# Access to Assistive Technology

Project START helps Mississippians of all ages and all disabilities access and acquire Assistive Technology. Through our Device Loan, Device Reutilization, and Computer Refurbishment Program, Project START increases access to appropriate assistive technology devices. Our services allow Mississippians with disabilities an opportunity to live, learn, work, and play independently in the community of their choosing.

# Computer Refurbishment Program

Project START’s Computer Refurbishment Program provides in-home placement of refurbished computers for people with disabilities. The purpose of this program is to support education and vocational development as well as enhancement of personal independence for people with disabilities through the use of a computer.

# Device Loan

Project START provides a short term equipment loan program allowing an individual to try a device before they purchase it. This program also allows an individual to borrow a device to use while theirs is being repaired or while funding is being secured for the purchase of their device. The loan period varies for each device, but usually runs for 45 days. Project START’s staff will work to ensure that each individual is paired with the appropriate equipment to best suit the individual’s needs.

# Device Reutilization Program

START’s Device Reutilization Program accepts donations of lightly used durable medical equipment. If you or someone you know has equipment no longer needed, it can be donated to Project START. The devices are refurbished to high quality standards and provided free of charge to Mississippians with disabilities or chronic health care issues.

# What is Project START?

Project START (Success Through Assistive Rehabilitative Technology) is the federally funded Assistive Technology Act Program for the State of Mississippi and operates under the Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration of Community Living. The Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services is the lead agency for our program.

# What is Assistive Technology?

Assistive Technology is any item, piece of equipment, or device acquired commercially, modified, or customized that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities. Project START has a large selection of assistive technology devices covering all disability types in our Demonstration Center and Loan Library in our Madison office. If you would like to visit our center, contact us to arrange an appointment.

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# Services Provided by Project START

*Device Loan* - Provides short-term loans of AT devices allowing individuals an opportunity to try a device or fill a temporary need for a device

*Device Reutilization* - Supports the exchange, recycling, or other reutilization of AT devices

*Device Demonstration* – Demonstrates a variety

of AT devices to determine which device best fits the needs of the individual Training and Technical Assistance – Provides training, disseminate training material and provides technical assistance of AT devices

*Public Awareness* – Provide information on availability, benefits and cost of AT devices and services

**Project START**

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*The Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

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