



The Adapted Technology Program (ATP) at Inglis has connected people with physical disabilities to the world through technology for more than 20 years. Long recognized for its outstanding work with residents using the Inglis House Computer Lab, the program has recently expanded, through grant funding, so that people of all ages with disabilities throughout the Delaware Valley can increase their computer access and skills.

Highlights of the ATP @ Inglis include:

- Creating access to computers and adapted technology for the 297 residents of Inglis House through the Adapted Technology Lab. Thirty Five workstations are available days, evenings, and weekends and can be quickly modified to meet personal user needs by highly skilled, dedicated staff members.
- Testing and utilizing the latest technology (e.g., Tobii Eye Gaze and Tecla Shield equipment) to accommodate consumers with multiple disabilities.
- Serving consumers (ages 18-100!) with goals oriented skills assessments, software and applications workshops, along with 1:1 individualized training and support.
- Testing and developing national prototype standards for accessible Personal Health Records (PHR) for people with disabilities with The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and WGBH Boston through NIDRR/Department of Education grant.
- Supporting implementation of voice recognition software for resident PHR access after successfully implementing Electronic Medical Records (EMR) access via voice recognition software.
- Pioneering advances in telemedicine, occupational and physical therapy services through new Inglis Community LIFE program.
- Empowering consumers and residents throughout Inglis' 200+ housing units to have greater control of their lives through converging adaptive and assistive technologies and environmental control units.
- Engaging and training the next generation of adapted/assistive tech leaders through two internships providing hands on experience with residents and consumers. Students and others are hosted regularly for educational purposes. Inglis is recognized as a Fieldwork Educator of the year by the Regional Consortium (2013)
- Incorporating state-of-the-art accessibility standards (supported by grant funding) for users with multiple disabilities Inglis' newly updated website (www.inglis.org), to be launched spring 2013
- Providing tech support for the myriad personal electronic devices being used by residents and consumers via a grant supported internship.
- Partnering with the Pennsylvania Technology Foundation (PATF) to help consumers fund computer and adapted technology purchases to improve their computer literacy and access.
- Gaining program recognition via Access Achievement awards from the Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on People with Disabilities for the Adapted Technology Lab (2010) and to Inglis (2012)
- Employing staff who are RESNA and ATIA certified in Assisted Technology and who participate as active leaders in local educational and technology partnerships.

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Adapted Technology Program Consumers



Jesse is a 23 year old male who had just graduated from college when he was involved in a motorcycle accident. His life changed instantly; he was diagnosed with complete paralysis from the neck down and is ventilator or respirator dependent secondary to this spinal cord injury. He had tried to use technology hand-me-downs from good intentioned members of his community but experienced increased frustration. His self-esteem was so low and he expressed that he almost gave up on himself.

Jesse had previously used technology every day of his life but believed that he was never going to effectively use it again. He was in need of a formal Adapted Technology Assessment and an effective and comfortable means of computer access. He received his AT assessment and it was determined that he had enough head movement to use a mouth stick to access a DataLux keyboard and Kensington Expert mouse that are positioned on a keyboard mounting system. He was amazed with this quick and effective means of input and began coming to class fifteen to twenty minutes early, anxious to begin training. The devices that he was assessed for and trained with have been purchased for him through a waiver program. Jesse now uses his computer at home every day for socialization, recreation, and is thinking about the possibilities for his future now that he has independent access to technology.



Ted is a gentleman in his late forties who came to class with no reading or writing skills. He is non-verbal and expresses himself with eye blinks for yes and sticking his tongue out for no. He has very limited physical movement and drives his wheelchair with a chin control.

After his Adapted Technology assessment, it was determined that Ted could effectively use a scan/select means of computer access via a single switch that provides full control of mouse and keyboard functions using the virtual boards of the Madentec Discover Switch with Discover Pro software. A variable friction mount is attached to his wheelchair for the workshop and he is able to access this single switch with the side of his head.

Ted indicated that when he was younger he was able to use a mouth stick to color pages of a coloring book. Now that he has computer access he is able to independently pick and choose coloring pages that he colors with the computer features, he prints them out to take home to hang in his apartment or give to family and friends. He is able to complete jigsaw puzzles and is currently learning to access Checkers and other games of interest. Ted expresses a very high level of satisfaction with his new found independence. He never imagined that he could be independent with his leisure pursuits and be capable of using a computer; his self-esteem has been lifted by 200%.

Ted is interested in owning his own computer after he completes training and has involved members of his family to assist him with the application process for a no to low interest loan that is available through the Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation.