AT Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2023

10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.

In Person: N/A

Online: Teams

Present: Heather Berg, Peter Jonke, Kristen Rengo, Ana Russo, Phil Seiler, Emma Cobb

10:00-10:05   Attendee Tech Test / Verification time

10:05-10:10   Welcomes and Introductions

Member introductions.

10:10-10:15   End of FFY23

We saw an increase in AT equipment loans. Demonstration data will added over the next few weeks. We saved Vermonters about $6000 in AT and DME. A full report will be given at the December meeting. For outreach one of our AT Specialists, who is funded by Money Follows the Person program, wrote up a [blog for Age Well](#) about assistive technology.

10:15-10:25   Priorities for FFY24

The AT Program held a retreat at VINS in Quechee, VT it is a physically accessible outdoor space that features a forest canopy walk. The team was able to see the positive accessibility features as well as consider suggestions such as improved signage for visual

disabilities. Priorities and mission for upcoming year; apply for the October [Christopher Reeve grant](#), equipment review at all locations, and implementation of iPad mobile device management (MDM) to more efficiently provide enhanced security and client use.

10:25-10:35   Staffing plan

Adding a half time AT consultant to support services for HireAbility clients. VT Career Advancement Project (VCAP) has made a commitment to use AT services, we are seeing double the number of cases coming in for this program. VCAP is a 5-year research grant to help clients gain credentials and careers. Each of the 10 HA offices has at least one VCAP counselor to refer to these cases to the AT Program. The AT Program currently has one staff member taking these cases.

We are considering shipping loans from one location to all parts of the state and regions covered and bringing in help to free AT Specialist's time.

10:35-10:40   New Inventory

This is our public facing inventory website https://vt.at4all.com/. Spotlighted the [Remarkable2 tablet](#). The AT Program will be obtaining more of these. [Languages supported](#) by ReMarkable2.

The AT Program had a demonstration by a rep from the [Hable One](#). This is a portable device that supports individuals with visual disabilities.

10:40-10:45   Continued need for additional members

We still need members for the AT Advisory Council, please direct folks to our [website to sign up.](#) Users or caregivers using assistive technology are encouraged to apply.

10:45-11:00   Members open time

DOL: [Awarded a grant](#) to improve equity and access for unemployment. A third party will do an equity audit to identify challenges and barriers of signing up for unemployment.

Next meeting is Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Meetings will always have a remote option.

11:00   Adjourn