# Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

**Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary**
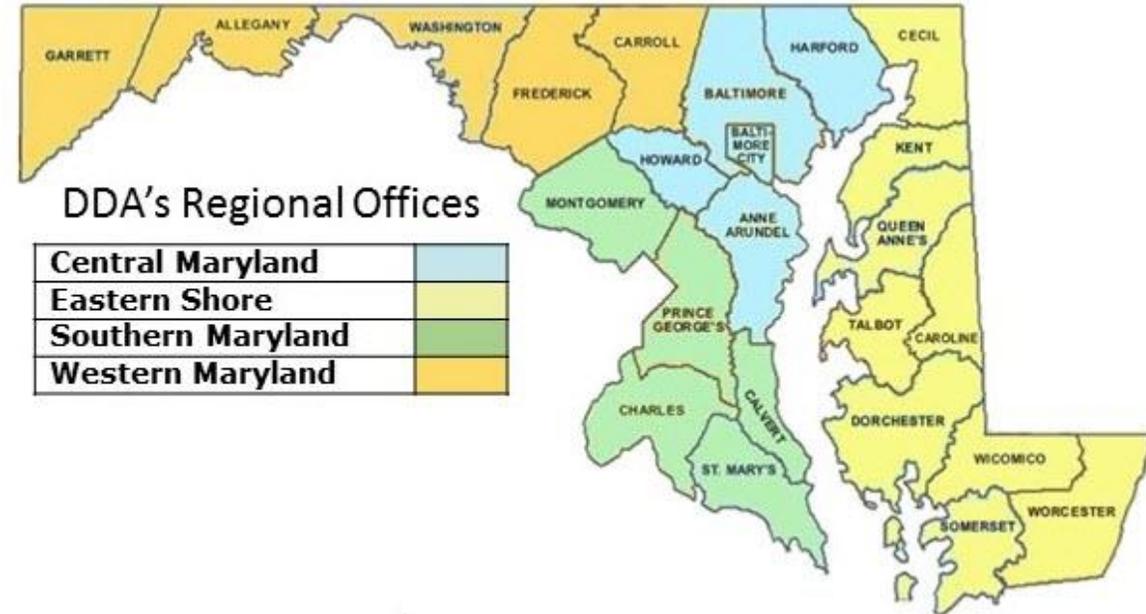
June 12, 2020

# Deputy Secretary's Agenda

- Opening Remarks
- DDA Regional Office Update
- Carol A. Beatty, Secretary, Department of Disability
- Christy H. Stuart, Ed.D. Chief for Secondary Transition, Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services Maryland State Department of Education
- Lori Markland, Executive Director, Assistive Technology Program, Maryland Department of Disabilities
- Questions

**Maryland**
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
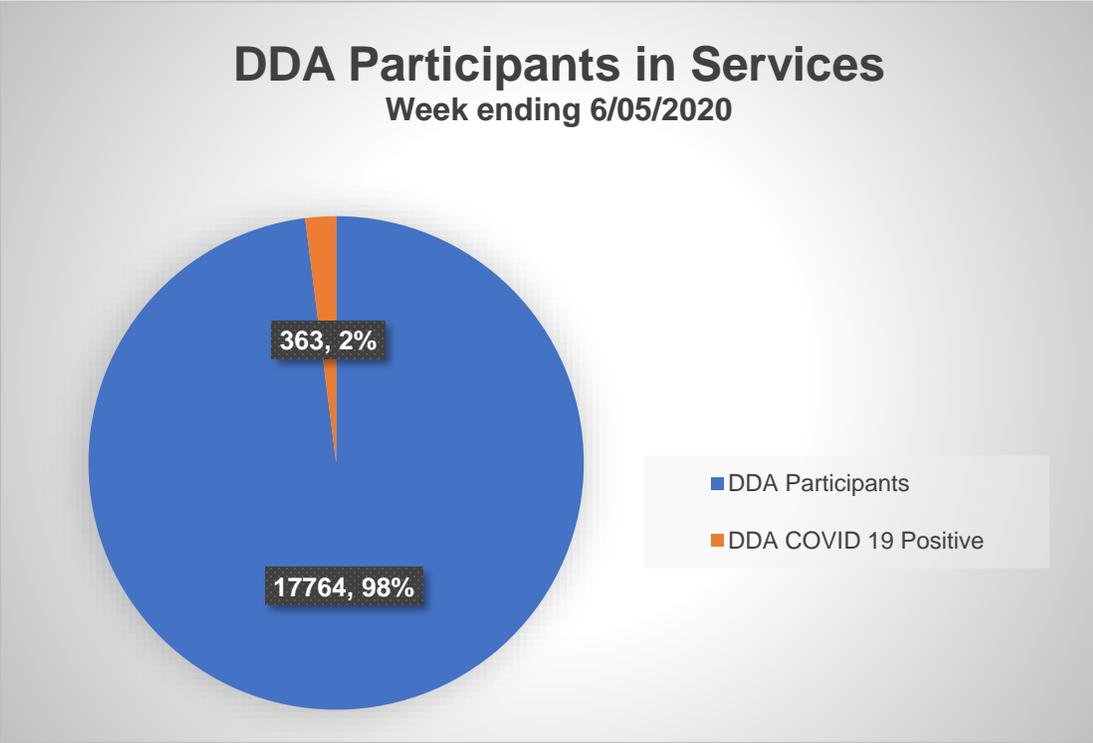
# Deputy Secretary's Opening Remarks

- This week you heard Governor Hogan announce the continuation of Stage Two of Maryland's COVID-19 Recovery, Safe and Gradual Reopening of Workplaces and Businesses

- The DDA's highest priority is the health, safety, and wellbeing of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, staff, and providers

- Thank you to those of you that have expressed an interest in working with the Regional Directors in the reopening discussion at a local level

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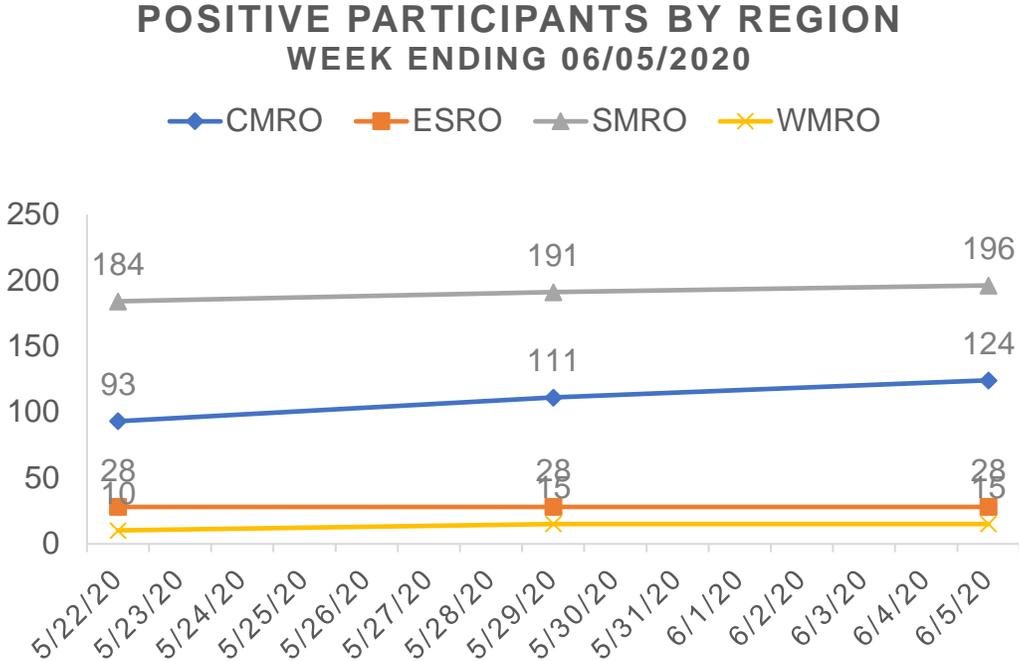
# Regional Updates

- **SMRO**- Onesta Duke
  onesta.duke@maryland.gov

- **ESRO**- Kim Gscheidle
  kimberly.gscheidle@maryland.gov

- **CMRO**- Nicholas Burton
  nicholas.burton@maryland.gov

- **WMRO**- Cathy Marshall
  cathy.marshall@maryland.gov



DDA's Regional Offices

| | |
|---|---|
| Central Maryland | |
| Eastern Shore | |
| Southern Maryland | |
| Western Maryland | |

**Maryland**
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# DDA's Tracking

## DDA Participants in Services
### Week ending 6/05/2020



363, 2%

17764, 98%

- DDA Participants
- DDA COVID 19 Positive

There are 17,764 people supported in services by the DDA of which 2% have tested positive for COVID-19.

## POSITIVE PARTICIPANTS BY REGION
### WEEK ENDING 06/05/2020

CMRO ◆  ESRO ■  SMRO ▲  WMRO ✕



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 184 | 191 | 196 |
| 93 | 111 | 124 |
| 28 | 28 | 28 |
| 10 | 15 | 15 |

5/22/20 5/23/20 5/24/20 5/25/20 5/26/20 5/27/20 5/28/20 5/29/20 5/30/20 5/31/20 6/1/20 6/2/20 6/3/20 6/4/20 6/5/20

CMRO  124  Positive; Increase of  13
ESRO   28   Positive; Increase of   0
SMRO  196  Positive; Increase of   5
WMRO   15   Positive; Increase of   0

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# DDA Tracking

**POSITIVE PARTICIPANTS STATEWIDE**
**WEEK ENDING 06/05/2020**
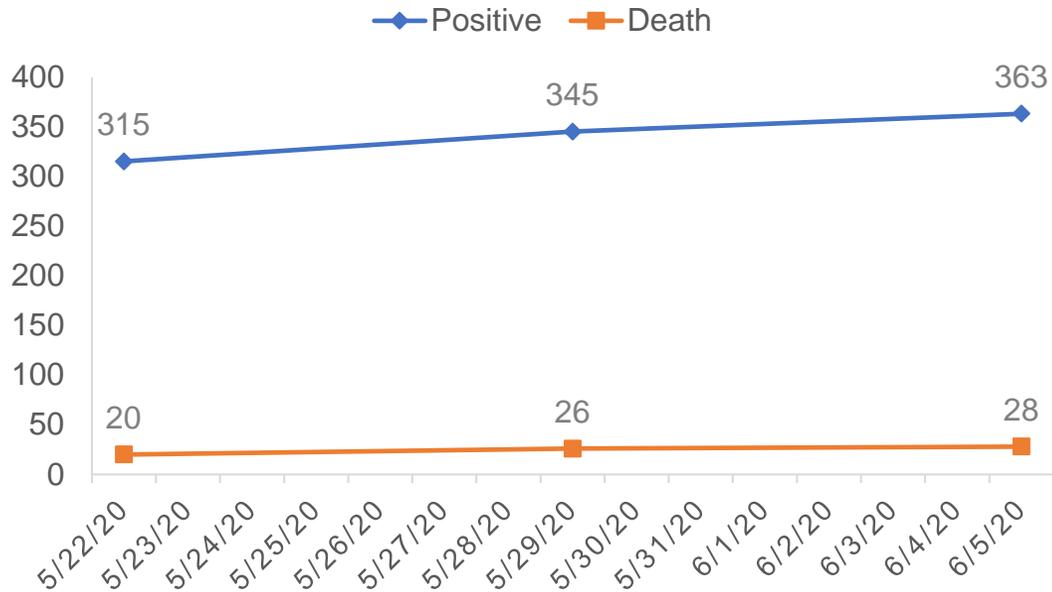
◆ Positive ■ Death



There have been 363 participants reported as having tested positive for COVID-19 of which there have been 28 deaths.

**DDA COVID-19**
**Positives and Death**
**Week ending 6/05/2020**



28, 7%

363, 93%

■ total positives
■ total deaths
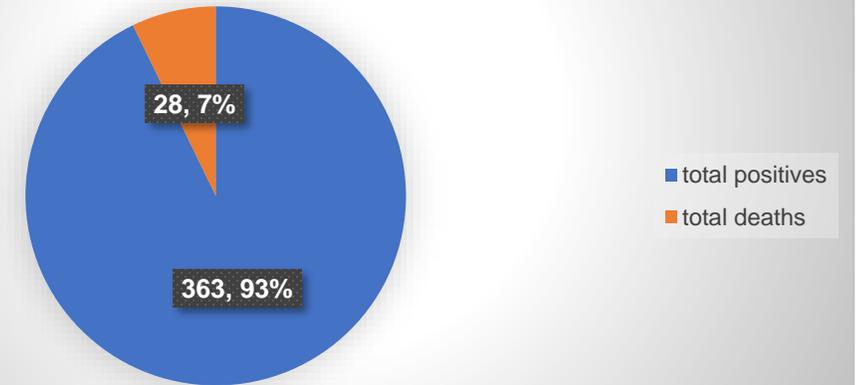
The 28 deaths represents approximately 7% of all (363) participants that tested positive.

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# The DDA Commitment

- We will continue to share information and resources
- We will continue to collaborate and advocate on behalf of the people you support, their families, and staff
- We will help Marylanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities thrive
- We will continue to keep you updated

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

*Carol A. Beatty, Secretary*

**Department of Disabilities**

# Department of Disabilities

**Mission**

Changing Maryland for the better by promoting equality of opportunity, access, and choice for Marylanders with disabilities

**Vision**

Committed to the promise of a Maryland in which all people with disabilities have the knowledge and influence to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others
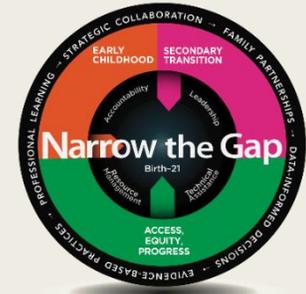
Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

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*Christy H. Stuart, Ed.D. Chief for Secondary Transition*

**Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services
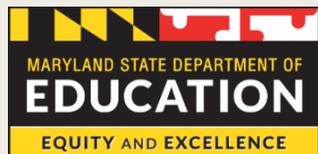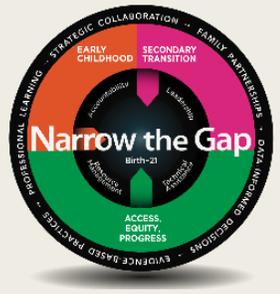Maryland State Department of Education**

# SECONDARY TRANSITION

Transitioning Youth
**June 12, 2020**

**DIVISION OF EARLY INTERVENTION & SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

# Secondary Transition During COVID-19

## Challenges

- Implementation of Transition Activities (summer)

- Recovery Plan & Process

- Agency Linkages

## Responses

- Delivery of instruction in a virtual and distance learning environment

- Recovery Plan-Secondary Transition Considerations across various partners

- Referral, application, seeking support and partnership

# Autism Waiver (AW) Transitioning Youth (TY) During COVID-19
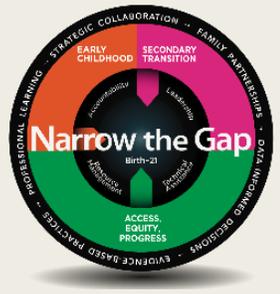
## Challenges

- Continuity of service provision
- Seamless transition from AW to DDA services
- Constantly evolving response to COVID-19
- Time sensitive
- Information sharing/ Involvement of all partners

## Responses

- Submitted Appendix K
  - *Granted AW flexibilities and increased service hours*
- Coordinated services
- Instituted TY Surveys with AW Service Coordinators
- Enhanced partnerships between AW Service Coordinators and CCS Workers
- Shared tracking spreadsheet on the status of 126 AW participants
- Allowing parent choice to ensure continuum of service delivery
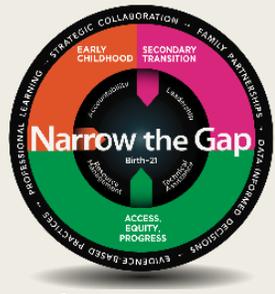
# Lessons Learned During COVID-19
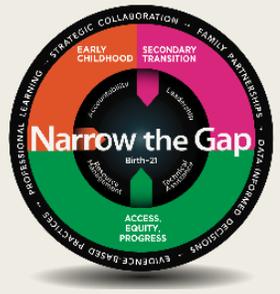
- Enhanced Engagement

- Virtual Delivery of Instruction & Services

- Creative Support Strategies

- Guidance is Constantly Evolving

- Relationships are STILL a Priority

- Communication is CRITICAL!

# Resources

Navigating Secondary Transition Services for Students with Disabilities during COVID-19

http://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Documents/Special-Ed/TAB/20-05-NavigatingST.pdf

Resources to Support Students with Disabilities during the COVID-19 Pandemic

https://marylandlearninglinks.org/COVID-19/

Appendix K: Emergency Preparedness and Response and COVID-19    Addendum

https://www.medicaid.gov/state-resource-center/downloads/md-0339-40198-0265-40118-0645-combined-appendix-k-appvl.pdf

*Lori Markland, Executive Director*

**Maryland Assistive Technology Program**

**Department of Disabilities**

# Maryland Assistive Technology Program

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

# Why I do what I do…

- Have 3 kids, a bonus kiddo, and a dog
- Lived in Baltimore City my entire adult life
- Undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Baltimore (English & Creative Writing)
- Worked with MDTAP for 20 years!
- Have a child with Nonverbal learning disability, ADHD, and severe anxiety
- Been part of the IEP process & integrating AT as a support for learning for my own daughter
- Weekly services through Kennedy Krieger Institute

# ABOUT US

Maryland TAP provides statewide access to assistive technology (AT) through equipment demonstrations, loans, reuse, financing, and training.

[www.mdtap.org](http://www.mdtap.org)

# WHAT IS ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY?

**Definition of Assistive Technology (AT)**

any item, device, or piece of equipment used to maintain or improve the functionality of people with disabilities, allowing them to be more independent in education, employment, and community living activities.
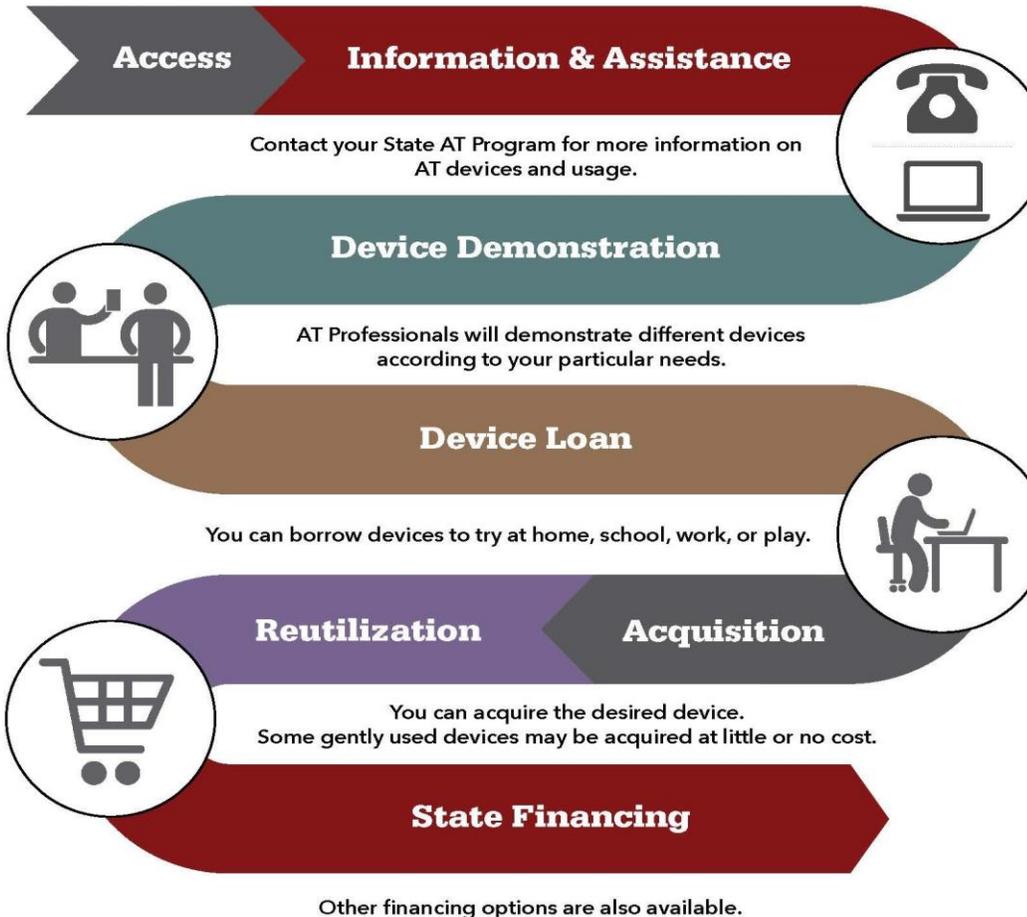
# What Technology Gets Us

**"technology makes things possible."**

**IBM training manual - 1991**

# AT Services Flow Chart



**ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (AT) SERVICES FLOW CHART**

How do you access information about and acquire Assistive Technology devices for yourself, family members, or clients to enhance life, work, and play?

**Access** | **Information & Assistance**

Contact your State AT Program for more information on AT devices and usage.

**Device Demonstration**

AT Professionals will demonstrate different devices according to your particular needs.

**Device Loan**

You can borrow devices to try at home, school, work, or play.

**Reutilization** | **Acquisition**

You can acquire the desired device.
Some gently used devices may be acquired at little or no cost.

**State Financing**

Other financing options are also available.

# WhAT We Do

- Run three AT Libraries across the state (Central Baltimore, Southern Maryland, and Eastern Shore)

- Conduct AT demonstrations with AT Clinicians

- Issue short-term device loans

- Host webinars, trainings, and presentations on AT

- Online equipment reuse exchange (buy, sell, giveaway AT & medical equipment)

- Maryland High-tech AT Reuse Center (housed in the Loan Closet of Howard County)

- Conduct a low-interest financial loan program

- Run the Central Baltimore, Western Maryland and Southern Maryland adapted telephone evaluation centers and assessment program

# More of WhAT We Offer

[Virtual AT Library](#)

[Home Modifications Directory](#)

[Loan Closet Directory](#)

# What you'll find in our library!

# More of what you'll find!

# iDevices & Apps...
the options are almost endless



**Speechify**
Why read when you can listen?

**TouchChat**
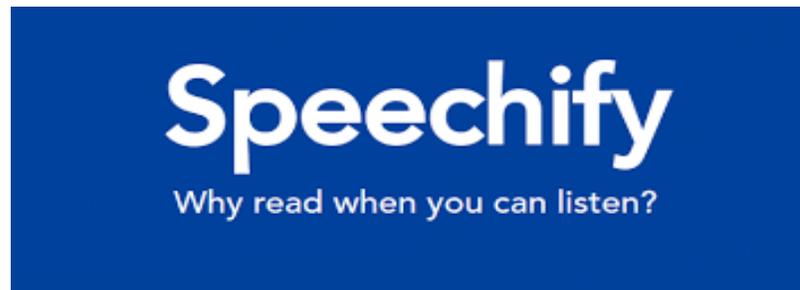
# A place for those who have & those who need

MDTAP maintains MATER, an equipment exchange site through Facebook Yardsale



Maryland Assistive Technology Equipment Reuse

walkers, magnifiers,
adapted vehicles,
beds, lifts, etc.

# Maryland High-tech Assistive Technology Reuse Center (MATR)

**MD AT REUSE (MATR) EQUIPMENT**

➢CCTVs/Video Magnifiers/Magnifiers

➢iDevices

➢Adapted computer keyboards, mice, switches

➢Speech communication devices

➢Amplified telephones

➢And more

**Visit MATR By Appointment Only –**

7125 Riverwood Drive, Suite D1 Columbia, MD 21046

To schedule a MATR donation, consultation, or pickup, contact 443-326-9703
matr@mdtap.org

# AT Financial Loan Program

- Provides low-interest loans to Maryland residents with disabilities or their families to buy assistive technology

- Covers all types of AT including vehicles, computers, home modifications, and more

- Loan amounts - $500 - $50,000

- Interest rates usually one point below prime

- Approves many loans that would be turned down by conventional lenders

# Discounted Assistive Technology – Purchasing Cooperative

MDTAP partners with AT Discount Sales & Services LLC to access the lowest prices for AT when purchasing items for our AT libraries.

AT Discount Sales & Services LLC provides discounts and product information for all AT product needs.

410-290-1327

amanda@atdiscount.net

www.atdiscount.net

# Maryland Accessible Telecommunications

MDTAP maintains 3 adapted telephone evaluation centers across the state – Baltimore City, Cumberland (Western MD), and Mechanicsville (Southern MD)

Our lead communications device evaluator provides assessments and installation support to consumers in the three regions we serve.

# MD AT Info Everywhere

Where It's AT – Our award-winning AT Blog

Find us on Facebook -

Follow us on Twitter -

Watch us on YouTube –

# CONTACT US

Central Office

Maryland Technology Assistance Program
2301 Argonne Drive, T-42
Baltimore, MD  21218
(800) 832-4827 (voice)
(866) 881-7488 (TTY)
(410) 554-9237 (fax)
mdtap@mdtap.org (e-mail)
www.mdtap.org (web)

# Eastern Shore Demonstration & Loan Library

Bay Area Center for Independent Living, Inc.

909 Progress Circle, Ste. 300

Salisbury, MD 21804

443-260-0822 (voice)

443-260-0833 (fax)

http://bayareacil.org/ (web)

# Southern Maryland Demonstration & Loan Library

Southern MD Center for Independent Living

38588 Brett Way, Suite 1

Mechanicsville, MD 20659

301-884-4498

info@smcil.org

www.smcil.org

# Questions