

**Minnesota STAR
Program**
A System of
Technology to
Achieve Results



*Minnesota's Assistive Technology
Act Program*

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STAR Staff

Chuck Rassbach,
Executive Director

Joan Gillum,
Executive Assistant

Kim Moccia,
AT Resource Specialist



Constellations

Winter 2007

Assistive Technology (AT) Works!

AT Champions!

The waiting is over and the recipients of the 2007 Awards for Excellence in Assistive Technology have been selected. We want to thank everyone who submitted a nomination. The response to our request for nominations was inspiring. STAR received numerous nominations spotlighting AT champions from all over Minnesota. Some nominated pioneers in the field who helped make Minnesota synonymous with AT leadership and training. Others nominated professionals going above and beyond what the job required to find creative ways to meet the AT needs of the people they work with. Still others nominated consumers who on a daily basis show through personal use the value and benefits AT offers.

The 2007 recipients will be recognized at an award ceremony on April 11, 2007 in the Rotunda of the State Capitol.



To find out who will receive an Award for Excellence in Assistive Technology turn to page two!

Champions are made from something they have deep inside them--a desire, a dream, a vision.

--Muhammad Ali

And the winners are....

AT Consumer

- Blake Peterson

Advocate

- Phil Kragnes
- Nicholas Truso
- Lisa Larson



Educator

- Marie Swanson
- Mary Frush
- Shannon Skibicki
- Linda Potts
- Bridget Ames-ST, Lakeville School District
- Kelly Carlson- ST, Lakeville School District
- Linda Nelson, Cathy Carr, Carol Newman (shared award)

Other

- Dolores and Budd Hagen
- Melinda Goetsch
- Barb Wollak

Service Providers

- Simon Technology Center, PACER Center
- Jeni Mundl-Courage Center
- Meegan Van Straatan-Volunteer
- Assistive and Adaptive Technology Unit at State Services for the Blind

STARTE

Reusing assistive technology!

www.mnstarte.org

STAR's Request for Proposals

The STAR program is currently seeking requests for proposals to improve access to assistive technology (AT) devices and services for persons with disabilities of all ages and disabilities in Minnesota through device demonstration and loan. The STAR Program intends to work toward this outcome by subgranting with seven established AT loan programs throughout the state. Information is available online at www.admin.state.mn.us/assistivetechology or by calling Joan Gillum at 651-201-2640.

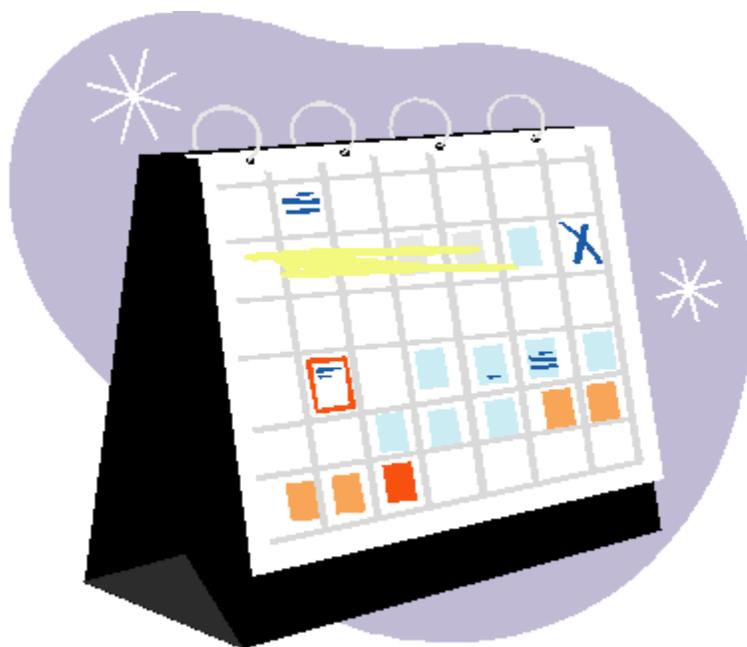
Try before you buy!

STAR has a variety of assistive technology devices available for short term loan. If you would like to know more about our loan program or request a copy of our device inventory call 651-201-2640.

An Options Too Conference - Nursing Home Relocation and Assistive Technology

This is a “don’t miss” conference for social workers, nursing home relocation specialists and county case workers, as well as, anyone interested in the role assistive technology (AT) plays in nursing home relocation. Attendees will gain an understanding of AT and nursing home relocation plus learn about statewide AT resources and funding options. This event will be held 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on **Monday, May 7, 2007** at the Department of Health, 1645 Energy Park Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55108. Registration information is available online at www.admin.state.mn.us/assistivetechology. If you would like additional information please contact Ann Roscoe, Options Too, 651-603-2026.

HOLD THE DATE: AT REUSE CONFERENCE COMING JULY 24, 2007



The Minnesota STAR Program and the Minnesota Department of Human Services Disability Services division invite you to join us for a day-long Assistive Technology Reuse Conference on Tuesday, July 24, 2007 at the Department of Human Services, Elmer L. Andersen Building in Saint Paul.

National AT reuse experts, federal program administrators, and Minnesota AT reuse participants will come together to discuss AT reutilization, share resources, network, and collaborate on plans to coordinate and maximize reuse efforts in Minnesota.

For more information or to request a registration form call 651-201-2297.



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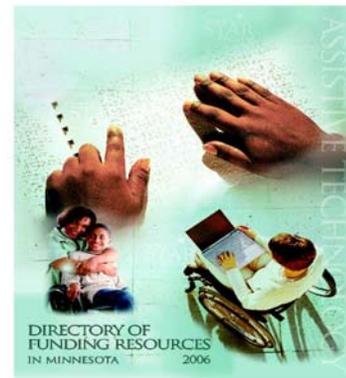
Department of Administration
STAR Program
309 Administration Building
50 Sherburne Avenue
St Paul, MN 55155

Phone: 651-201-2640
Fax: 651-282-6671
E-mail: star.program@state.mn.us

Check our Web site at
[www.admin.state.mn.us/
assistivetechology](http://www.admin.state.mn.us/assistivetechology)

Request a copy of the 2006 Assistive Technology Directory

Would you like a free copy of the 2006 Assistive Technology Directory of Funding Resources? Call 651-201-2640 or toll-free 888-234-1267 to request one or more copies of this popular directory.



All STAR materials are available in alternative formats

¡FOLLETOS EN ESPAÑOL! STAR ha empezado traducir folletos en Inglés a Español. Actualmente, STAR tiene dos folletos en Español: "Directorio de Recursos de Financiamiento para Tecnología Asistiva en Minnesota" y "El Programa STAR: Un Sistema de Tecnología para Lograr Resultados."

STAR does not endorse or recommend any particular product, individual or agency. The posting of information in this newsletter and on STAR's Web site is educational in nature and does not imply endorsement by STAR's funder, the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

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