



# Home Sweet Home: Aging with Assistive Technology

Presented By:  
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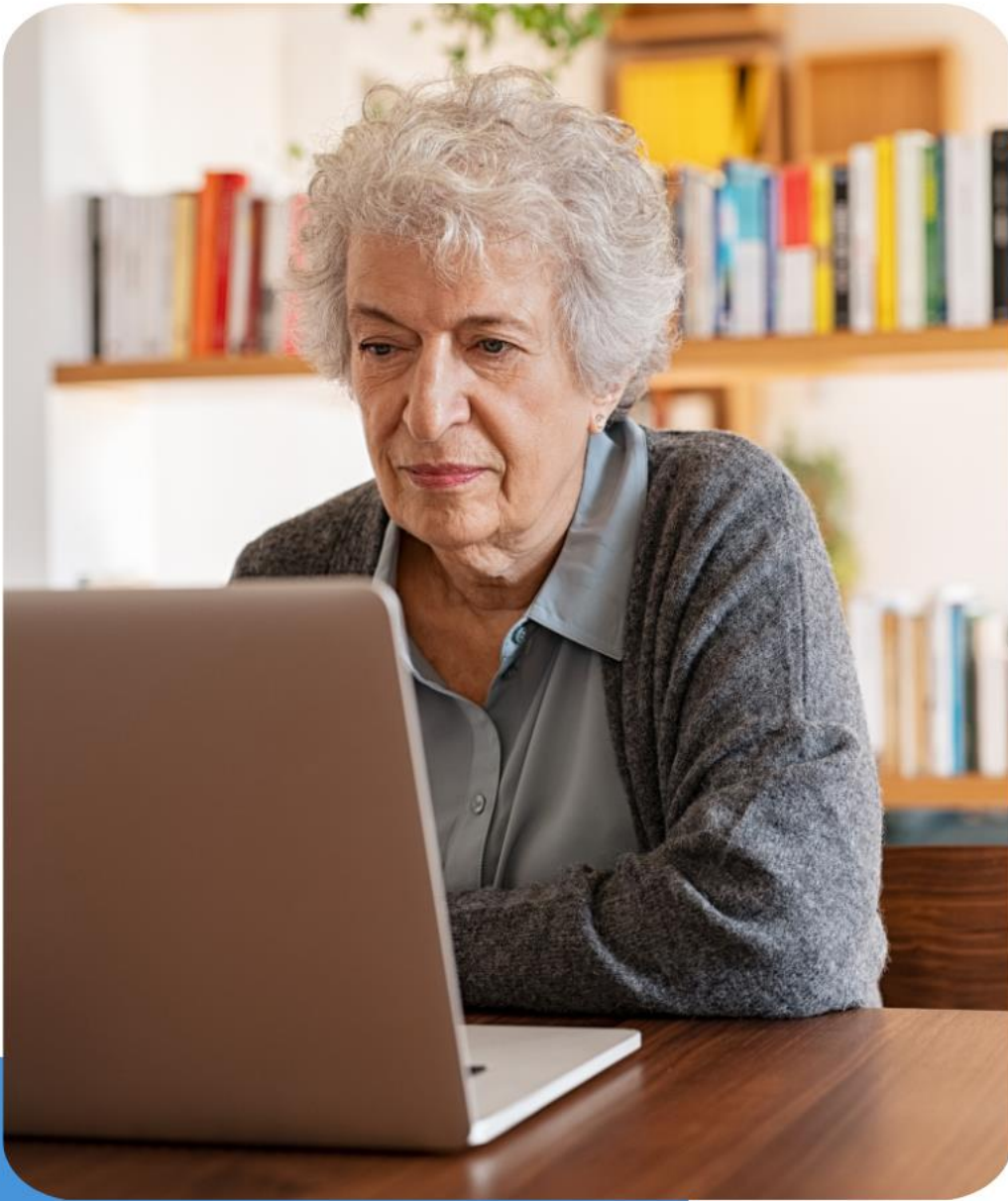
# Introductions



Arlene Lugo  
CT Tech Act Project



Heather Butterfield  
Oak Hill, NEAT



# WHAT IS AT?



***“Assistive Technology (AT) device is any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified or customized, that is used to *increase, maintain, or improve* the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.”***

**– 21st Century AT Act**

# WHAT ARE AT SERVICES?

**Assistive Technology (AT) Services refers to “any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition or use of an assistive technology device.”**

**Evaluation of need**

**Device Trials**

**Designing, customizing, fitting, and adapting the  
AT device**

**Training & Follow up  
Maintenance or Repair**

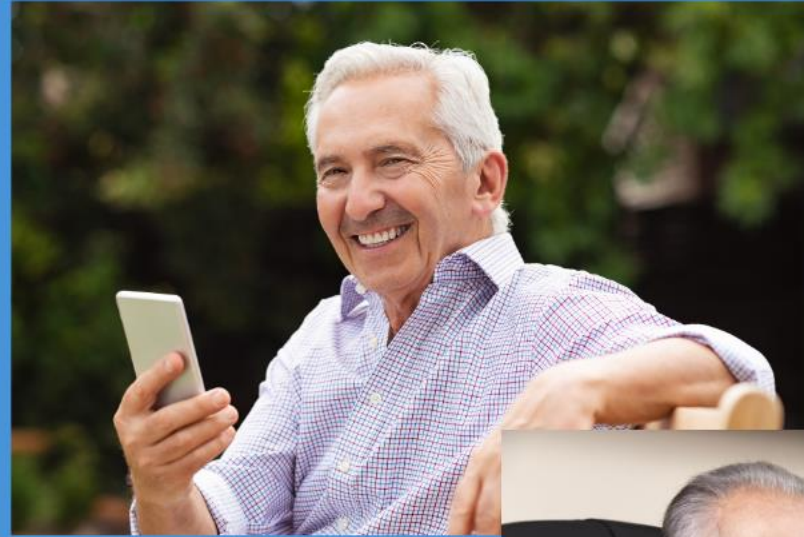
**- 21st Century AT Act**



# AT & AGING

**AT can help aging adults live safely, independently, age in Place, socialize, communicate, enjoy recreation, education, and learning, participate in their communities, access telehealth, shop and so much more!**


- **Individualized approach: What works for one, may not work for another**
- **You're not expected to know all the devices, items, or trends.**
- **Family, friends, and support people should be involved.**





# AT Examples for Aging Adults



- Home enhancements / Modifications
  - Smart smoke / carbon monoxide detectors
  - Personal alarm systems (with fall detection)
  - Smart Medication Reminders
    - Remote monitoring
  - Memory, Vision, and Hearing aids & devices
    - Adaptive gardening tools
    - Kitchen / Cooking tools & devices
    - Computers, tablets & smartphones
    - Companion robots
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# The CT Tech Act Project

## Mission:

**To increase independence and improve the lives of individuals with disabilities through increased access to Assistive Technology for work, school and community living.**

## Services:

- AT Demonstrations
- AT Device Lending
- AT Device Recycling
  - AT Financial Loan
- Trainings (to groups)
- Information & Assistance




[www.CTtechact.com](http://www.CTtechact.com)



# CT Tech Act Project AT Partners



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- ACES
  - CREC
  - EASTCONN
  - Meriden ATECH
  - Oak Hill, NEAT
  - SERC
  - SCSU - Center for Assistive and Educational Technology
  - UCP of Eastern CT

# Who is NEAT?

## (New England Assistive Technology)

- NEAT Center at Oak Hill offers the latest technologies, products, equipment, and services that assist people with day-to-day activities that they have trouble doing themselves, either because of a learning difference, disability, or the effects of aging.
- Our focus is on how we can empower individuals of all ages and abilities to utilize assistive technology to increase independence. This includes but is not limited to communication, learning, productivity, mobility, and independence.

<https://assistivetechology.oakhillct.org/neat-services-page>



# Services Provided by NEAT



AT Evaluations

AT Consult

AT Training



AAC Evaluations

AAC Consult

AAC Training



Adapted Gaming

Lending Library

Smart Home on  
Wheels (SHOW)

# AT for the Kitchen

- Flic buttons
- Brava oven
- Ovie
- Alexa -grocery reminders, recipes, music, phone/video calls



# AT for the Living Room

- Alexa:
  - Turning on TV
  - Volume control
  - Open Netflix
  - Lights
  - Calls
- Remote finder
- Chair lift
- Xfinity offers an accessible remote
- Switchbot curtains
- Timer lights



## AT for the Bedroom & Bathroom

Bedroom: Motion sensor lights, Smart alarm clock, Bed shaker (D/HH), Rosie alarm clock; Alexa to call for help at night.

Bathroom: Motion sensor lights, Grab bars next to the toilet and in the shower/tub, Bidet, Anti-slip mats, Lighted toilet



# Examples of AT for Aging & Independent Living



Ring Doorbell



Motion Light



Smart Thermostat

# Additional Examples of AT



Sit to stand chair lift



Item Locator



WithinSight  
Magnifier

# Funding for AT for Aging & Independent Living

- CT Tech Act Project AT Loan Program (financial loan)
- Insurance – (medical-related)
- Center for Independent Living (smart home or other devices)
- Local grants, like CT Charitable Trust and more.



! Programs come and go so it's always worth calling.

# Resources For AT & Aging



[Article: Alexa for Seniors: Using Alexa to Age in Place](#)

[Article: Assistive Devices for Elderly People](#)

Article of Smart Home Tech in a CT Resident's home: [Home Safe Home](#)

[Video: WS1](#) WithinSight digital magnifier

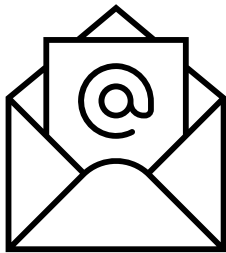
[Brava](#) Smart Oven

CT Tech Act Project: [www.CTtechact.com](http://www.CTtechact.com) or call / text Arlene at 860-803-0588

AT Partners [www.CTtechact.com/partners](http://www.CTtechact.com/partners)

[Oak Hill](#), NEAT services

# Contact Information



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