

# Digital Equity Strategies to Serve the Needs of People with Disabilities

Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 10:30 to 11:30 am

## **Panelists**

- Moderator: Caroline Stratton, NDIA
- Panelist: Tara Rocha, Easterseals of Greater Houston
- Panelist: Lindsey McQuistion, Goodwill Central Texas
- Panelist: Crystal Marte, Raising the Floor
- Panelist: Karla Suomala, San Francisco Tech Council

## Resources:

#### **BRIDGES Empowering Practices**

- <u>Financial Inequality: Disability, Race and Poverty in America</u>
- Census Topic: Disability
- BridgingApps (YT channel) App database with apps that are helpful for people with disabilities of all ages by going to "App Search" from the home page. Over 2400 different apps that are reviewed under the lens of disability by users who have a disability themselves, work with someone with a disability, or are caregivers of someone with a disability. Also has a helpful YouTube channel (linked at top left of home page) with videos related to mobile technology accessibility settings and apps. A TTAP demo site (search for the closest demo site near you here:

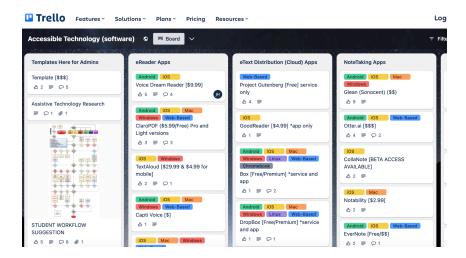
https://at3center.net/state-at-programs/) where clients can come learn about and trial different assistive technology devices like the Orcam Read before they buy them/get them from their

insurance company. A free short-term 35-day loan of these devices through the TTAP program is available through a simple online form that requires no documentation of disability.

- TexasYouth2Adult: Online interactive tool created to empower youth with special health care needs to transition successfully into adulthood. It was created with input from parents, health care providers, educators, transition specialists, and youth. Families can use this tool to begin planning early, ask the right questions, and find resources on many areas of life as an adult. Sister site, <u>VirginiaYouth2Adult</u>, is available with Virginia specific tools and resources.
- <u>SF Tech Council Digital Equity Plan and add'l Assistive Tech</u>
   Resources
- Morphic a free tool for Mac and Windows
- Overlay Factsheet website explaining overlays and why they hurt (rather than help) accessibility efforts
- Axe-con Annual Digital Accessibility Conference (free registration; 2025 recordings available on the site)
- Find AT Act Center in Your State
- Job Accommodation Network
- Accessibility fundamentals Training | Microsoft Learn
- Computer Basics: Using Accessibility Features
- Partnership on Employment and Accessible Technology <u>PEAT:</u>
   TechCheck

#### Notes:

- Find your NLS network library: <a href="https://www.loc.gov/nls/find-your-library/">https://www.loc.gov/nls/find-your-library/</a>
   or speak to someone at your local public library.
- Resource: DannyDid provides individual grants to purchase smartwatches (including apple) for seizure alerts and epilepsy monitoring https://www.dannydid.org/staff-and-board-of-directors/
- Tara Resources/Tools: <u>Splay</u>, <u>Otter</u>, <u>Speechify</u>, <u>Microsoft Edge Browser</u>
  (read aloud in natural voices), <u>SnapType Pro 2</u>, Microsoft PPT Live
  (captioning and translation captioning ability), Apple's Live captions
  feature is amazing and there are similar features available on Android.
  <a href="mailto:search for apps by keyword or diagnosis here">search for apps by keyword or diagnosis here</a>, built-in accessibility tools
  for Android and Apple video series here (available in <u>English</u> and <u>Spanish</u>)
- Libraries with 3D printers will often 3D print accessibility tools for community members who take a class/ have library card. (Be aware sometimes there is a fee for using 3D printing services, it depends on the library/library system.)
- Tech owl <a href="https://techowlpa.org/3d-printing-at/">https://techowlpa.org/3d-printing-at/</a> fee but has accessible tools for 3d printers
- Joshua Hori at UC Davis researches and demonstrates accessibility tools and has a publicly available accessible technologies Trello board that has been useful to other professionals in the field. <u>Check it out</u> <u>here.</u>



- Microsoft Inclusive Design Handbook excellent resource for understanding disability in the context of daily life.
- SF Tech Council recently hosted a conversation with Cordelia McGee-Tubb, a digital accessibility expert, focusing on tools and strategies for improving accessibility for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

<u>00:00</u> Introducing Cordelia McGee-Tubb, Digital Accessibility Expert

01:02 Learning from Our Communities 02:05 "Tailored Solutions"

02:29 Incorporating Microsoft's Persona Spectrum of Disability

05:22 SIGHT

13:10 TOUCH

22:07 COGNITION