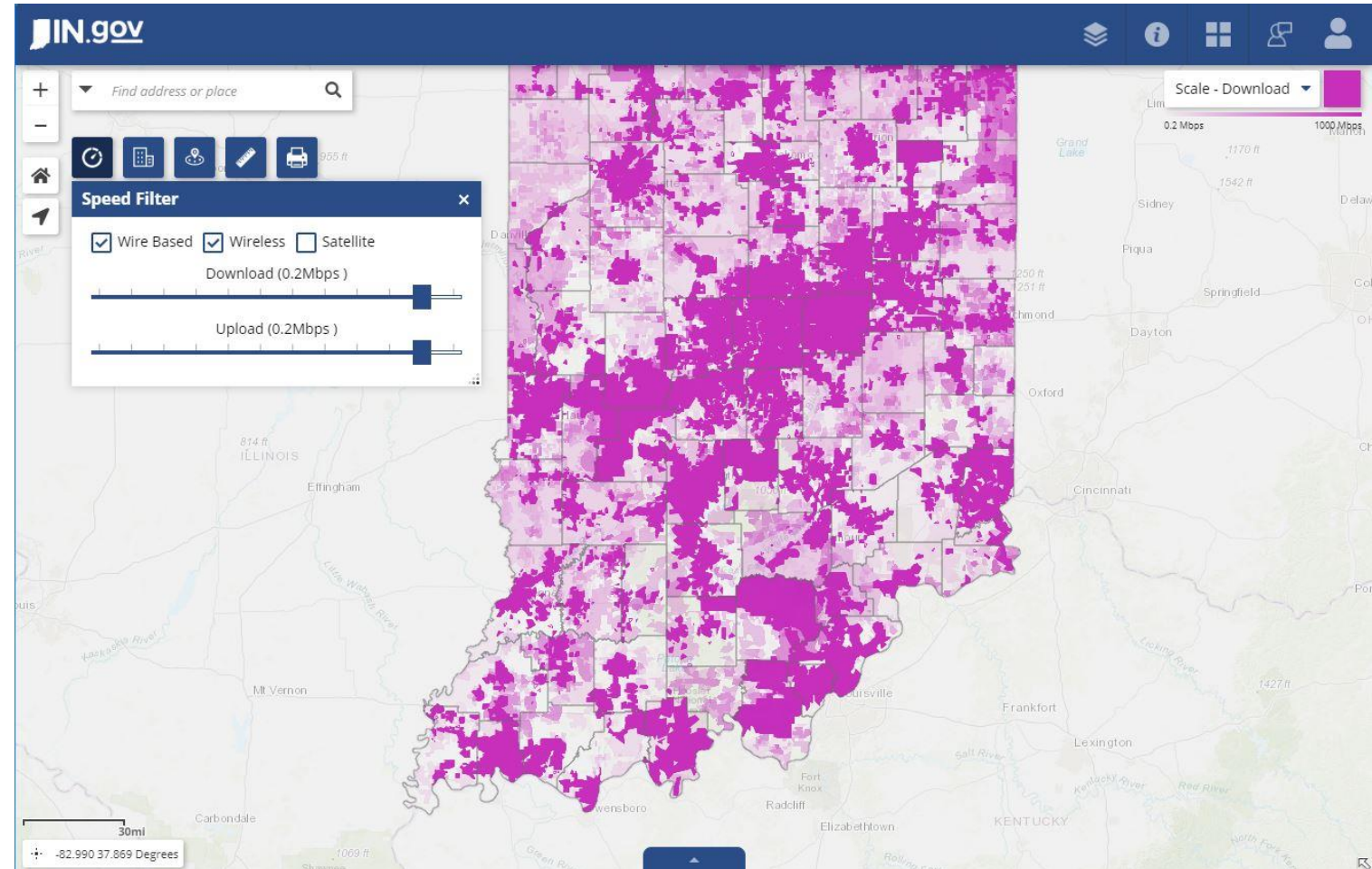
Leading resource for blind/low vision users of Apple Products such as iPad, iPhone, Apple Watch, Apple TV.

# Indiana Broadband Map

## Find Local Indiana Internet Service Providers

- Download/Upload speed
- Wired/Wireless/Satellite
- Coverage

[indianabroadbandmap.com](http://indianabroadbandmap.com)



# Affordable or Discounted internet services



**AFFORDABLE  
CONNECTIVITY  
PROGRAM**



[www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp)



# ZOT Artz

## Adaptive art tools for persons with disabilities



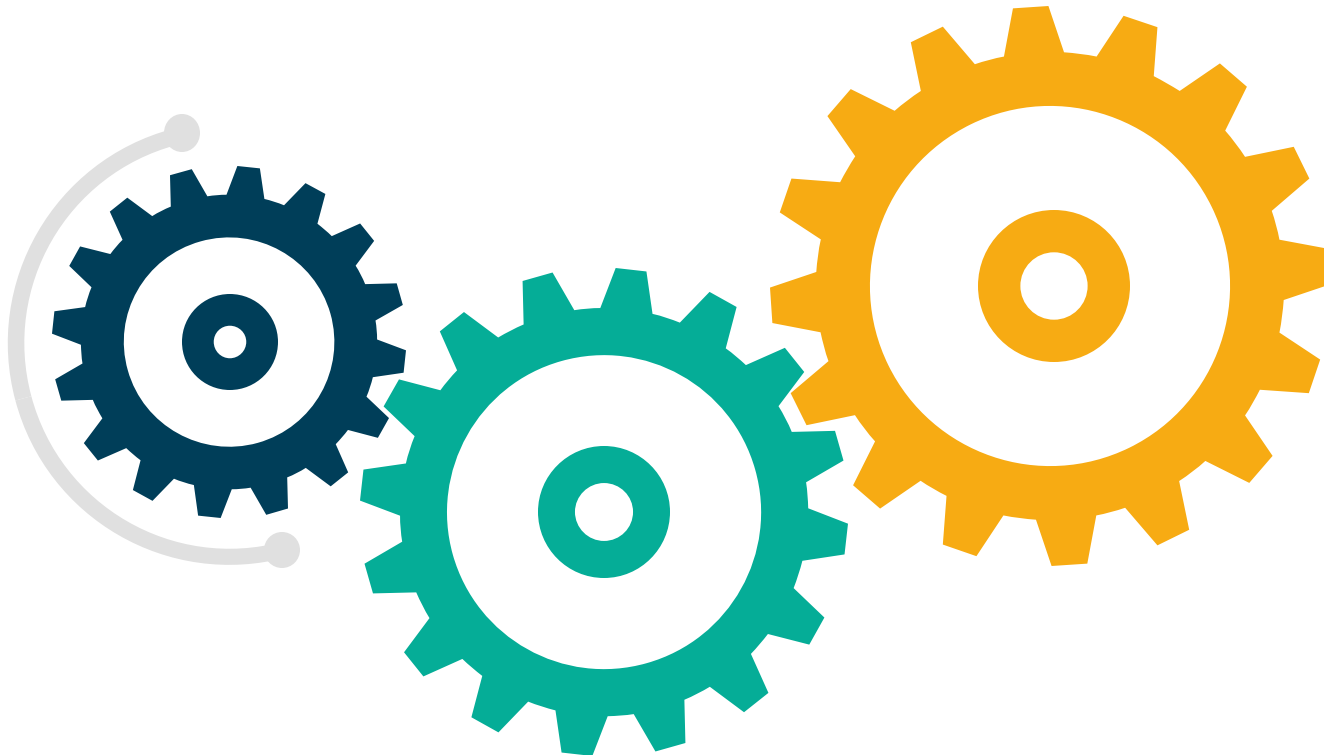
[www.zotartz.com](http://www.zotartz.com)



# Wrap-up

# Summary

**If you have Assistive Technology questions, we have answers!**  
and if we don't, we probably know someone who does.



**888-466-1314**

Easterseals Crossroads  
4740 Kingsway Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46205

[tech@eastersealscrossroads.org](mailto:tech@eastersealscrossroads.org)

[www.EasterSealsTech.com](http://www.EasterSealsTech.com)

# Other Content

# Tablets and SmartPhones

# Smartphones (2007) and Tablets (2011) – game changers

- They know...
  - where you are
  - if you are moving
  - how fast you are moving
  - how you are holding it
  - how much light is in the room
  - what you are saying to it
  - what is around you
- Arguably the most accessible devices ever made
- Apps – lower cost – multi-purpose



## Built-in Accessibility – from the ground up

- Personal Assistants
- Screen Readers
- Zoom
- Large Print
- Invert Colors
- Speak Screen/Selection
- Switch Control
- Voice Control
- Assistive Touch
- Touch Accommodations
- Hearing Aid Compatibility
- Personal Listening
- Sound Recognition
- Subtitles/Captioning
- Guided Access
- And so much more



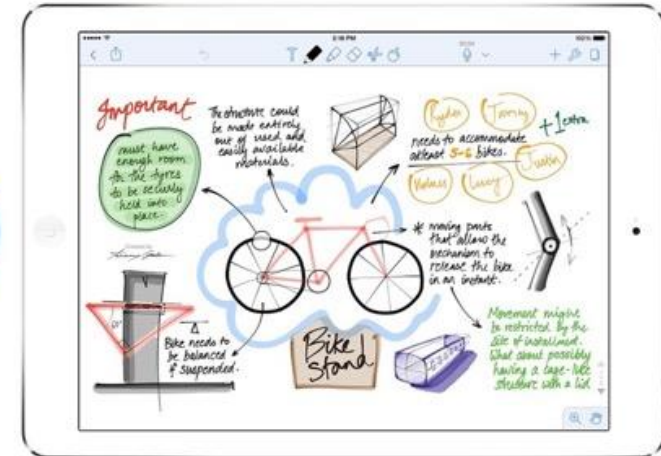


## Tools for NoteTaking (1)



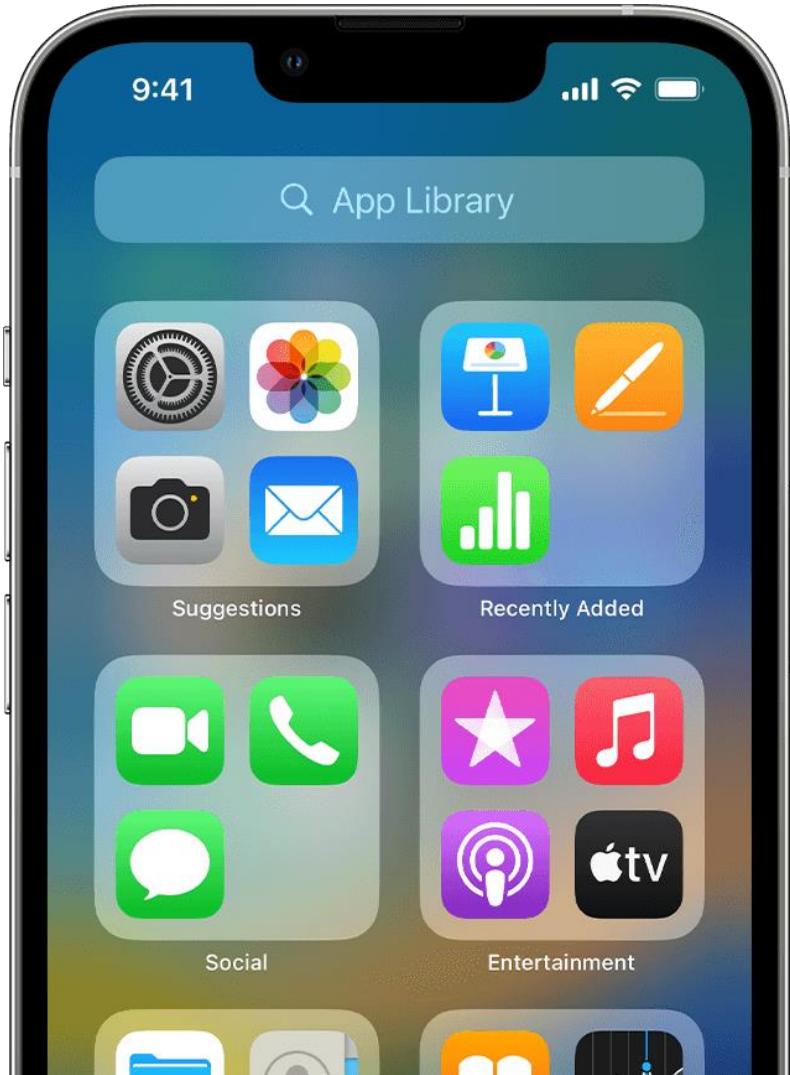
**Otter Ai** is a free note taking app. It uses artificial intelligence to transcribe, lectures and other important voice conversations.

- iOS, Android, Web
- 600 mins free



**Notability** is a powerful notetaking app for iOS. It allows the user to link audio, handwriting, pictures and videos with one's tablet and so much more.

- iOS and Mac only
- \$4.99 iOS, \$9.99 Mac



# Smart Speakers

# Smart Speakers



*Amazon Echo Devices*

- Hands-Free virtual assistant that can play music, make calls, send messages, check your calendar, order items, tell you jokes, control smart home devices and many other tasks.
- Connects to WiFi and contains a speaker and microphone (screen on show model). Makes to commands with the word “Alexa”.



# Smart Home Devices



**Camera (\$200)** Remote monitoring via smart device or computer. Built in microphone for communication. Monitors motion and sound working with Protect and Nest to provide security and send alerts if there is intrusion.



**Smart Locks (\$300)** Keyless entry, notification of entry, remote control of locks using smart device. Notification can be sent when used.



**Door bell (\$195)** Smart doorbells show who is at the door and allow remote communication via computer or smart device. Detects motion for security and provides alerts.



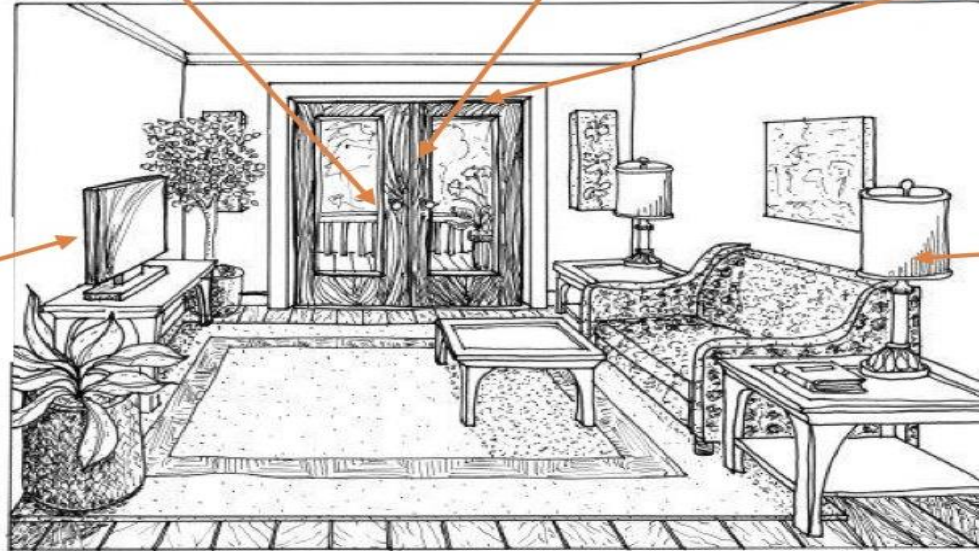
**Automatic Door Opener (\$1700)** By touching a large button (i.e. attached to a wheelchair) the opener gives the ability to independently open and close the door.



**Protect (\$120)** Detects fire, CO and motion. Will alert others remotely with messages to send help.



**Thermostat (\$240)** Voice controlled. Will learn, automatically adjusting temperature throughout the day. Has motion detection and works with **Protect** as part of security.



**TV Entertainment Voice Control (\$400)** Always on hands-free. Complete voice control of TV, cable, TiVo, Netflix, Hulu and other video entertainment.



**Amazon Echo (\$100)** Always on. Voice command of devices. Sets alarms, orders products, tells news, plays radio and more.



**Hub (\$70)** Allows a diverse collection of smart products to speak the same wireless language and is controlled via smart devices.



**Smart Light Bulb (\$30)** Voice and smart device controlled, dimmable, color changing and can be programmed based on events.



**Voice Activated Emergency Signal (\$250)** Activate sirens and call bells with your voice. Can detect intruders.



**Smart Switches and Plugs (\$40-\$70)** Voice and smart device control of lights and appliances and can be programmed based on preferences.



# Real Life Use Cases



**Health**



**Environmental Controls**



**Security and Safety**

# Skills and Routines // Apps and Recipes

Amazon Echo

Google Home

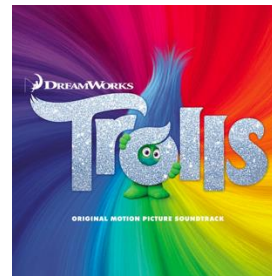
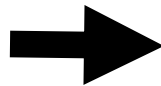


# Purpose of Routines and Recipes

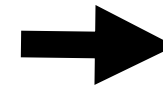
Routines and Recipes give Alexa and Google Home the ability to trigger a series of actions with a single voice command.



Say “Alexa, its good to be home”



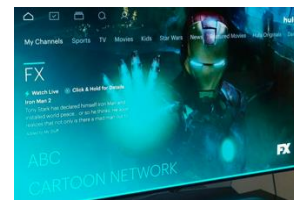
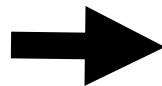
Plays Can't Stop that Feeling by Justin Timberlake



Turns on Disco Ball



Preheats the oven to 375 degrees



Turns on HuluTV for movie night