



Pass It On  
C E N T E R

... the National AT Reuse Center

# Centers for Independent Living and AT Reuse National Conference

*Shaping a National Collaborative for Excellence in Assistive  
Technology Reutilization*

**Atlanta | Dec. 11-13, 2012**  
**Conference Report**

**March 26, 2013**  
**2:00PM EST**

**Carolyn Phillips**  
**Liz Persaud**

# This Session Is Being Recorded

- Within 2 weeks you will be able to access the archive of this webinar as well as others at the Pass It On Center website [www.passitoncenter.org](http://www.passitoncenter.org).

# Earn Credits for Your Participation

- CEUs are offered through Georgia Tech Professional Education
- *CRCs are not offered for today's webinar*
- To receive your credit verification, send an email with the webinar title and date, your full name, organization, email address and date of birth to [Liz@passitoncenter.org](mailto:Liz@passitoncenter.org).

# Please let us know how we're doing!

- At the end of this webinar, please take a few minutes to fill out a brief evaluation on today's webinar:

<https://www.research.net/s/PIOCwebinar>

# Join Us for Upcoming Webinars

**Tuesday, April 30 at 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM EST**

✓ **Your Secret Weapon for Work: Reuse**

*Presenters: Joy Kniskern, Pass It On Center and Barclay Shepherd, Virginia Assistive Technology System*

**Tuesday, May 28 at 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM EST**

✓ **New Models in AT Reuse with National Potential**

*Presenters: Carolyn Phillips and Liz Persaud, Pass It On Center*

See the full schedule at: <http://passitoncenter.org/Webinars.aspx>

# Why have an AT Reuse and Independent Living Conference?

- The PIOC has seen an increase in technical assistance requests from Centers for Independent Living
- Successful independent living is interdependent on using assistive technology
- Assistive technology helps to bridge the gap for those transitioning out of nursing homes. It is often reused equipment that make transition happen quickly and efficiently.
- Reuse programs have been around for many, many years. The trend is increasing in that is directly related to environmental concerns and the economy.
- Bring together 2 communities that are actively using innovative solutions and strategies and build partnerships that create lasting and positive effects for those living in the disability community.

# Purpose of the Conference

- This conference was designed to showcase innovative strategies that AT Reuse programs have found to work within and in collaboration with Centers for Independent Living (CILs).
  - Discussion centered on identifying new skills and specific needs of reuse programs within CILs that need to be addressed.
  - Information was provided to expand and strengthen CIL Reuse programs, particularly as they relate to quality services, emergency preparedness and program sustainability.



# Conference Goals

1. To identify points of collaboration to build intrastate, interstate and national networks for delivering assistive technology (AT) devices and services to meet the needs of people with disabilities in the states and territories.
2. To recognize the accomplishments of reuse programs and their partners.
3. To share innovative strategies that reuse programs have found to work.
4. For each participating organization to develop or collaborate with a quality and sustainable AT Reuse Program to further address the AT needs of people in independent living, and to develop achievable action steps for participants and other key entities to meet these goals.



# Pre-conference: Visit to FODAC and Virtual Tour of Paraquad

- The Pre-Conference visit was a success!



Welcome and Introductions for FODAC.



Chris Brand, Director of FODAC, showing warehouse storage strategies



# Pre-conference: Visit to FODAC and Virtual Tour of Paraquad

- There were 62 participants at the pre-conference!



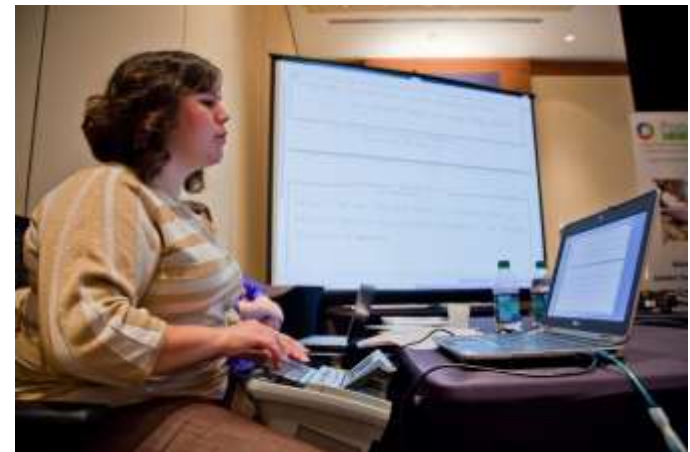
Lindsey Bean-Kampwerth, Director of AT Services at Paraquad, shows videos of the tiled steam room at Paraquad



Billy Altom, Director of APRIL, and others learn more about FODAC reuse services

# Leaders from across the country joined us 92 participants from 26 states!

- Leaders from Centers for Independent Living
- Leaders from AT Act Programs
- Leaders of Nonprofit Reuse Programs
- Leaders from Advocacy and Support Organizations
- Supporting professionals from Pass It On Center, Tools for Life, AMAC and the Georgia Interpreting Services Network



# Participants from CILs in 11 States

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Florida
- Georgia
- Missouri
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Wisconsin





# Participants from AT Act Programs in 17 States

- Alabama
- Alaska
- California
- Delaware
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Vermont
- Washington
- West Virginia



# Participants from Nonprofit Reuse Programs in 7 States

- California
- Florida
- Georgia
- Iowa
- New Jersey
- Tennessee
- Texas



# Participants from Advocacy or Special Interest Groups in Three States

- Eight participants from advocacy and special interest groups in
  - Georgia
  - Pennsylvania
  - South Carolina



# Where We Are and What We Have Accomplished

- Carolyn Phillips, Liz Persaud and Lindsey Bean Kampwerth provided an overview of the evolution of the Pass It On Center, focusing on technical assistance requests and tools that can be accessed through the PIOC website.





# Understanding the Importance of Independent Living and AT Reuse: What It Really Means

**Liz Persaud, Pass It On Center**

**Jerilyn Leverett, Disability  
Connections, GA**

**Dan Maljanian & Jesse Avila, Jr.,  
CAS CA**

**Mystie Rail, Assistive Technology  
of Alaska**

Each shared how they have witnessed AT Reuse help people lead independent lives in the community.

Your programs are making a difference!



# Learning from Colleagues



- Those of us celebrating 20 years in reuse are real newbies.
- **The Convalescent Aid Society of Pasadena, CA, has been loaning DME since 1923! For 90 years!**
- What a great story Dan Maljanian and Jesse Avila have to tell. Check it out at <http://cas1.org>.

# A Closer Look: Models for AT Reuse within Independent Living Centers

**Chris Brand, Friends of Disabled Adults and Children**

**Wanda Remmers, CIL Berkeley**

**Lindsey Bean Kampwerth, Paraquad**

**Mystie Rail, Assistive Technology of Alaska**

Shared operating a reuse program within or in partnership with a Center for Independent Living

Discussed partnerships of for and non profit organizations



# Learning from Colleagues

Learning about unique transportation solutions from Alaska. Mystie Rail with ATLA shares how they are using dogsleds for AT delivery!



# Operating Successful Reuse Programs

- **How to Start and/or Improve a Reuse Program: Policies, Procedures and Regulatory Issues**

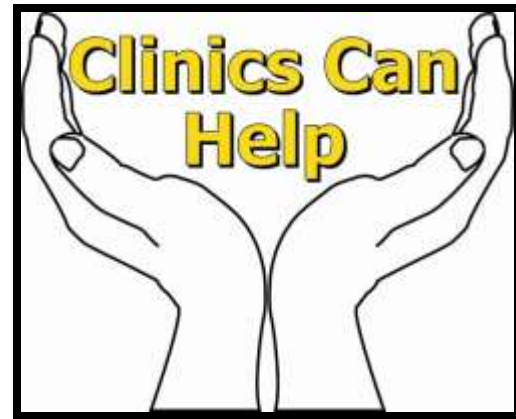


- **Speakers:**
  - **Wanda Remmers, CIL Berkeley**
  - **Alma Burgess, CReATE, Utah**
  - **Owen O'Neill, Clinics Can Help**

# Learning from Colleagues

- Owen O'Neill directs **Clinics Can Help**, a nonprofit in Palm Beach County, Florida
- Clinics Can Help serves 390,000 uninsured or underinsured citizens with the support of a coalition of nonprofit organization and donations of equipment and funds

<http://www.clinicscanhelp.org/>





# Operating Successful Reuse Programs

- **Raise Your IQ: Using the Indicators of Quality**
- **Return on Investment, Budgets and Measuring Outcomes**



- **Speakers:**
  - **Lindsey Bean Kampwerth, Manager, AT Reuse Program, Paraquad**
  - **Trish Redmon, Consultant, Pass It On Center**

# Operating Successful Reuse Programs

## ■ Staffing of Reuse Programs



## ■ Speakers:

- Cathy Valdez, Project MEND
- Tiffany Johnston, Walton Options for Independent Living

Discussed use of paid and volunteer staff, how volunteers are recruited and managed and training and certification process



# Operating Successful Reuse Programs

## ■ Creative Collaborations with Partners

- South Carolina is utilizing strong collaborations between the AT Act Program and Independent Living network
- Massachusetts has many partners as they are launching reuse programs across the state, including a private nursing facility that work specifically with people with progressive neurological conditions.



## ■ Speakers:

- Janet Jendron, SC AT Program
- Kimberly Tissot, Disability Action Center
- Dan Maljanian & Jesse Avila Jr., Convalescent Aid Society
- Mystie Rail, Assistive Technology of Alaska
- Ann Shor, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

# Sharing Innovative Strategies

## ■ Matching Equipment

- Vermont shared information about how they are using unique processes to match people to appropriate equipment through the AT Exchange
- Alicia in San Francisco discussed how they are rolling two activities into one, matching folks to equipment while providing a demo of an ergonomic accessible workstation
- Paraquad is the 4th largest independent living center in the US. They shared information on their policies and procedures which are available through the PIOC Knowledge Base

## ■ Speakers:

- **Lindsey Bean  
Kampwerth, Paraquad**
- **Alicia Contreras,  
Independent Living  
Resource Center**
- **Sharon Alderman,  
Vermont Family  
Network**



# Sharing Innovative Strategies and Supporting Reuse Programs

## ■ Mobile Devices and Computer Refurbishing

- Lamar Polly, FODAC
- Steve Powell, Signal Centers AT Center in Tennessee
- Programs in Georgia and Tennessee are increasing efficiencies and techniques with collaborations

## ■ Alternative Financing and AT Reuse

- Jackie Wilks, The Center for Financial Independence and Innovation
- Patti Kraemer, IndependenceFirst ILC, Wisconsin
- Sam Murphy, Washington Assistive Technology Act Program
- Susan Tachau, Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation
- AFP's are supporting acquisition of reused AT and DME thru financial loans

# Nursing Home Transition and AT Reuse: Sharing Experiences

- **Edwin McWilliams & Andreena Patton, Disability Connections**
- **Cyndy Milstead Anzek, Walton Options**

Shared information on reuse programs in Georgia and using reuse equipment for nursing home transition, environmental control access and independent living



# Special Guest, Billy Altom

Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)

- **Executive Director of the Georgia Statewide Independent Living Council, Pat Puckett**, discussed the importance of being aware of Medicaid and Medicare cuts and how AT Reuse is filling the gap.
- **Executive Director of APRIL, Billy Altom**, helped to welcome participants and made this the first Pass It On Center conference with live entertainment.



♪ Thank you, Billy. ♪

# Special Guest via remote, Marcie Roth

Office of Disability Integration and Coordination, FEMA

- **Keynote presentation by Marcie Roth, FEMA, Considering Whole Community Inclusion,** addressed the needs of people with disabilities in emergency situations.
- Play an active role in your community and learn about FEMA's resources.





# Strategies from the Experts



## Sanitization, Evaluation and End of Life Practices

- **Chris Brand, Friends of Disabled Adults and Children**
- **Cathy Valdez, Project MEND**
- **Lindsey Bean Kampwerth, Paraquad**

These programs discussed steps they are using for sanitizing equipment, the process for evaluating a reusable device and end-of-life processes.



# Strategies from the Experts

## Marketing



- **Lea Rosenauer, Project MEND**
- **Janet Jendron, South Carolina Assistive Technology Program**
- **Helen Baker, Alabama's STAR Program**
- **Angela Lundy, Interfaith Specialty Services**



Helen in Alabama suggests that you collaborate with community partners, get on boards, councils and committees. Utilize partnerships for marketing materials to help get your name out there.

Janet in South Carolina utilize her connections to work with the local media and send pictures of reuse activities to the local newspaper



# Strategies from the Experts

## CILs, AT Reuse and Emergencies – Coordinating Resources for Emergency Response

- Amy Goldman and Jamie Arasz Prioli, Pennsylvania Initiative on Assistive Technology
- Jamie Landry Karam, Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network
- Laura George, Educate and Advocate
- Molly Gosline, Florida Independent Living Council

These experts discussed information on working with FEMA, recruiting volunteers and advocates in the local community, educating folks with disabilities and using memorandums of understanding with professionals in the field



# Strategies from the Experts

## Sustainability Planning

- **Chris Brand, Friends of Disabled Adults and Children**
- **Lea Rosenauer, Project MEND**
- **Sheri Anderson, Tennessee Technology Access Program**
- **Lindsey Bean Kampwerth, Paraquad**

Panelists and this session discussed strategies for sustaining AT reuse programs. Topics included fundraising, fees for service, partnering with organizations.

Sheri Anderson with the Tennessee Technology Access Program, discussed their use of VISTA and AmeriCorps members.



# Colleagues with New Models for Reuse

- Geri LaPlaca, Director, **Goodwill Home Medical Equipment**, New Jersey and Philadelphia, joined us.
  - A merger of an existing reuse program with Goodwill for expansion.
- Mary Slutz and Beth Laureijs, Managers, started the first **Restore Health and Home for Habitat for Humanity** in Davenport, Iowa.
  - [More about these new models for reuse in our May webinar.](#)



# Thank you!

- **Excellent!**
- **A lot of helpful information, support, and networking.**
- **Thank you!**



# It was electric.

- “Reuse conferences are always exciting, but this one was absolutely electric. I’ve never been in a conference anywhere with the level of energy and excitement that we had at this one. I can’t imagine what we could accomplish if we could have this group together for an entire week.”

□ Trish Redmon

# Next Steps

- The Pass It On Center has experienced an increase in request and is providing more detailed technical assistance to CILs.
- Considering request to host another Conference on the west coast for AT Reuse in 2014.
- Modifying the Pass It On Center Return on Investment Formula.
- Creating and producing more detailed Pass It On Center YouTube videos for our station.

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# Conference Archives

Conference archives are available at:

<http://passitoncenter.org/Home/Events.aspx>



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# Questions?



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National Assistive Technology Device Reutilization Coordination and Technical Assistance Center

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