

AT Advisory Council Meeting

June 26, 2024

10:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.

In Person: N/A

Online: Zoom

Present: Phil Seiler, Emma Cobb, Prabin Pokhrel, Sarah Lipton,
Emily Sheils, Allie Kelly, Kristen Rengo, Peter Jonke

Absent: Ana Russo, Darren McIntyre, Bill Hudson, Heather Berg

10:00-10:05 Welcomes and Introductions

Welcome new members!

Prabin Pokhrel from Opportunities Credit Union, representing
alternative finance [the Independence Fund](#).

Sarah Lipton [Money Follows the Person](#) (MFP) grant director.

Both Prabin and Sarah represent the required entities for our AT
Advisory Council. Persons wishing to apply can [do so here](#). We
are currently looking for users of AT as well as caretakers of
users of AT.

10:05-10:35 Vermont Career Advancement Project (VCAP)
update with Allie Kelly and Emily Shiels (project Director) with AT
demonstration

Emily and Allie shared detailed information about the VCAP
program including details about how their program advances

careers for HireAbility participants in the project, best practices, and success stories using AT.

Allie spoke about the following equipment VCAP has had success with, [Apollo Wearable Band](#) and the [Supernote tablet](#) which will arrive this July.

To view all available inventory loan and demo items:

[VT AT Program inventory website](#)

To become a HireAbility participant, Vermonters can reach out on the [HireAbility website](#).

10:35-10:40 September meeting and open house

What do members think about having an Open House for the September 25th AT Council meeting at our newly located Burlington Tryout Center at 128 Lakeside Drive, Burlington VT? The idea would be to have our meeting in person with a remote option, and then invite our congressional reps as well as other State of VT offices who share the Lakeside Drive building to tour our tryout center. More details to follow.

10:40-10:50 Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation
Quality of Life grant opportunity

[This grant is](#) for organizations that assist those with spinal cord injuries. We want to set up a smart home living room/game center/recreation area at our Burlington Tryout Center. It would

be used to demonstrate the technology to clients so that they can try it and decide if it might work in their home environments.

10:50-11:00 Inventory

Inventory review has been completed for 2024 at the Burlington, Castleton, and Waterbury tryout centers. This means a process was followed to identify and physically verify each piece of equipment we own! No small task. Inventory that has aged out but is still useful is put into our AT Exchange program.

To access the AT Exchange, visit our inventory website at www.vt.at4all.com and choose Item List on the Left Nav. Then choose General Listing from the program dropdown. You can view all available inventory. Create an account to request items.

Phil attended the Assistive Technology leadership symposium earlier this spring in DC. A keynote speaker Jutta Treviranus, Ph.D. spoke about [Equitable Artificial Intelligence](#). That link has since been removed from the symposium website, but Phil was able to find a [similar link from a 2023 talk they gave](#).

The Association of Community Living (ACL) encourages AT programs to partner with emergency response members to improve outcomes around disaster preparedness for persons with disabilities and those with language barriers.

While interacting with staff from other AT programs, Phil observed that the VT AT Program staff is rare in that most of our staff have disabilities. We see this as a very positive thing for the community we serve.

11:00-11:30 Members open time

Please note there is a You Tube channel for the Vermont Language Justice Project.

<https://www.youtube.com/@vermontlanguagejusticeproj>

New item at the AT program, [Language Translator Device](#).

11:13 Adjourn

Of interest:

New members can learn more about our program at

www.atp.vermont.gov, [You Tube channel](#), [Resources page](#)

[newsletters](#) and services in the Left Nav. To view all our loanable inventory, visit www.vt.at4all.com

Sign up for our Tech Tuesday Newsletters and AT Exchange newsletters by visiting our home page www.atp.vermont.gov and clicking on Right Nav "Sign up for Newsletters".