

FY 2022-2023 Annual Report

Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources



Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources

Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources is dedicated to increasing the availability of assistive technology devices and services for Wyoming residents of all ages in order to participate fully in life activities.



College of Health Sciences
Wyoming Institute
for Disabilities

About Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources (WATR)

Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources (WATR) is authorized under **The 21st Century Assistive Technology Act of 2022**. The AT Act allows for funding to programs that provide greater access to assistive technology. WATR was established in 2005, and it is one of sixty AT Act programs, with one in each state and territory. WATR activities include device demonstrations, loans, training, technical assistance, information, and assistance. WATR activities also facilitate device acquisition through device reuse and a financial loan program.

Greetings from the Co-Managers

Ryan Rausch, MOT, OTR, ATP

Terri Wofford, MS CCC-SLP

It is with hope and optimism that we take pride in showcasing the remarkable achievements of WATR in our annual report. This year has been a remarkable journey, and we are proud to share with you some of our key highlights.

In our effort to enhance the public health workforce, the Assistive Technology (AT) Ambassador program is committed to providing public awareness initiatives, educational resources, comprehensive training, live demonstrations, and valuable support services related to remote support systems, remote health monitoring, telehealth solutions, and assistive technologies. We are thrilled to have enlisted five individuals and one county library to champion this critical work.

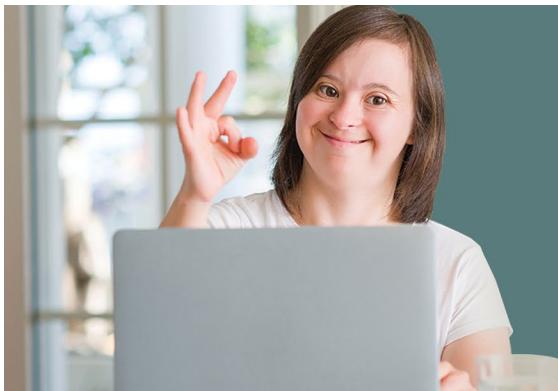
Another remarkable initiative is GoBabyGo Wyo. This program is committed to increasing movement for children with disabilities, by providing them with adapted ride-on cars that empower them to explore their environment, play, and engage in social activities at no cost to their families. This program's accomplishments would not be possible without the collaboration of the Child Development Center of Natrona County.

Lastly, the WATR tiered assessment approach for conducting Augmentative and Alternative



Communication (AAC) assessments is yielding positive results. Tiered assessments through WATR are designed to be a collaborative effort between WATR faculty/staff and the stakeholder's team to address needs while building capacity for conducting future assessments.

Looking ahead with optimism and hope, we take great pride in presenting the outstanding accomplishments of WATR in this year's annual report. We would like to express our deep appreciation for our generous donors, dedicated volunteers, committed AT Advisory Committee members, and invaluable community partners.

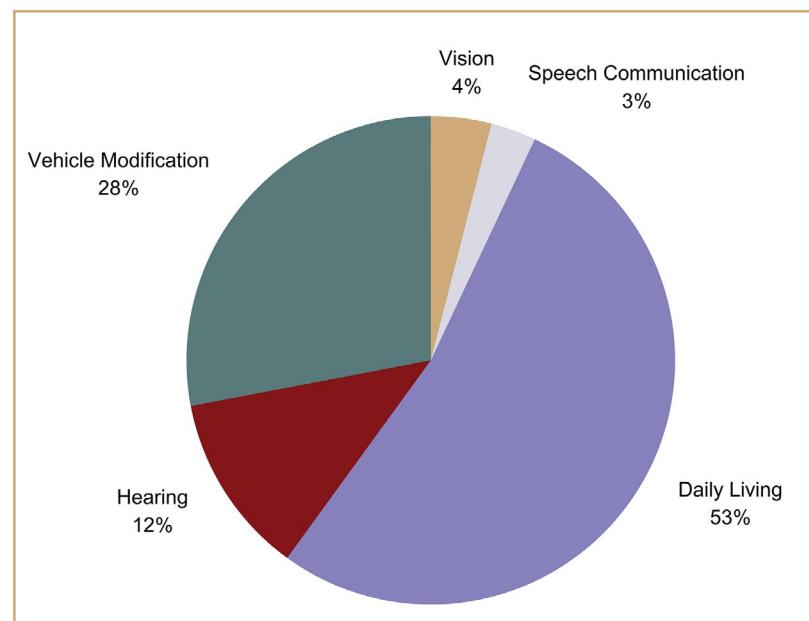


2022 - 2023 Device Loans:
458 borrowers
1,002 devices

Device Financing

- Total loans: 8
- Total financed: \$100,863

Wyoming Technology Access Program (WYTAP) is a collaboration between Wyoming Institute for Disabilities, Wyoming Independent Living, and First Interstate Bank of Laramie. The specialized financial loan program offers interest buydown for individuals who want to purchase assistive technology with an extended pay-back period.



Device Reuse

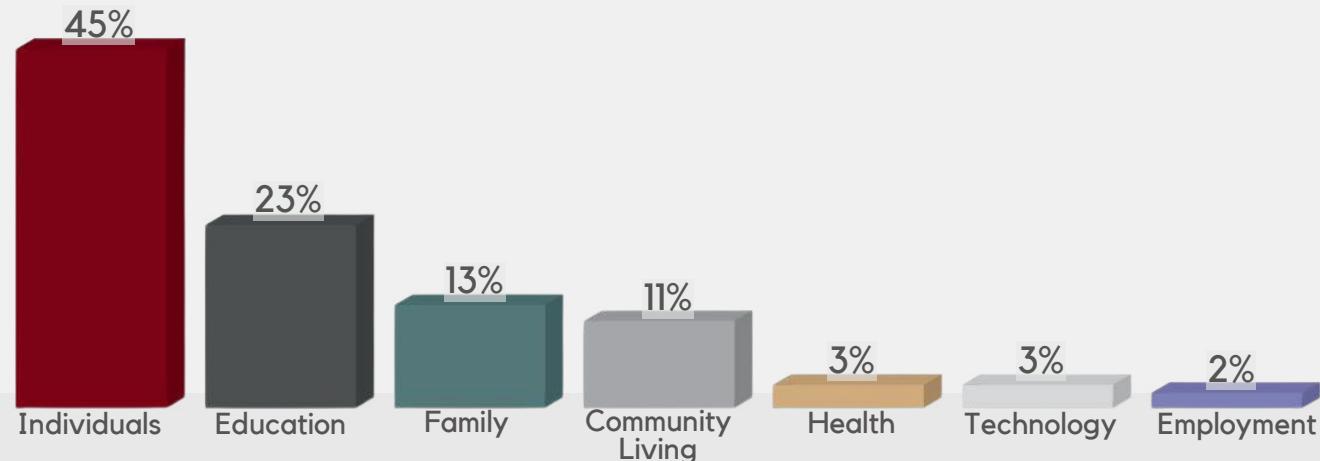
Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources reuse program provides infrastructure opportunities for individuals to exchange, sell, and recycle lightly-used assistive technology throughout the state of Wyoming. Sale profits allow WATR to buy, update, and maintain new assistive technology devices.

2022 - 2023 Device Reuse savings to 87 Wyoming consumers: \$83,824

Device Demonstrations

WATR arranges customized device demonstrations focusing on potential solutions on an individualized basis. By providing an opportunity for individuals with disabilities, caregivers, professionals, employers, or anyone with a curiosity about assistive technology to see a wide range of devices, WATR provides a valuable service to the community.

2022 - 2023 Device Demonstrations By Participant



Training and Technical Assistance

Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources offers UW ECHO in Assistive Technology as part of the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities' ECHO training network. Now entering its tenth year, this network continues to build capacity for assistive technology in education, health, and disability services.

Network users include users of AT and their families, AT professionals, specialists, school administrators, general and special education teachers, paraeducators, case managers, school counselors and psychologists, and special education service providers, including OTs, PTs, and SLPs.

The network uses an interdisciplinary team that connects biweekly to learn about AT and best practices in their settings. Since its inception, 2,771 individuals have received training in ECHO in Assistive Technology in over 222 network sessions. In addition, WATR provides in-person and distance training and technical assistance across the state.



Affiliated Projects and Partnerships

Wyoming Accessible Educational Materials

The Wyoming Accessible Educational Materials Clearinghouse coordinates the requests and provision of accessible educational materials for eligible Wyoming students with disabilities. Through a contract with the Wyoming Department of Education, the clearinghouse works with districts to meet the requirements of the 2004 Reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. WATR assists with the provision of AT devices and strategies to access digital and specialized formats.



WYOMING
**ACCESSIBLE
EDUCATIONAL
MATERIALS**

Wyoming iCanConnect Program



Wyoming's iCanConnect program provides communications technology free of charge to low

income people of all ages who experience both vision and hearing loss. This program distributes communications equipment to qualified individuals and provides equipment installation, training, and support to help recipients make the most of this technology.



College of Health Sciences
Wyoming Institute
for Disabilities

Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources (WATR) • Wyoming Institute for Disabilities
University of Wyoming • Dept. 4298; 1000 E. University Ave. • Laramie, WY 82071
Phone (307) 766-6187 • Fax (307) 766-2763 • Toll Free (888) 989-9463 • TTY (307) 766-2720

watr@uwyo.edu • www.uwyo.edu/wind/watr