



Summer News 2021

Technology Solutions for Life's Limitations

Greetings!

Starting July 1, 2021, Brett Burden became the Coordinator of Technical Services for DakotaLink. Patrick Czerny announced his retirement a few weeks back and Brett used to be an Assistive Technology Specialist at the Rapid City office. Patrick will stay on to train Brett through February of next year. To replace Brett, we recently hired Jared M. Brown. His start date will be July 19th, 2021, out of the Rapid City office.

We have an opening for an Assistive Technology Specialist in Sioux Falls again. The person that was hired worked a couple of months and then decided he wanted to pursue a different career. His last day was May 21st, 2021.

Here are a couple of links to the position in Sioux Falls:

<https://www.kelolandemployment.com/vj/assistive-technology-specialist/173981>

<https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=Assistive%20Technology&l=Sioux%20Falls%2C%20SD&vjk=6a2007de9a59084e>

Please help spread the word!

DakotaLink Technical Services Transition Plan:

Patrick Czerny divided up his current duties, so his replacement did not have so much on his plate. Brett Burden will take over the duties of the technical service. Page Hudson will take over managing the SD MERR program. Andreia Mraz will take care of the CCTV Program. Andrea Steele will be the office manager dealing with the office paperwork.

The Medical Equipment Recycle and Reuse program has been renewed for another year! This year was more of a struggle than the previous year. The movement of larger items could keep the program going easier than the sale of small items. The sale of small items is going great.

New Assistive Technology Articles

Below are some recent links to Assistive Technology articles from around the country that are using some new concepts and some that have evolved over the years:

HS Students Design Wheelchair Stroller for Teacher's Husband, Win 2 International Awards

https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/national-international/high-school-students-create-wheelchair-stroller-for-teachers-husband/3144320/?fbclid=IwAR3BUgALRFOshruqF82uSmv_XLTgrRxID1hb3BOvWmL_GwuWtWO6fi877Mo0

zPods For Children with Autism

<https://www.zpodsforsleep.com/>

Free AT Webinars — July 2021

<https://at3centerblog.com/2021/07/01/free-at-webinars-july-2021/>

Assistive Technology on FaceBook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/assistive.technology.group/>

Social Networking

We continue our efforts in social networking getting a great deal of traffic on Facebook and share posts with ATAP, AT3, ILC, DHS, DSS, and MERR. More resource information on our website: <https://www.dakotalink.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/AT-Resource-Directory-2017.pdf>

Other Resources:

<https://covid.sd.gov/>

<https://www.atia.org/covid19-resources/>

<https://www.ataporg.org/>

<https://www.at3center.net/>

Low Interest Loans

We also want to remind everyone of our low-interest loan program. The loans are designed to fit your budget and we will work with you to create affordable payback payments. We will also help you fill out the application if you have any concern with that process. The application is on our website, but here is the direct link:

<https://www.dakotalink.net/at-funding>

DakotaLink strives to maintain its professionalism by earning a RESNA ATP certification. (ATP – Assistive Technology Professional). We currently have 5 staff with their ATP certification and will continue to help the newer employee’s gain that status. To maintain these credentials, we must complete a specific amount of CEU’s (Continuing Education Credits) on a biennial basis. We have been doing that mostly through webinars that ATAP provides through an agreement with ATIA.



Remember, we are on Facebook! So, be sure to “like” us to see what we are up to daily:

<https://www.facebook.com/DakotaLinkAT/>

Be safe and healthy!

Best,

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DakotaLink is the South Dakota Assistive Technology Program.

Our mission is to assist individuals with functional limitations; due to a disability, illness, injury, or the effects of aging; maximize their potential whether at home or in the community, at school, at work, or at play through the use of Assistive Technology.

An assistive technology device is any equipment or tool that helps individual overcome limitations in daily activities.

Assistive technology services assist individuals to acquire, use, modify, or maintain an assistive technology device.