Center for technology & disability Studies
Washington Assistive Technology Act Program

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Overview for today

- Who are we?
- What do we do?
- How do you access our services?
- What assistive devices are available in our program?
  - Focus on mobile or portable technology

WATAP —Washington Assistive Technology Act Program

- an interdisciplinary program within the Center for Technology and Disability Studies

- Federally funded under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended.

- Provide services to Washington residents of all ages with disabilities of all types, their families, employers and employment service providers, educators, health care and social service providers, and others seeking information about assistive technology (AT) and accessible information technology.

What is assistive technology?

- "Any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially, off-the-shelf, modified or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities."

  *Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended

WATAP Services

- Hands-on demonstrations of assistive technology devices
- Short-term device loans – up to six weeks for small administrative fee
- Information & Referral – AT Vendors & Service Providers
- Information about IT Accessibility
- Training & consultation including AT evaluations through U.W. Center for Technology & Disability Studies (evals are fee based)
- Website for more information: http://watap.org

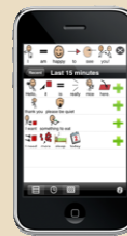## Devices Available for WATAP Demo's & Equipment Trials…

Devices that support activities such as:

- Augmentative and alternative communication,
- Seeing, hearing & mobility
- Aids for Daily Living
- Learning, cognition & memory
- Computer access
- Environmental control systems

Mobile AT

- Increase demand
- Portability
- Multiple functions

Augmentative or Alternative Communication

Learning Disabilities

- Use of portable software
  - Jump drives
- Use of portable hardware
  - iPods
  - MP3
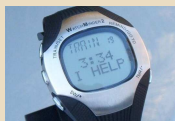 - digital recorders
  - Kindle?

Low vision

- Software available on jump drive
- Cell phone apps for magnification
  - iMagnify
  - icansee

Cognitive Impairments:

- reQuall
  - voice-enabled memory aid that integrates your cell phone, email, text messaging and IM into an organizer, reminder system and productivity assistant

Vision Impairment

KNFB Mobile Reader

- Reads most printed documents, from letters and memos to pages in a book
- Reads address labels and package information and instructions

Hearing Impairment:

- iphone/ipod touch app (soundAMP) interactive hearing device for amplifying sound

Ongoing issues

- Cost
- Ease of use
- Accessibility Issues
  - Example: Blue tooth headsets good but not functional for mobility challenges

Questions....Try out devices

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