

Technology in the Heartland: Ensuring Iowans with disabilities are not left behind

Ben Woodworth, MSW, CBIST, Megan Hartwig, MHA, Ann Cameron Williams, Ph.D.

Project Purpose:

Increase awareness and demonstrate effective implementation of the principles outlined in the Declaration by advancing and promoting the rights of people with cognitive disabilities to technology and information access in Iowa.

BACKGROUND

The Iowa Association of Community Providers (IACP) is an advocacy and policy organization made up of over 150 home and community-based mental health and disability providers in the state of Iowa. Members serve over 150,000 individuals experiencing disabilities in all 99 Iowa counties. IACP has a tradition of partnering with these agencies and other advocacy groups to bring about positive change for individuals and agencies alike. IACP acknowledges the need for access to technology and information for all Iowans and has committed to help educate Iowans about the Declaration and facilitate the advancement of practices that will further the Declaration's reach in Iowa.

SCOPE OF PROJECT

This project will address the following key areas to increase awareness and demonstrate effective implementation of the principles outlined in the Declaration:

- Knowledge Translation
- Statewide Legislative Initiatives
- New Collaborations with Technology Centers and Industry Leaders
- Seeding the Development of Innovative Practices
- Sustainability to Advance Technology Innovation in Iowa

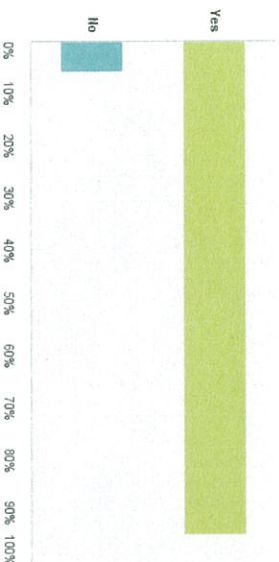
PROJECT PARTNERS

Iowa's Developmental Disabilities Council
Iowa's Governors Advisory Council on Brain Injuries
Iowa Department of Public Health
Ao Strategies

DATA FROM IACP 2016 TECHNOLOGY SURVEY

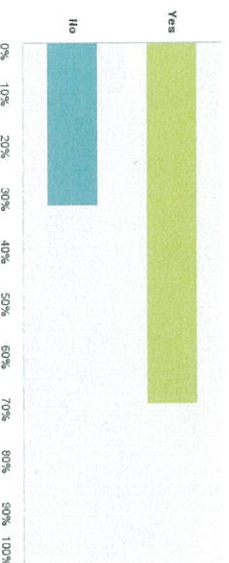
Q9 Do you have regular internet connectivity in your home?

Answered: 215 Skipped: 18



Q40 Would you be interested in a state-wide implementation plan offered by IACP that provided step-by-step awareness, training, and technical assistance support on bringing technology into your organizations' operations?

Answered: 167 Skipped: 167



KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

- Increase awareness of 10 rights outlined in the Declaration.
- Collaborate with key partners to increase knowledge of available technology to Iowan's experiencing disabilities.
- Develop statewide public awareness campaign.

STATEWIDE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

- Seek to implement legislative adoption of the Declaration through gubernatorial proclamation, legislative proclamation and development of legislative proposals.
- Engage self-advocacy groups to support the Declaration.

NEW COLLABORATIONS WITH TECHNOLOGY CENTER AND INDUSTRY LEADERS

- Development of relationships with new technology partners to advance the principles outlined in the Declaration.
- Engage interested parties to develop sustainable efforts going into the future.

SEEDING INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

- Five agencies to conduct demonstration projects
- Poster presentations of projects to be presented at IACP annual convention.
- Engage self-advocacy groups to support the Declaration.

SUSTAINABILITY TO ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION IN IOWA

- Development of organizational self-assessment tool
- Development of technology funding proposal template

Contact Information: Ben Woodworth, MSW, CBIST, Iowa Association of Community Providers, bwoodworth@iowaproviders.org