

# TechWorks / TRAIID

Who are we  
and what do we do?

ADAPT [we change]  
COMMUNITY NETWORK

# TRAID

## TechWorks: Assistive Technology Centers NYC Regional Centers for the NYS AT Act Program since 1990

NYS AT Act Program: the TRAIID Program  
(Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities)

- Provides partial funding, allowing us to provide free public services:
  - to children and adults of any age, with any disability,
  - to enable “individuals with disabilities, service providers and others to learn about, access, and acquire assistive technology (AT) needed for education, employment, and community living.”
  - for various types of AT
- Features partnerships with NYC/NYS Dept. of Health and ACCES-VR

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# What is Assistive Technology?

**Enables individuals with disabilities to perform tasks that might otherwise be difficult or impossible**

## **Assistive Technology Devices**

Any item, device or piece of equipment, whether acquired commercially off the shelf or modified, that is used to maintain or improve the functional abilities of individuals with disabilities.

## **Assistive Technology Services**

Any service that directly assists individuals with disabilities in the selection, acquisition, or use of assistive technology devices.

# How Does Assistive Technology help?

- Bypass or compensate for barriers created by disabilities
- Enhance physical, social, communicative and cognitive abilities
- Increase academic, social and employment inclusion opportunities

# Principles of AT

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AT is..

- A tool to facilitate outcomes
- A team process, including the student/user
- NOT “one size fits all”
  - ✓ More expensive not always better, seek solutions from low to high tech.
  - ✓ “Feature Matching”: Which potential devices is best suited to the individual’s current functioning & goals?
  - ✓ Solutions can change over time

# Types & Categories of AT

- Vision
- Hearing
- Speech & Communication
- Daily Living
- Learning, Cognition & Developmental
- Mobility, Seating & Positioning
- Computers & related
- Recreation, Sports & Leisure

# TRAID

- **Demonstrations:** Try any device in our extensive inventory with someone skilled in its use.
- **60-day Loans:** If you don't need our skilled assistance, you can borrow some of our devices to decide if they are right for you. Loans may also be available for repair or funding delays, training activities, or for short term needs like recovery from surgery.
- **Open Ended Loans and Reutilization:** May be available for items/devices that have been donated to us.
- **Training:** Covering a wide range of AT topics for both individuals and groups.

# TRAID

- **Public Awareness:** We attend various conferences and resource fairs across NYC
- **Information and Assistance:** *Where can you buy something or find an AT service? What do experts say about best practices? Are there free, low cost or make-your-own solutions?* You probably have questions. We can answer them. We also provide some technical and troubleshooting assistance.



# TechWorks

## TechWorks Brooklyn

175 Lawrence Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11230

## TechWorks Manhattan

80 West End Ave  
New York, NY 10023

Contact Us: (718) 436-7979, x710



## TechWorks To Go!

Our fully stocked “TechWorks To Go!” van brings AT into the community.

We can come to health and resource fairs, nursing homes, senior day centers, libraries, schools and work places.

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# TechWorks & SHARE

Getting Assistance:

**Please contact us for information or to schedule an appointment:**

**[TechWorks@adaptcommunitynetwork.org](mailto:TechWorks@adaptcommunitynetwork.org)**

**718-436-7979, extension 711**

**Or, through ADAPT's Project Connect:  
projectconnect@adaptcommunitynetwork.org  
877-UCP-CONNECT (877-827-2666)**

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