Addressing the Technology Needs of People with Developmental Disabilities

Location: Statewide                           Funding: $72,900 | $24,300 match

GOAL
Support people with developmental disabilities at home during COVID so they can:

- get prepared to work, and
- participate in activities that are important to them.

SUMMARY
This project focuses on agencies that had another grant from the Council. That grant helped agencies improve how they support people to get jobs and do other things they like when not working. The agencies must find new ways to provide supports because COVID shut down most in-person activities.

This project will help agencies continue to support people by providing iPads. The iPads will make it possible for people with developmental disabilities to:

- receive employment support and training,
- participate in activities like exercise classes, music classes, and advocacy sessions, and
- stay in touch with friends and family.

This is a demonstration project. That means the project will try something new to see if it works.

ACTIVITIES

- Provide iPads for people supported by the following agencies:
  - Chesapeake Center
  - Chesterwye Center
o CHI Center
o Harford Center
o Scott Key Center
o St. Peter’s Adult Learning Center

Chesapeake Center, Chesterwye Center, and Harford Center are in rural areas.

- Report how the iPads helped people and what was learned. This will help providers, the Developmental Disabilities Administration, and others decide how to support more people in the future.

**OUTCOMES**

- More people with developmental disabilities receive employment supports during COVID. They are more prepared for work so more people get jobs after COVID.
- More people with developmental disabilities participate in activities that are important to them during COVID.
- Provider agencies have new ways to provide supports.