Georgia Tech

Pass It On CENTER ... the National AT Reuse Center

AMAC Accessibility for All

Pass It On Center (PIOC) Presentation to the Administration for Community Living: The Role of AT Reuse

US Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living
Washington, D.C. 20201

September 28, 2015

www.amacusg.org

AMAC
Accessibility for All

Rob Groenendaal

Assistive Technology Program, ACL

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Georgia Tech
Pass It On CENTER ... the National AT Reuse Center

Meeting Objectives (1 of 2)

- **Provide an overview of reuse in the AT Act**
- **Explore AT reuse tools and resources developed by the Pass It On Center**
- **Share information about roles for reuse in:**
  - Community living; independent living; nursing home transition
  - Collaboration with Medicaid and other third party funders
  - Emergency Planning and Response; collaboration with FEMA/ODIC

Meeting Objectives (2 of 2)

- Identify opportunities for collaboration around AT Reuse gaps and needs
- Identify opportunities for research in AT reuse
- Identify opportunities for continued support for reuse initiatives

AMAC
Accessibility for All

Carolyn Phillips, Director, Pass It On Center
Joy Kniskern, Principal Investigator

OVERVIEW OF PASS IT ON CENTER

Georgia Tech
Pass It On CENTER ... the National AT Reuse Center

Establishment of Pass It On Center

- The Pass It On Center was created in 2006 through a 5-year cooperative agreement awarded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, and administered by Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program.
- Twelve 3-year demonstration grants were awarded to states.
- The Pass It On Center was designed to serve as a national technical assistance center on reutilization for the grantees, AT Act Programs and their partners.

Pass It On Center Structure and Staffing

- The management and professional resources of Tools for Life were shared to create an operational infrastructure for the Center: Director, Principal Investigator, and Training and Development Manager.
- A National Task Force (NTF) on AT Reuse was created.
- Leaders of existing AT reuse programs provided expertise for education and guidance.
- Consulting resources were used for legal counsel, support in building the Knowledge Base, and development of Web resources and tools.

National Task Force on AT Reuse

NTF members who drive new initiatives and advise the program customers are national leaders from:

- AT Act Programs
- Nonprofit reuse programs
- AT professions
- The AT industry
- Academic centers

Reuse Requirements in the AT Act

- In the 1998 reauthorization, reuse is defined in the statute as a formal (though discretionary) activity. AT Act programs could develop systems for the *"maintenance of information about, and recycling centers for, the redistribution of assistive technology devices and services."*
- The reauthorization of 2004 specifically identified AT reuse as a quasi-mandatory activity, whether the activity is funded under the state or through other state or non-federal funding.

Reuse Defined in the 2004 Reauthorization

The AT Act of 2004 allows the state directly, or in collaboration with public or private entities, to carry out assistive technology device programs that provide for the exchange, repair, recycling, or other reutilization of assistive technology devices, which may include redistribution through device sales, loans, rental or donations.

Obligation of State AT Act Reporting

- States report data from reuse activities as a required section of their annual report to the Administration for Community Living.
- Data reported represents the largest area of activity resulting in the most significant costs saved to individuals with disabilities compared to other required activities.

AT Reuse - Defined

- **Exchange** between seller or donor and buyer or recipient
- **Refurbishment** of devices for minor repairs to restore original condition
- **Reassignment** to new users
- **Open-ended device loans** to fill the gap while waiting for a new device
- **Recycling**: breakdown for parts or end-of-life disposal
- **Remanufacturing: *Please don't!***

The Pass It On Center - born of 'the perfect storm'

- Reauthorization of the Assistive Technology Act
- New Freedom Initiative
- Interest from OSERS' leadership
- Hurricane Katrina
- Prevalence of activity

Goal of AT Reuse Initiative

To increase the availability of assistive technology (AT) through promoting and supporting the safe, appropriate and effective reuse of AT devices at the state and local level.

Examples of Safe: A focus on risk management - policies & procedures - sanitization practices, device tracking

- Sanitization: policies and procedures, tile rooms (Paraquad and FODAC), automated cleaning devices, worker training
- Tracking devices for warnings, recalls

Hubscrub at Walton Options serves program sanitization needs and generates revenue from fees

Examples of Appropriate: Matching People to the Right device, including training for proper use

- Functional design of reuse centers
- Engaging AT professionals for matching devices to the customer

Paraquad's training course assists in learning to maneuver with new devices

The National Pass It On Center

- Promotes the ***safe, effective and appropriate*** reuse of lightly-used assistive technology
- Provides technical assistance to organizations engaging in AT reutilization
- Was funded for 7 years by the U.S. Dept. of Education/ Rehabilitation Services Administration and administered through the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Pass It On Center - Network

The Pass It On Center created a network for national and state resources to foster the appropriate reuse of AT so that people with disabilities can get the affordable AT they need in order to live, learn, work and play more independently.

Issues of National Significance Related to AT Reuse

- Need for a national classification system for data collection: classifications, definitions of reuse
- Legal issues, including compliance with federal and sate laws, liability and reimbursement
- Identification of best practices and the need for national standards
- Defining a role for reuse in emergency response
- Building relationships among reuse programs, device manufacturers and device suppliers

TA for Reuse Programs Was Needed:

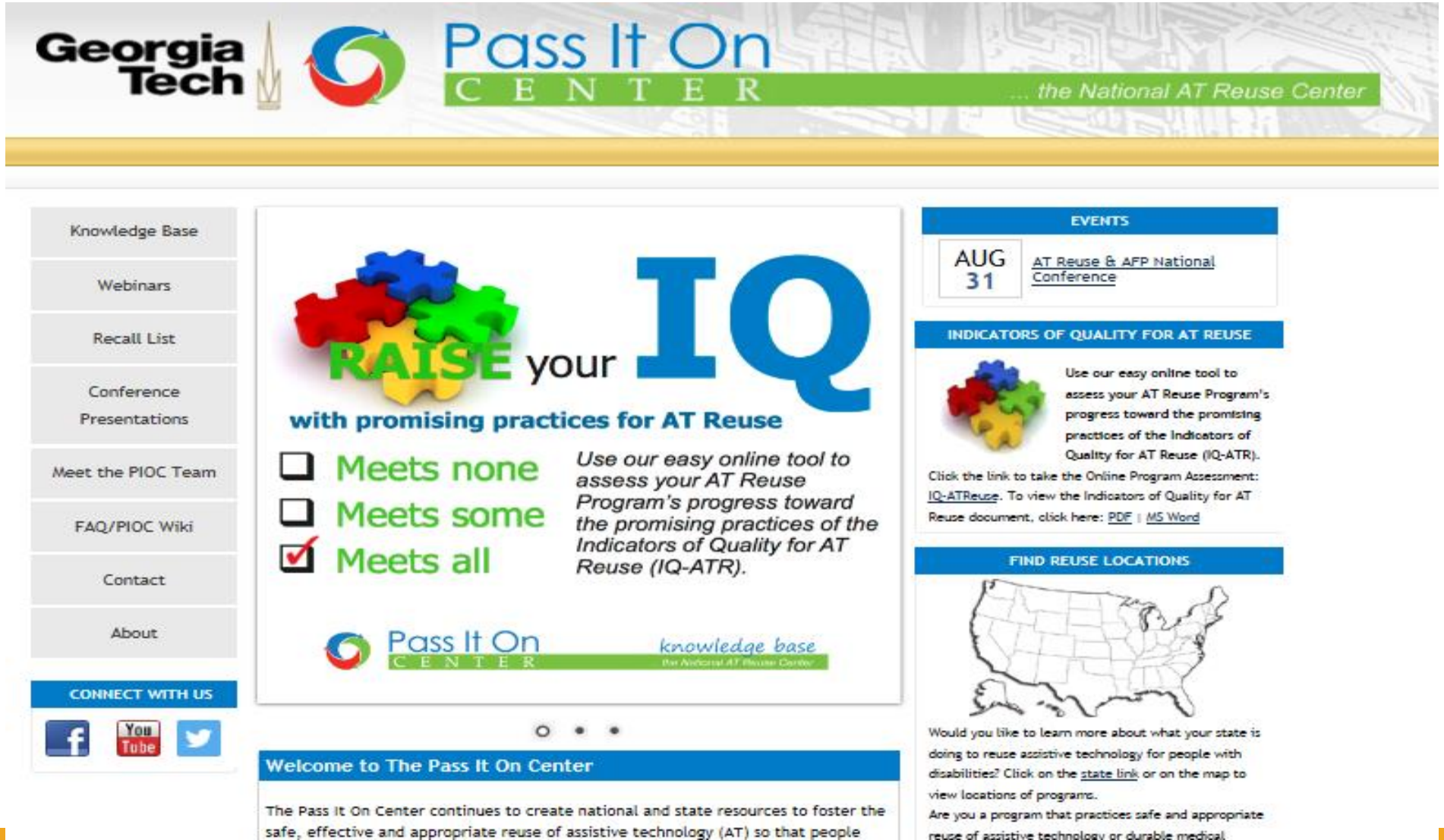
- To establish a national network of reuse programs
- To facilitate the exchange of information among reuse programs
- To promote device reuse to individuals with disabilities and others
- To expand the number and sustainability of reuse programs

Overview of PIOC Resources

PIOC created a range of resources for reuse programs and their customers:

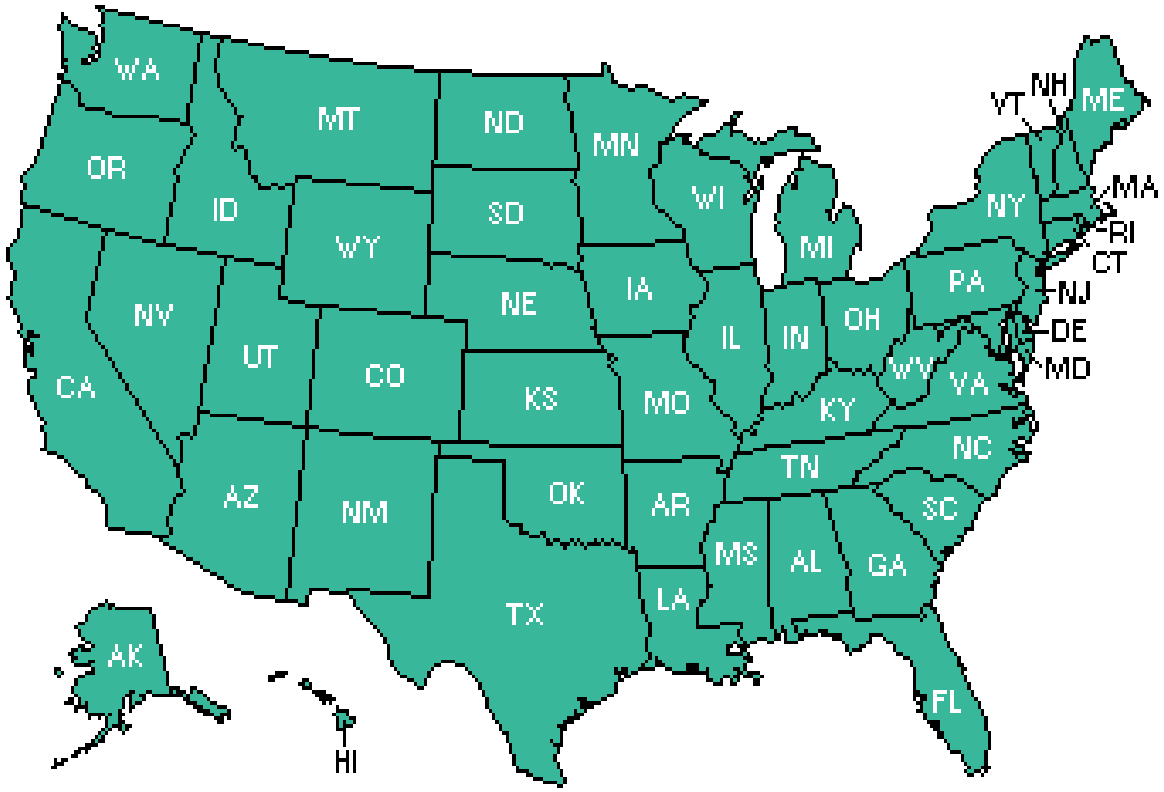
- Indicators of Quality for AT Reuse
- Reuse Program Locations Database
- Knowledge Base
- Webinars and Webinar Archives
- YouTube Channel of Virtual Tours

Tools for You: Pass It On Center Website! Solution Site



Find AT Reuse Programs

You can find one of 223 reuse programs near you in the Locations Database

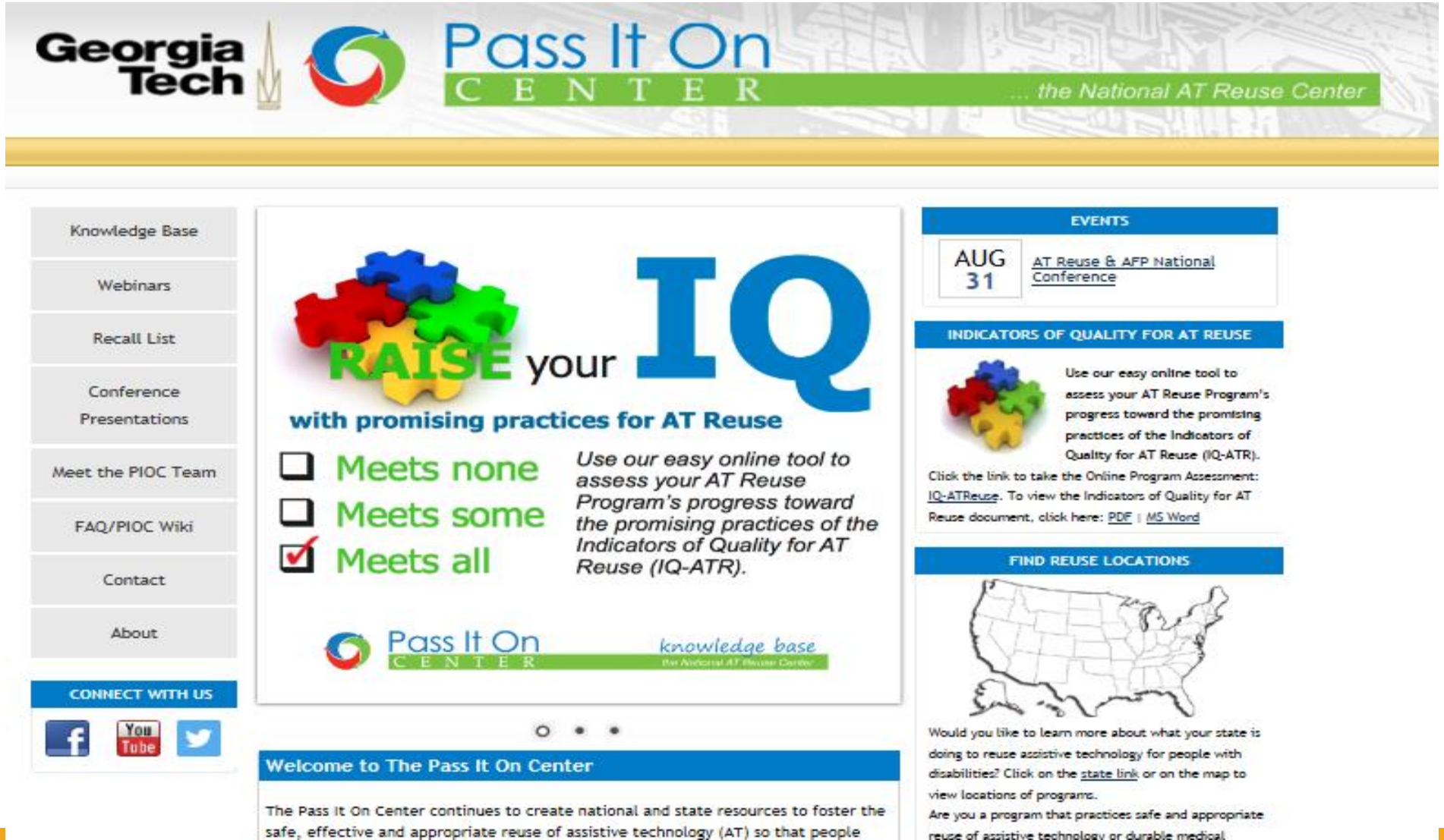


Indicators of Quality for AT Reuse

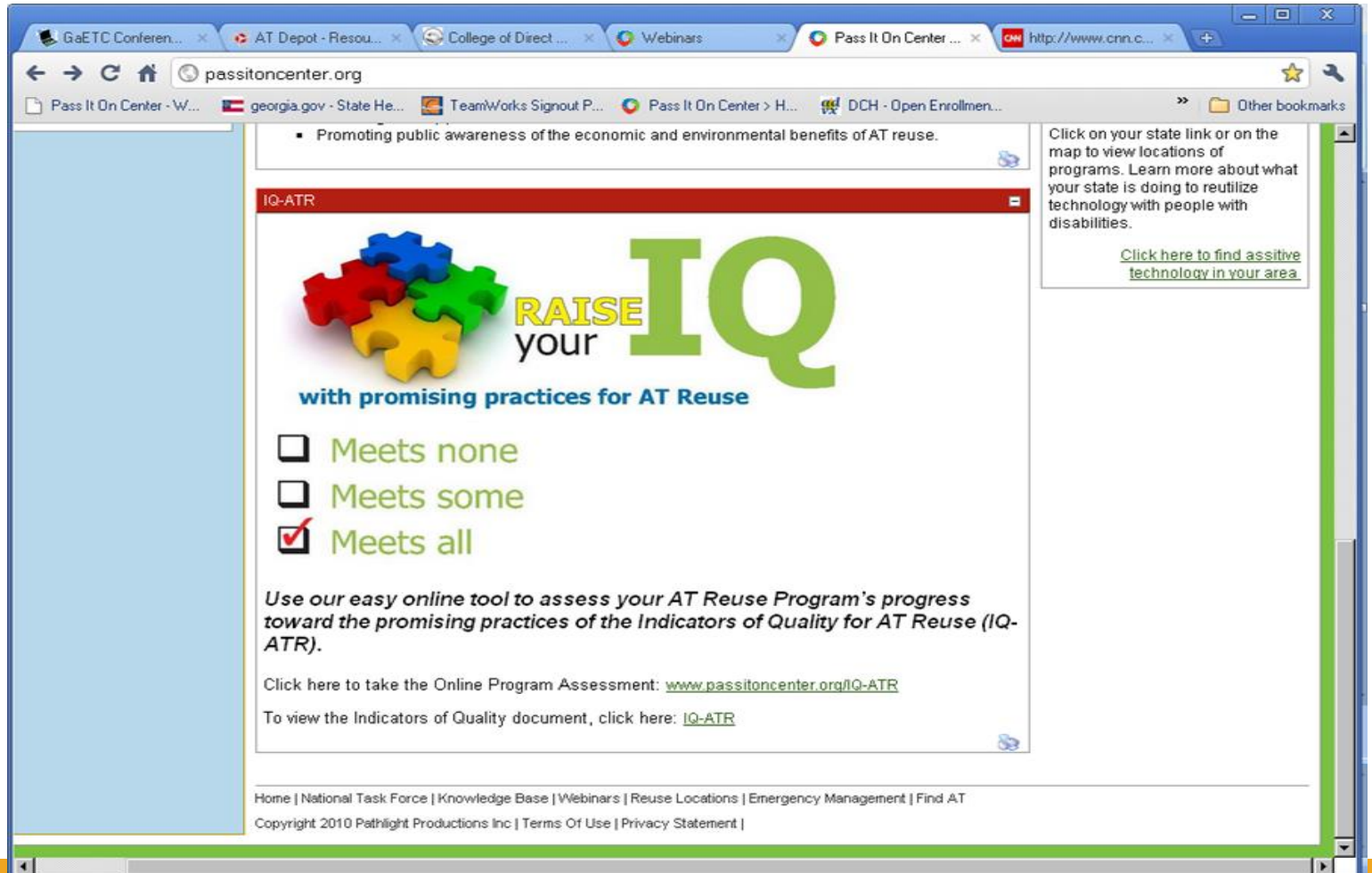
Promising practices by key category with factors for consideration in evaluating how well a program complies

- Developed through a national collaborative effort
- Incorporated into an Online Program Assessment Tool for ease of use; tied to resources in the Knowledge Base

Introducing our New Pass It On Center Website!



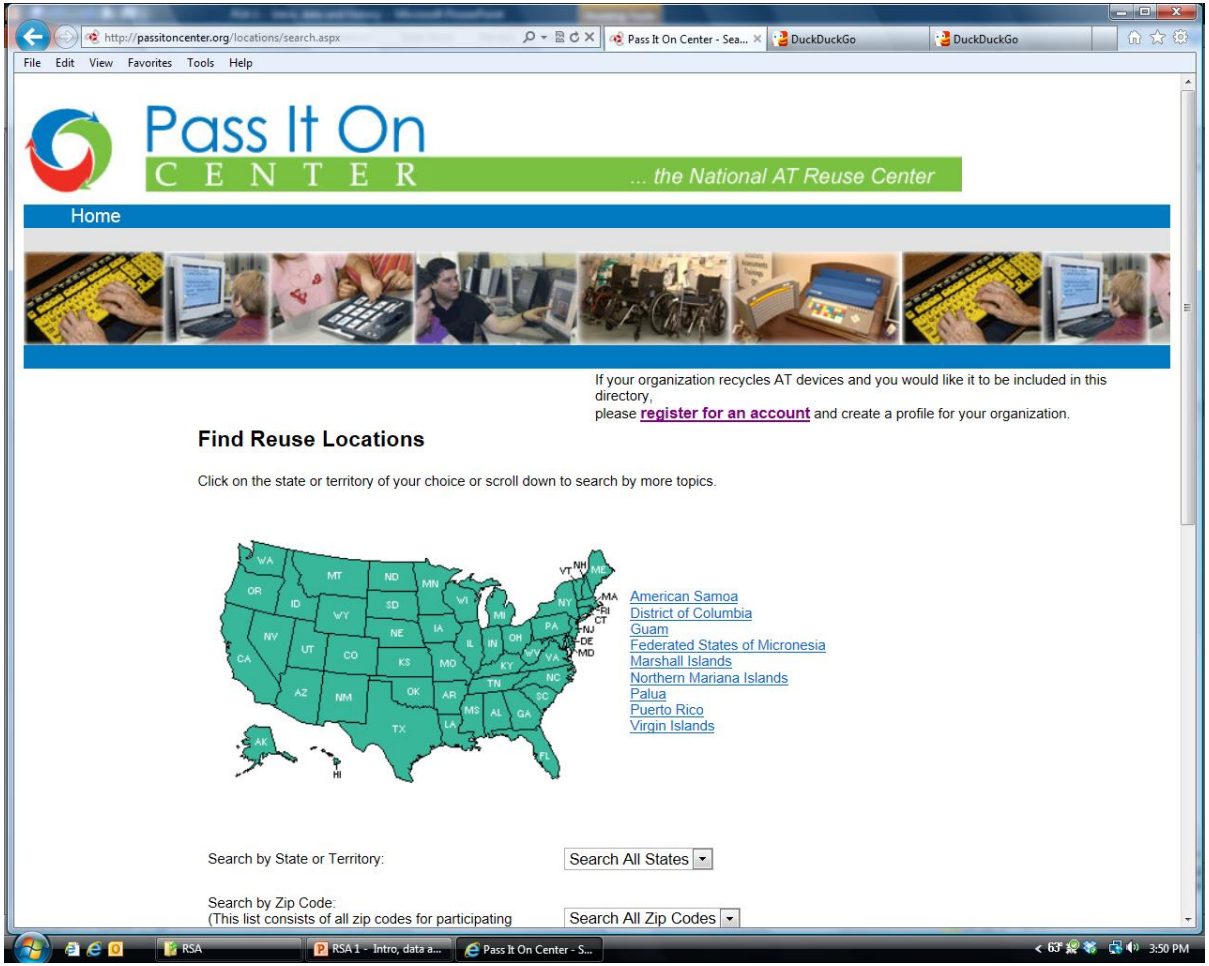
Indicators of Quality for AT Reuse and an Online Program Assessment Tool



KnowledgeBase Continues to Grow!

Reuse Program Locater: Profile a Program, Find a Program

- ✓ **Programs create a profile in the database.**
- ✓ **Users locate programs by state or activity.**
- ✓ **Currently there are 223 program profiles.**



Pass It On CENTER ... the National AT Reuse Center

Building a Knowledge Base

600+ objects:
- 244 articles
- 373 attachments (models, examples, forms)

Sample usage:
101 articles viewed
in a two-week
period

Best Practices:
Policies and Procedures

Sample Documents from Reuse Programs

Models

Presentations

Videos

Links

Modules in KnowledgeBase

- Program Operations
- User Services
- Marketing
- Emergency Preparedness
- Supplier and Manufacturer Relationships
- Organizational Structure and Governance
- Accounting
- Management
- Human Resources
- Sustainability

Webinars

- Free webinars provide education and training on topics of value to reuse programs.
- Continuing education credits area available to AT professionals.
- Audio, slides and transcript archived online for future use on demand.

Linda Jaco Kerri Morgan Sara Sack

Webinar Archives

On-demand information on topics of interest:

- **Audio recording of live webinars**
- **Slides**
- **Transcripts**

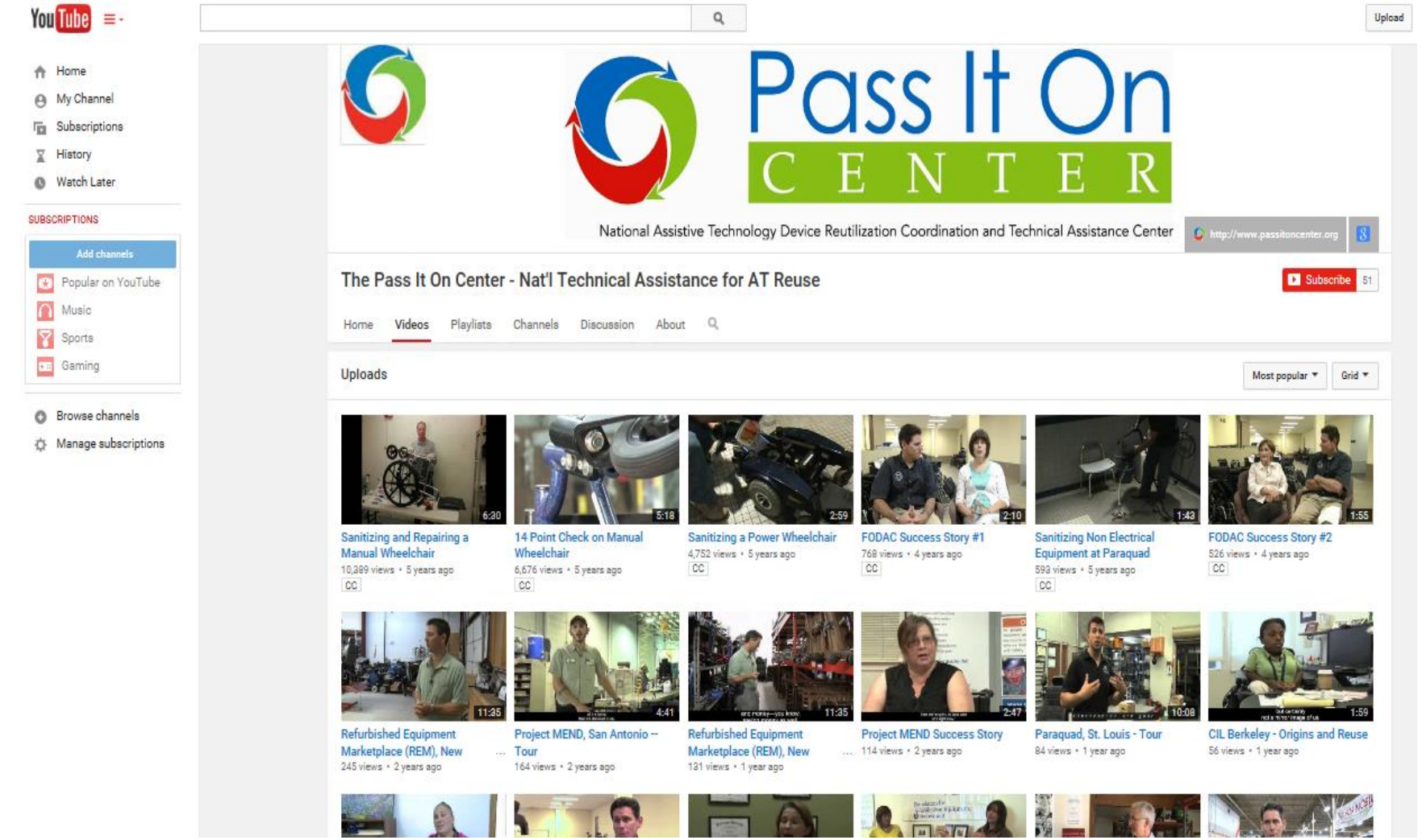
Pass It On Center Video Project

Showcases reuse programs with tours, interviews, sanitization models and more

PIOC YouTube Channel

- Videos are captioned by AMAC Accessibility Solutions

Increased Views on our YouTube Channel!



Customized Technical Assistance

- State AT Reuse Summits: **23**
- Direct Technical Assistance On Site: **31** states
- Other Technical Assistance provided as requested for all AT Act Programs and other organizations; significant assistance with start-up of two nonprofit reuse programs in Birmingham and Dallas

Continuing Education for Reuse Programs

- Webinars: **46 to date**, presented without charge and archived for future use
- **ATIA Preconferences and Reuse Strands (2008-2013)**
  - *How to Start or Improve An AT Reuse Program*, presented in Orlando and Chicago, 2010-2011
  - *Reuse Strands*, 2008-2013, **58 sessions**; slides archived in the Knowledge Base for those unable to attend ATIA Conference

National AT Reuse Conferences

- **National AT Reuse Conference**, 2006 (Atlanta +187 participants)
- **Western States AT Reuse Conference**, 2008 (Salt Lake City +61 participants)
- **National AT Reuse Conference**, 2009 (Atlanta +213 participants)
- **National Conference on AT Reuse and Independent Living**, 2012 (Atlanta +179 participants)
- **National AT Reuse & AFP Conference**, 2015 (Washington, DC +81 participants)

State Summits on AT Reuse

Pass It On Center facilitates gatherings of AT Act Program staff and other interested organizations and agencies to plan for new or improved AT reuse programs.

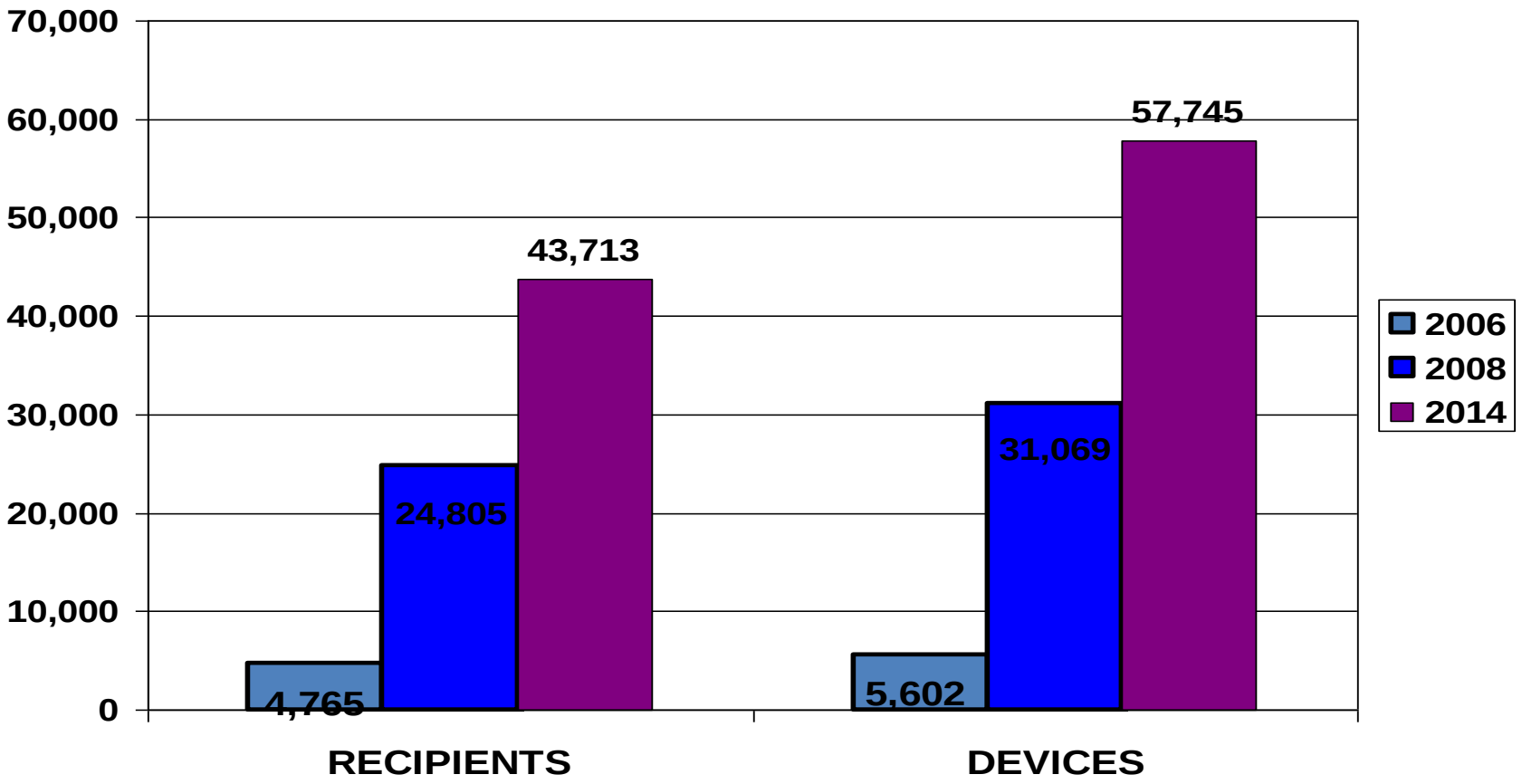
23 states have held summits or focus groups.

Many of these states reported securing additional leveraged funding as a result of Summits.

Types of Reuse Programs

- **Device Exchange**
  - Want-Ad Digest/e-Bay/classifieds for AT
- Device Reassignment/Refurbishing
  - Devices accepted (usually donated) into an inventory are repaired, sanitized, and/or refurbished as needed; and then offered for sale, loan, rental, or give away to consumers.
  - This includes devices repaired for an individual (without the ownership of the device changing hands).
- Open-Ended Loan
  - Borrower of a device can keep the device as long as needed

Trends of AT Reuse Reflected in Reporting of State AT Act Programs



A Quick Look at the Data

2014 Reuse through AT Act Programs (Source: CATADA)

Type of Assistive Technology	Average Savings Per Device	Percent Devices	Number Devices	Total Savings to Consumers
Mobility and seating	$585.06	51	29,210	$17,089,511
Daily living	171.84	34	19,481	3,347,600
Computers and related	231.45	5	2,711	627,471
Environmental adaptations	470.18	2	1,337	628,626
Vision	444.58	2	1,270	564,614
Recreation, sports and leisure	124.91	2	1,122	140,150
Learning/cognition	241.23	2	959	231,339
Hearing	273.26	1	834	227,901
Speech communication	1,735.94	1	705	1,223,836
Vehicle modification and transportation	73,810.06	<1	16	1,180,961
Total	$ 395.31	100%	57,745	$25,262,009

2014 State AT Reuse Cost Savings

Exchange	Refurbish/ Reassign	Open-Ended Loan	TOTAL
$2,917,564	$18,129,877	$4,214,568	$25,262,009

Center for Assistive Technology Act Data Assistance (CATADA). (2015). *AT Act Data Brief; Using AT Act Data to understand, plan and improve programs. FY 2014.* Issue No. 7. 2015. Retrieved 09/21/2015.

AMAC
Accessibility for All

THE ROLES OF AT REUSE

AT Reuse in Community Living

- Increased Request for Customized and General AT Reuse Technical Assistance:
  - **AAAs, ADRCs and Senior Centers**
  - **Independent Living**
  - **ID/DD**
  - **Nursing Home Transition**
  - **Veterans**
  - **Homeless/Displaced - MH**

NEED AT

A prototype of a centralized, national online exchange site

NEED AT

The National Equipment Exchange Depot

Pass It On CENTER

Search

Pass It On CENTER

WELCOME to **NEED**, The **National Equipment Exchange Depot** funded under the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988 (Tech Act), as amended. **NEED** is designed to make assistive technology (AT) devices and services more available and accessible to ALL citizens with disabilities. This equipment exchange collaboration between individuals and families with disabilities and exchange programs around the country encourages members to offer assistive technology devices and information for sale or purchase to others who may benefit from using technology unneeded or discarded by others. **NEED** which functions like a classified advertisement in your local newspaper is discussed in more detail under Frequently Asked Questions.

NEED is an online database where persons may list assistive technology items for sale, donation, or things they need. In recent years household recycling has become a daily activity. Assistive technology recycling provides an opportunity for those in need to access assistive technology items no longer needed by others. **NEED** is the place for individuals to either advertise used equipment for sale, donation, or express a need for a specific item(s).

- Computers and related
- Daily Living
- Environmental Adaptations
- Hearing
- Learning, Cognitive, & Developmental
- Mobility, Seating & Positioning
- Other
- Recreation, Sports, and Leisure
- Speech Communication
- Vehicle Modification and Transportation
- Vision

NEEDAT

The National Equipment Exchange Depot

Pass It On CENTER

Home | FAQs | Join | My Account | Search Items | Partners | Contact Us

[Login]

Search

To Search for an item, you may select from the Categories Below or use the type a value into the Search bar along the left menu.

Pass It On CENTER

Category of Item: View All Categories

Name of Item contains the following text:

- View All Categories
- All Categories
- Computers & Related
- Daily Living Aids
- Environmental Adaptations
- Hearing
- Learning, Cognitivie, & Developmental
- Mobility / Seating & Positioning
- Other
- Recreation, Sports, & Leisure
- Speech Communication
- Vehicle Modification & Transportation
- Vision

Only registered users may see the full deta

Register for an Account

	Item Name	Item Desc				ocation City	Location State	Item Number
Full Details	Rifton Potty Chair	ID E849 - 200 Size: Large				owder prings	GA	1
Full Details	Touch Window Screen	Touch Window Screen. Fits on computer monitor for those who can't work with a mouse. (Works great...just got child a bigger monitor.) Condition: Excellent	60	Edmark	Computers & Related			2

Consulting for Partnerships with Medicaid

Checking inventory at the Kansas Equipment Exchange

Medicaid programs are showing increasing interest in the reuse of durable medical equipment (DME).

Factors driving increased interest from Medicaid programs

- Unemployment levels and weak economy add to the number of uninsured and makes increasing numbers eligible for Medicaid.
- Implementation of the Affordable Care Act changed eligibility and added large numbers of uninsured adults under 65 to Medicaid.
- DME is a major cost.

TA for Medicaid Partnerships

- **Consulting:**
  - Dr. Sara Sack, NTF member, has consulted with **18** states.
- **Webinar:**
  - Reviewed models and experiences
  - Defined some of the issues
  - Prompted immediate action by two states

- **How-to Guide**

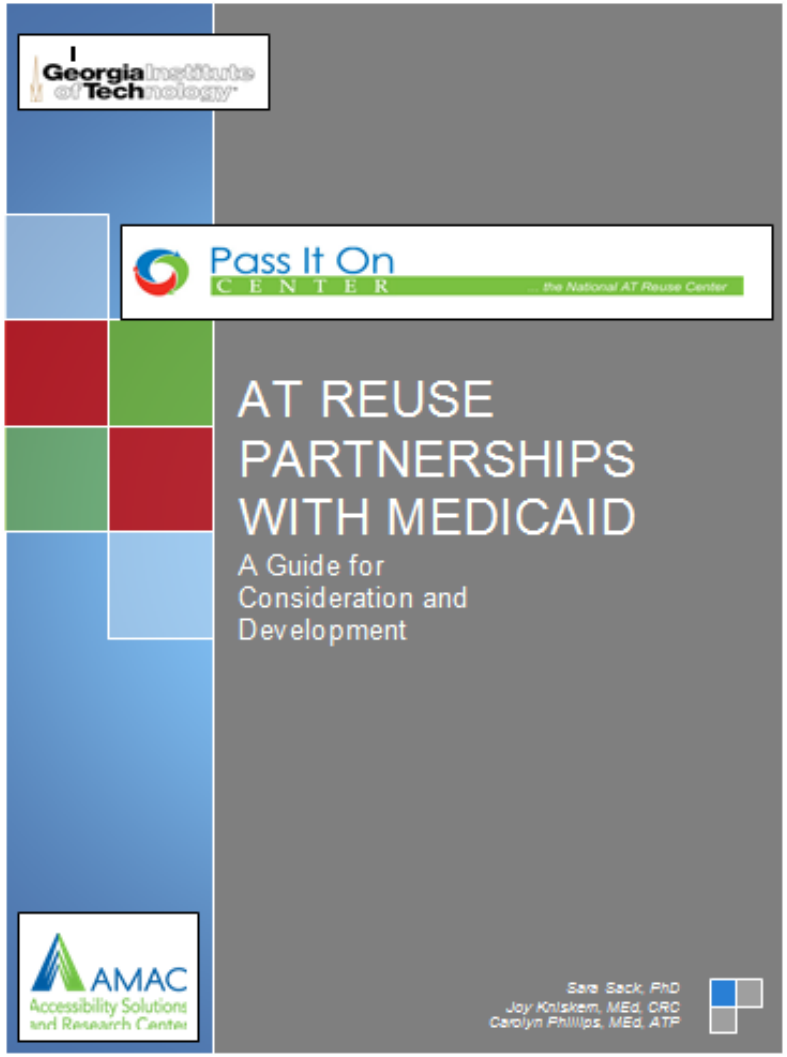
A document for reuse program leaders and Medicaid administrators examining successful models, providing guidance in exploring the issues and the process of expanding reuse in partnership with Medicaid

Released August 2015

Medicaid and Reuse Programs

- **Survey results from July 2015:**
  - **Three states with active partnerships**
  - **23 AT Act Programs interested in partnerships**

We are here to Help -
AT Reuse Partnerships with Medicaid Guide!



About this Guide

- We know access to durable medical equipment (DME) **improves health and safety, minimizes doctor visits and returns to hospitals, reduces or delays assisted living and nursing home placements, and enables some people and/or caregivers to keep working**.

- Access to DME is not always available and those who cannot obtain it fail to experience the needed outcomes and quality-of-life improvements that DME can provide.

- Individuals who lack access may be uninsured or under-insured, or they may have coverage but experience delays in obtaining devices.

- For all of these individuals, the reutilization of lightly-used DME can have great value.

The Need

- The **56 federally funded state and territorial Assistive Technology Act Programs** are mandated to engage in some form of assistive technology (AT) reuse.
- **Three of these programs engage in partnerships with Medicaid**
- In a recent PIOC survey, **23 states expressed an interest** in developing partnerships.
- This guide is for the leaders of AT Act Programs and Medicaid programs.

The AT Reuse and Medicaid Guide

- The guide does **not** take a position for or against partnerships between AT reuse programs and Medicaid
- It **does provide guidance to those who choose to pursue partnerships.**
- The recommendations in this guide are based on best practices and the lessons learned from previous and existing programs.
- These recommendations could easily apply to collaborative partnerships.

Considerations

- **Plan Carefully** - The expansion of reuse through Medicaid raises a serious concern about **consumer choice**.
- The primary consideration for reuse **should not be cost containment**, but rather as a possible alternative to address very specific situations such as needs of those
  -- Awaiting eligibility decisions from third parties such as Medicaid;
  - Experiencing loss of DME during disasters;
  - In process of nursing home transition;
  - And more!

Questions to Consider

- Who owns the device?
- Who refurbishes the devices?
- How is the beneficiary matched to an appropriate device?
- How is the new user tracked and notified of warnings or recalls?
- Who installs or repairs the device for the new user?
- **And the list goes on…**

A Call to Action

- There is a significant need for research comparing the outcomes with different AT devices.
- Research is needed to assist policy makers and clinicians.

Need More Research

- The consolidation of billing codes used to group products for reimbursement purposes now has some codes that do not group homogeneous technologies, and yet coverage policies are developed based on these codes.

- Research that compares features and options to assist in identifying the impact of trade-offs that occur in the technology recommendation process would help payers, clinicians and consumers in determining what will provide the best outcome given an individual's specific needs, activities and routine environments.

- In order for technology to play an appropriate role in the reduction of health care costs and improved outcomes, more research and more data is needed.

Pass It On CENTER ... the National AT Reuse Center

AMAC Accessibility for All

AT Reuse in Emergency Management

Amy S. Goldman

Co-Executive Director, Institute on Disabilities

Temple University

Manager, Pass It On Center Initiative on AT and Emergency Preparedness

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY®

Institute on Disabilities

What happens when we can't access the AT devices *and services* we need?

- Unable to communicate, self-direct
- Unable to be as independent in mobility, self-care
- Unable to work/return to work
- Risk secondary physical disabilities
- Risk secondary mental health disabilities

AT Considerations in Planning and Response

- Personal preparedness: shelter in place AND evacuation
- Inclusive planning
- Exercising with real people; exercises that involve DME/AT
- Actionable planning for DME/AT: Mass care
    - What kind of DME/AT?
    - Cache and transport?
    - Pre-stage

AT Considerations in Planning and Response

- How might AT reuse meet an individual's need for a back-up device?
- How might reused devices be deployed in exercises?
- How might reused devices contribute to DME/AT pre-staging or caches for shelter accessibility?
- What role might AT reuse play in recovery?

Sam

- There is a widespread power outage as a result of a severe winter storm. Power won't be able to be restored for at least 48 hours. Due to the weather, Sam's personal assistant who does his AM care is unable to get to his house. Sam uses a power wheelchair (no manual one); a transfer board; adapted utensils; and depends on grab bars throughout his home. He also uses a cordless large button telephone.

Larry

- Larry is 37 and has intellectual disabilities.
- He uses a speech generating device.
- After he comes home from work everyday, he is alone for about two hours until his dad gets home from work.
- As a result of a tornado, his dad has been injured and is in the hospital. Roads to Larry's house are impassable due to debris.
- Larry's closest relatives are 3 hours away.

Hannah

- Hannah was evacuated to a shelter from her home as flooding approached her neighborhood.
- She is hard of hearing and has problems seeing.
- Although she remembered her hearing aids but forgot batteries and her glasses.
- She uses a captioned phone at home, but left it behind.
- Her housemate Louise was also evacuated. She also is hard of hearing but has never been able to afford a hearing aid. Louise uses a walker but she forgot to take it.

Leading the Way: Promoting AT Reuse in Emergency Management

National Leadership Summit on AT Reuse and Emergency Management

- Washington, DC, February 2010

FEMA Region Summits on AT Reuse and Emergency Management

- Region IV, Atlanta, April 2011
- Region III, Philadelphia, September 2011
- Region VI, Houston, April 2012

Florida Summit on AT Reuse and Emergency Management

- FL Independent Living Council co-hosted, Orlando, January 2012

Pass It On
CENTER
National Assistive Technology Device Reutilization
Coordination and Technical Assistance Center
EXIT

Regional Summits followed: IV, VI, III, and two State Summits (Florida & Alaska)

Summits: What did we learn?

Consideration of Standards for AT Reuse in Emergency Management

- Why would this be important?
- Why not?
- What AT to consider?
- How?
- Who should be involved?
- When? And, next steps

Picture from ILRU

We have learned…

- Emergency managers – for the most part – understand their obligation to plan for the whole community.
- Emergency managers are MOTIVATED to engage people with AFN in planning.
- Emergency managers don’t know who/how to do this.
- Emergency managers don’t know what “AT” is.
- Emergency managers have problems figuring out how to accommodate people with disabilities in the planning process ($$).

And…

- In addition to developing resources for devices, we need to develop resources/capacity for matching and other related services.
- (Reused) AT that is more medical in nature (“DME” such as nebulizers, C-Paps) will probably need to come from other sources.
- AT Act programs may be motivated but don’t have/don’t know where to find the resources to take on this work

Gaps: AT Reuse and Disasters

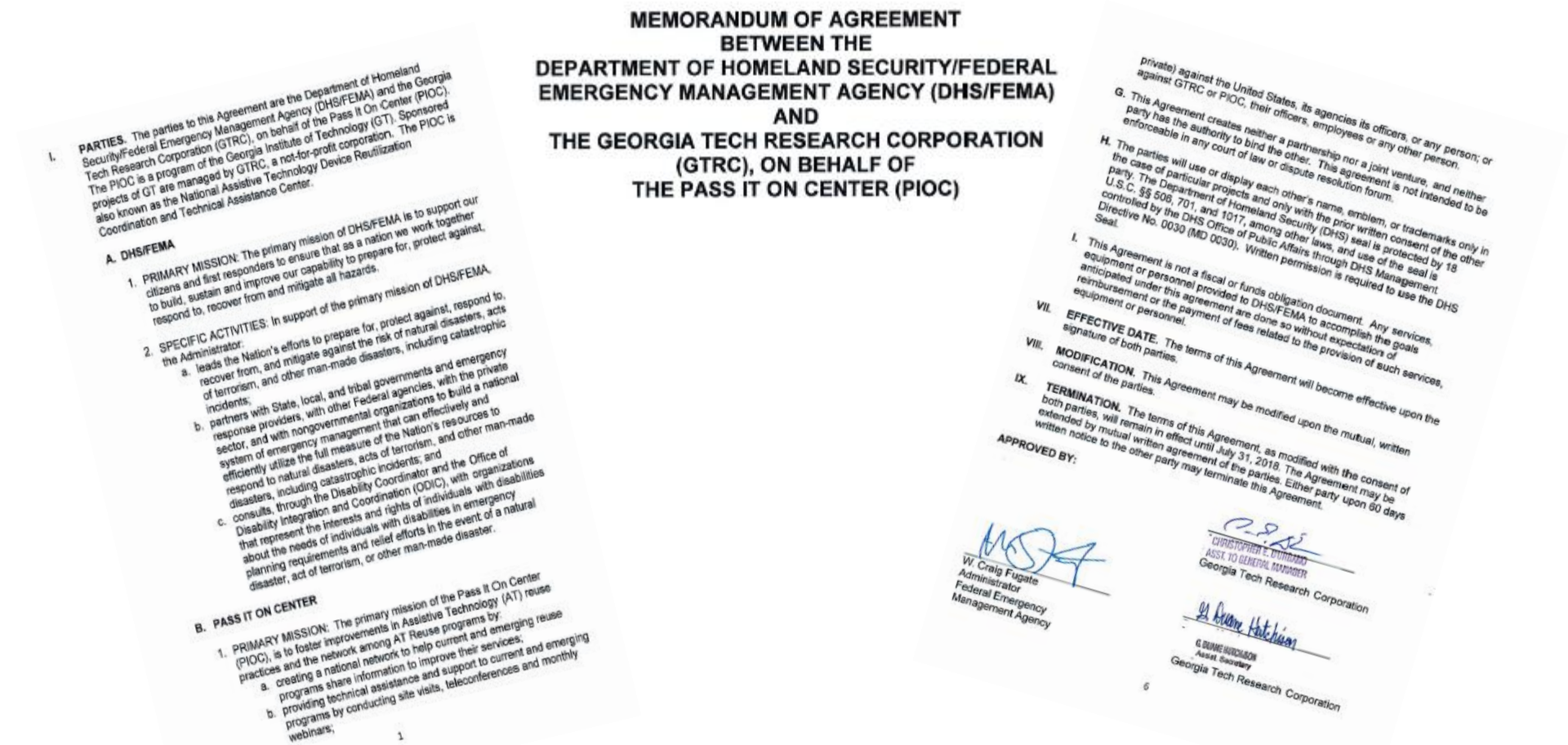
- Engagement of reuse programs at state and local levels
- Continued training and technical assistance on safe, effective reuse
- Working through issues with FEMA concerning provision of reused AT
- Funds to support transportation of DME and AT in disasters
- Storage space to cache DME/AT ready for disaster response

Goals for Continued Work in Emergency Preparedness

- Regional Summits in remaining Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regions
- Infrastructure to support safe, appropriate, effective reuse in emergencies and continuity of effort for permanent devices
- Collaboration/coordination with the National Response Recovery Council /MOA Partners (NDRN, NICL, the Pass It On Center, Red Cross and AARP)

AMAC
Accessibility for All

Introducing FEMA's MOA with the Pass It On Center!
Great Job - Joy Kniskern & Amy Goldman!



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY/FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (DHS/FEMA)
AND
THE GEORGIA TECH RESEARCH CORPORATION (GTRC), ON BEHALF OF THE PASS IT ON CENTER (PIOC)

I. **PARTIES.** The parties to this Agreement are the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA) and the Georgia Tech Research Corporation (GTRC), on behalf of the Pass It On Center (PIOC). The PIOC is a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology (GT). Sponsored projects of GT are managed by GTRC, a not-for-profit corporation. The PIOC is also known as the National Assistive Technology Device Reutilization Coordination and Technical Assistance Center.

A. DHS/FEMA

1. PRIMARY MISSION: The primary mission of DHS/FEMA is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards.

2. SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES: In support of the primary mission of DHS/FEMA, the Administrator:
   a. leads the Nation's efforts to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against the risk of natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters, including catastrophic incidents;
   b. partners with State, local, and tribal governments and emergency response providers, with other Federal agencies, with the private sector, and with nongovernmental organizations to build a national system of emergency management that can effectively and efficiently utilize the full measure of the Nation's resources to respond to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters, including catastrophic incidents; and
   c. consults, through the Disability Coordinator and the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC), with organizations that represent the interests and rights of individuals with disabilities about the needs of individuals with disabilities in emergency planning requirements and relief efforts in the event of a natural disaster, act of terrorism, or other man-made disaster.

B. PASS IT ON CENTER

1. PRIMARY MISSION: The primary mission of the Pass It On Center (PIOC), is to foster improvements in Assistive Technology (AT) reuse practices and the network among AT Reuse programs by:
   a. creating a national network to help current and emerging reuse programs share information to improve their services;
   b. providing technical assistance and support to current and emerging programs by conducting site visits, teleconferences and monthly webinars;

1

private) against the United States, its agencies its officers, or any person; or against GTRC or PIOC, their officers, employees or any other person.

G. This Agreement creates neither a partnership nor a joint venture, and neither party has the authority to bind the other. This agreement is not intended to be enforceable in any court of law or dispute resolution forum.

H. The parties will use or display each other's name, emblem, or trademarks only in the case of particular projects and only with the prior written consent of the other party. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) seal is protected by 18 U.S.C. §§ 506, 701, and 1017, among other laws, and use of the seal is controlled by the DHS Office of Public Affairs through DHS Management Directive No. 0030 (MD 0030). Written permission is required to use the DHS Seal.

I. This Agreement is not a fiscal or funds obligation document. Any services, equipment or personnel provided to DHS/FEMA to accomplish the goals anticipated under this agreement are done so without expectation of reimbursement or the payment of fees related to the provision of such services, equipment or personnel.

VII. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** The terms of this Agreement will become effective upon the signature of both parties.

VIII. **MODIFICATION.** This Agreement may be modified upon the mutual, written consent of the parties.

IX. **TERMINATION.** The terms of this Agreement, as modified with the consent of both parties, will remain in effect until July 31, 2018. The Agreement may be extended by mutual written agreement of the parties. Either party upon 60 days written notice to the other party may terminate this Agreement.

APPROVED BY:

W. Craig Fugate
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency

CHRISTOPHER E. DUNBAR
ASST. TO GENERAL MANAGER
Georgia Tech Research Corporation

G. DIANE HUTCHISON
Asst. Secretary
Georgia Tech Research Corporation

6

Georgia Tech Pass It On CENTER ...the National AT Reuse Center

MOA between FEMA/ODIC and Georgia Tech/Pass It On Center

- Identify strategies to increase collaboration between PIOC and Disability Integration Specialists and FEMA/ODIC.

MOA - Responsibilities

Generally – for both parties – coordination, collaboration and communication to better meet the needs of survivors needing reutilized AT as a stop gap.

Sharing best practices, issues, training opportunities, relevant information, a plan of action with meetings to review milestones of agreement.

AMAC
Accessibility for All

Next Steps

QUESTIONS, ISSUES, GAPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Georgia Tech
Pass It On CENTER ... the National AT Reuse Center

Research Opportunities

Pass It On Center Examined a Role for Reuse in Freeing Funds for Complex Rehab Technology

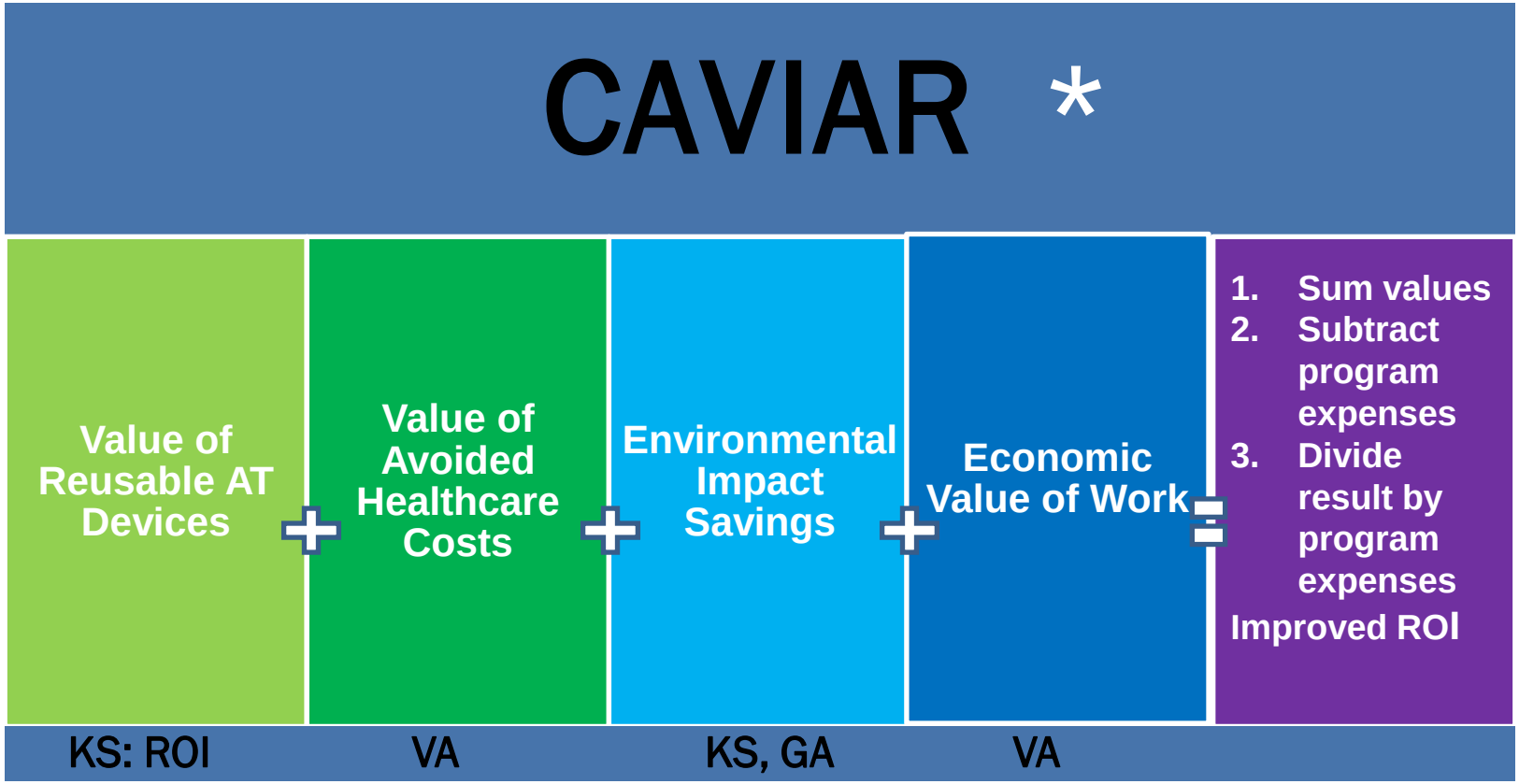
- Current landscape for DME and Healthcare Act
- Implications for AT Reuse

Research more ROI for AT Reuse

- Volume tracking (donations, devices assigned, value of donated devices)
- Use of business tools, from cost-benefit to ROI analysis: Sara Sack, Kansas
- Calculation of avoided costs (e.g., lost work time avoided, healthcare expenses avoided, environmental impact minimized) based on customer follow-up: FREE Foundation/VATS
- Combining those and more: CAVIAR

ROI - more than the value of reused equipment

Calculation of Approximate Value of Investment in AT Reutilization



Addressing Other Unmet Needs:

- Expand role of AT reuse in independent living, nursing home transition, deinstitutionalization, delaying entry to nursing homes and supported and competitive employment for people with ID/DD
- Build national alliances to increase available AT for reuse

Pass It On CENTER ... the National AT Reuse Center

AMAC Accessibility for All

Joy Kniskern	**Joy@passitoncenter.org**
Carolyn Phillips	**Carolyn@passitoncenter.org**
Liz Persaud	**Liz@passitoncenter.org**
Trish Redmon	**Trish@passitoncenter.org**
Amy Goldman	**Amy@passitoncenter.org**

DISCLAIMER

Pass It On Center was supported under cooperative agreement #H235V060016 awarded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, and is administered by Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, a program of AMAC Accessibility Solutions of The Georgia Institute for Technology (Georgia Tech.) However, the contents of this publication do not necessarily represent the policy or opinions of the Department of Education or Georgia Tech, and the reader should not assume endorsements of this document by the Federal government or Georgia Tech.