• Review the purpose & goal
• Explore the potential use of assistive technology
• SETT Process and conversational assessment interview
• Assessor documentation: MnCHOICES Assessment and Community Support Plan
• Assistive technology resources
• Case manager documentation: CSSP and 45-day meeting
MnCHOICES assessors provide options for monitoring and assistive technology to support the independence of people receiving assessments. The purpose of this webinar is to

• Ensure assessors and case managers are aware of legislative requirements to include in their practice
• Highlight assistive technology services and resources
• Describe opportunities where technology can replace staff and support employment
The goal of this webinar is to introduce you to:

- What assistive technology is
- Community resources and websites that can support your work
- A process to discuss assistive technology
- How to document conversations and decision making in MnCHOICES Assessment and Support Plan.
Meet Nick – His curiosity about assistive technology leads to his driving and starting his own business

Meet Sam – Attending community college would require PCA assistance for note taking however assistive technology can play a role

A Future of Possibilities discusses how technology enables blind, deafblind and visually-impaired students
Exploring the potential use of technology

Anna MacIntyre, Waiver Policy Lead
Colin Stemper, Fiscal Policy Lead
Olmstead Goal:

Assistive technology will be intentionally considered during assessment and planning for individuals being assessed through MnCHOICES
• A discussion of how technology might be used to meet the person's desired outcomes must be included in the 45-day planning meeting on an annual basis.

• The coordinated service and support plan (CSSP) must include a summary of this discussion.

• The summary in the CSSP must include a statement regarding any decision that is made regarding the use of technology and a description of any further research that needs to be completed before a decision regarding the use of technology can be made.

Statute Reference: 245D.071 subd.3d
HCBS Technology Services

There are two different types of technology funded through the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers:

• Monitoring Technology

• Assistive Technology
Monitoring technology usage includes the use of equipment such as alarms, sensors, cameras and other devices to oversee, monitor and supervise someone who receives waiver/Alternative Care (AC) services.

- Monitoring-technology usage can include the equipment as well as remote-based staff paid to provide oversight and support of a person.

- It can help keep people safe while also supporting their independence.
Monitoring technology equipment might include

• Audio listening devices
• Cameras and video equipment (e.g. baby video monitors)
• Mobile, on-person equipment (e.g. body sensors, GPS)
• Sensors not on the person (e.g. motion sensors, door and window alarms)
• Assistive technology is a broad category of devices and services
• Designed to support an individual with a disability to live, work, play and learn in their most integrated setting.
• Includes anything that is designed specifically for an individual with a disability, adapted or modified, or purchased directly off the shelf that supports an individual with a disability in being more independent in performing a task.
The SETT Framework

This content is adapted from "Ready, SETT, Go! Getting Started with the SETT Framework, by Joy Smiley Zabala, Ed.D, ATP, available online at [http://joyzabala.com](http://joyzabala.com).

- [Introduction](#)
- [The Framework](#)
- [The Someone](#)
- [The Environments](#)
- [The Tasks](#)
- [The Tools](#)
How can someone know if their needs can be met through the use of technology?

• Use the “SETT” process to have a conversation about technology needs and options.

• SETT begins by learning about a person’s needs and eventually moves to what technology may be able to meet those needs.
First used in school settings, but useful for our work as well.

S – Someone
E – Environments
T – Tasks
T – Tools
• What does the person need to do that is difficult to do independently?
• What are their needs that contribute to this need?
• What are their current abilities related to this need?
• What are the person’s interests?
• Make this a broad conversation; do not eliminate possible solutions from the start.
Environments

• Consider all the environments someone is expected to be in.
  • Work, school, home, others?
• What are the attitudes and expectations of others in the environment?
• How much support is available from and to others?
• Are there physical access issues?
• Important to get as much detail about the different environments as possible.
Tasks

• Tasks are the actual activities that take place in the environments.

• Tasks are different than the needs that have been discussed
  • Tasks are exactly what a person will need to do in the specific environments to meet the person’s need.

• Needs may be similar between environments, but tasks can vary in each environment.
Tools

• Use gathered information to make a decision.

• Tools may include no tech, low tech, or high tech devices and supports.
  
  • The solution may not always be a computer or something electronic.

• One tool may not be the answer; you may need to consider a system of tools working together.
Let’s consider the use of SETT in relation to two different people.

Both people have difficulty writing because of the same fine motor skill that makes holding a pencil difficult.

• Considering only the person’s need and identifying a solution will miss critical information about correctly meeting that need.

• Even with the same disability, the correct tool may be different.
Using SETT in this example...

**Someone** – Both people need to write and have difficulty holding a pencil.

**Environments** – Person A is in school. Person B is an engineer.

**Tasks** – Person A needs to fill in bubble answers on a test. Person B needs to draw schematics.

**Tools** – Person A may use an alternative test answer sheet. Person B may consider a forearm stabilizer.
Benefits of using the SETT process

• SETT builds consensus among all parties and creates links between assessment and tools.

• Less likely to lead to people not using a device because they don’t know what to do with it or it doesn’t work in the environment they need it to.

Note: Continue to revisit the SETT process as needs, environments, and tasks change.
Waiver services that fund technology or usage of

- 24 Hour emergency assistance
- Assistive technology
- Environmental accessibility adaptations
- Monitoring technology
- PERS
- Specialized supplies and equipment
For more information about SETT and many other assistive technology resources, visit [Minnesota’s Guide to Assistive Technology](#).

Jointly developed by Departments of Administration, Employment and Economic Development, Human Services, and Education.

For more information on waiver funded technology services, visit [Minnesota’s Community Based Services Manual (CBSM)](#).
What is Assistive Technology?

Kim Moccia, Program Director, STAR
...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.

[20 U.S.C. Chapter 33, Section 1401 (25)]
... any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. [20 U.S.C. Chapter 33, Section 1401 (26)]
What is STAR?

• An Acronym for
  • **System of Technology to Achieve Results**
• Federal Assistive Technology Act program
• Division within Department of Administration
• Located in Saint Paul
• Assistive technology service provider that partners with state agencies, community organizations and professionals
STAR services include

- Device Demonstration
- Device Loan
  - Short-term (30 days or fewer)
  - Open-ended (no set return date)
- Information & Referral
- Technical Assistance
AT Training Online

With STAR's new e-Learning site, "Tools For Your Future," you can learn all about assistive technology's important role for people with disabilities right from the comfort of your computer.
What is Minnesota’s Guide to Assistive Technology?

• Collaborative effort between
  • Department of Human Services
  • Department of Employment and Economic Development (SSB/VRS)
  • Department of Education
  • Department of Administration
• Online AT resource – www.mn.gov/admin/at
Contact STAR

358 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Phone 651-201-2640
Fax 651-282-6671
E-mail star.program@state.mn.us

Web sites mn.gov/star/
Twitter @MNSTARProgram
Facebook www.facebook.com/MNSTARProgram

6/20/2018
Incorporating Assistive Technology during the MnCHOICES Interview

- During the assessment interview, introduce assistive technology options
- Use the narrative areas in the assessment to capture key points from your conversation
- Use the ‘Referrals and Goals’ sub-domain to check the box and include notes
MnCHOICES: Introducing assistive technology options

• Assistive technology can be incorporated throughout the assessment

• Are there opportunities to incorporate assistive devices into a person’s life?
  • Increase person’s independence
  • Personal control
  • Assist with communication

• This has been a natural part of practice for many assessors
MnCHOICES: Using narrative areas to capture key points

Bathing

- Cue throughout bath
- Soak feet
- Other
- Cue to bathe
- Standby during bathing
- Other

Comments:

* Is training/skill building needed to increase independence? *
- No
- Yes

Notes/Comments:

George could not recall when he had last bathed. Due to problems with short term memory, George needs reminders to bathe; he prefers to bathe on a daily basis but doesn’t remember if he did it or not. Previously, George’s mother was stopping by each day to remind him to bathe. However, due to a recent hospital stay she is unable to continue this. George and I discussed other options for reminders including the use of his new smart phone. George seemed interested in this option but reported that he would need assistance learning how to program reminders, turn on/off alarms, etc.
MnCHOICES: Using the ‘Referrals and Goals’ sub-domain

Referrals & Goals (ADLs)

What is important to the individual?

George takes pride in his appearance and it is important to him that he bathes regularly and takes care of grooming tasks. George is able to do these things independently, but needs reminders because of short term memory loss. Currently, George's mother has been giving these reminders but due to her recent hospital stay she has not been able to assist. George is interested in exploring options for a device/smart phone that could be programed to give daily reminders for bathing and grooming tasks.

Referrals Needed:

- [ ] Assistance with Personal Care
- [x] Assistive Technology
  - Explore options for technology to assist with reminders
- [ ] Environmental Accessibility Consultation
Minnesota State Services for the Blind

Shawn Wallin
Assistive Technology Specialist
What We Do

- **State Services for the Blind** offers tools and training for employment, living independently, and accessing print. We assist Minnesotans who are blind, DeafBlind, losing vision, or who have a disability that makes it difficult to read print.

- **Assistive Technology Specialists** who focus on low vision, blind and deafblind technology.

- **Assistive Technology Resource Center** which has a variety of vision loss related technology used for evaluations, assessments and training.
Low Vision Assistive Technology

• **Screen Magnification Software** – Allows a user to magnify a computer screen for easier reading. Includes screen reading tools using synthesized speech.

• **Electronic Video Magnifiers (CCTVs)** – Portable and desktop size devices for magnifying printed material.

• **Low Tech Options** – Lighting Aides, Glass Magnifiers, Large Print Keyboards and more.
Blindness Assistive Technology

• **Screen Reader Software** – Enables people with vision loss to independently use a computer with a keyboard, speech, or Braille display. - Free to $1200, requires training.

• **Braille Displays** - Braille displays information on a computer screen by electronically raising and lowering different combinations of pins in braille cells.

• **Mobile / Tablet Options** – Most Apple and Android phones include screen reading and braille support. Many great apps are available for both platforms for improving independence.

• **Low Tech Options** – Bump Dots, Pen Friend, Braille Label Maker, Voice Recorder.
DeafBlind Assistive Technology

• **Screen Reader with a Braille Display** – Enables a DeafBlind person to access a computer, mobile phone or Tablet PC using a refreshable braille display for reading print.

• **Captioned Telephones for Hearing Loss** - phones work with a no-cost Captioning Service to show every word your caller says. It’s like closed captions on TV, for your phone.

• **Low Tech Options** - Braille Bump Dots, Door Alerts & more.
• **Person-Centered, Informed Choice and Transition Protocol**

  • SAP1.F. Training needed for people responsible for providing supports, if applicable.

  • SAP1.G. Materials, equipment, assistive technology needed, if applicable.
    
    • If the plan includes new assistive technology, that technology must be tested in the environment where it will be used.
Person-Centered discussion:

• What matters most to you
• Your own definition of quality of life
• What is important FOR you
• What is important TO you

Does this lead to assistive technology to help that person reach their goals?
• Case Managers must document a summary of the conversation with the person regarding their assistive technology needs in the CSSP.

• This summary must include any decisions made, or any research that needs to be done before a decision regarding assistive technology can be reached.
Case manager’s role

Assistive Technology Assessment and Evaluation

• A formal analysis performed by a skilled practitioner or a team of practitioners in the field of assistive technology.

• The evaluation will incorporate multiple techniques and include recommendations for technology products or systems that will enhance an individual’s life in defined areas.
The summary must include a statement regarding any decision that is made regarding the use of technology and a description of any further research that needs to be completed before a decision regarding the use of technology can be made.

• The Case manager could document in the MnCHOICES CSSP in the About Plan tab, General Notes
Example of goal related to Assistive Technology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Goal Statement</th>
<th>Target Date</th>
<th>Provider (if applicable)</th>
<th>NPI</th>
<th>Frequency of Reporting</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>George will learn how to use technology to remind him to take his medication and complete grooming tasks. This includes setting up, changing, and turning off alerts and reminders in his cell phone.</td>
<td>30-Sep-2018</td>
<td>PEOPLE INC</td>
<td>1215104831</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example of Referral section in CSSP

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

Referrals Needed: Assistive Technology - George is interested in exploring options for assistive technology for reminders for medications, cooking meals, etc. He recently got a new cell phone that might be a good resource, but would need skill building and training in this area.
Example of service related to Assistive Technology

Other areas where Assistive Technology could be included in the CSSP
Resources: Website
System of Technology to Achieve Results (STAR)

https://mn.gov/admin/star/

Device Demonstration
Device demonstrations allow consumers to compare features and benefits of a particular device or category of devices. Learn more or schedule a device demo here.

Device Loan
Device loans help users borrow a device for a time of need or to "try before they buy." Short-term and open-ended loans are available. To request a loan, start here.

Device Exchange
STAR maintains an online device exchange, allowing Minnesotans and others to donate, sell, and buy previously owned but still usable assistive technology.

Reuse
STAR is committed to promoting the reuse of assistive technology. Donate devices whenever a device that is no longer needed is sold, donated, refurbished, or passed along.
To increase awareness of assistive technology and provide information to help with the consideration, selection, and use of assistive technology whenever and wherever it will be used.
Thank You!

Assistive Technology and Documenting in MnCHOICES

June 26, 2018