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Note: Large Print available upon request
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY MISSION

Mission:

- To enhance the ability of Veterans and Active Duty Members with disabilities to fulfill life goals through the coordination and provision of appropriate interdisciplinary assistive technology services.
- To serve as an expert resource to support the application of assistive technology within the VA health care system.

CORE VALUES:

1. **Integrity**: We practice open, truthful, and timely communication with veterans, employees, and external stakeholders. By carefully listening and responding to their concerns, we pursue continuous improvement in our programs and services. Through our words and actions, we earn the complete trust of our patients and their families, our community and our coworkers.

2. **Professionalism**: Our success depends on maintaining a highly-skilled, diverse, and compassionate workforce. We foster a culture that values equal opportunity, innovation, and accountability.

3. **Stewardship**: We will ensure responsible stewardship of the human, financial, and natural resources, as well as, data and
information entrusted to us. We will improve performance through the use of innovative technologies, evidence-based medical practices, and sound business principles.

4. **Excellence**: We seek to exceed the expectations of veterans and their families. We aim to perform at the highest level of competence and take pride in our accomplishments. Our goal is to remain efficient while performing in the best possible manner.

5. **Teamwork**: We pursue our mission and goals by working together. Through the collective and coordinated efforts of our staff, we apply our diverse talents, backgrounds, ideas and experiences to create solutions and benefit veterans, employees and external stakeholders.
# ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AT Team Member</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Phone Extension</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Oliver</td>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
<td>x 2134</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Occupational Therapist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Burkhardt</td>
<td>Clinical Rehab Engineer</td>
<td>x 2176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seth Hills</td>
<td>Clinical Rehab Engineer</td>
<td>x 4897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Miller</td>
<td>Clinical Rehab Technician</td>
<td>x 7180</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alicia Sullivan</td>
<td>Occupational Therapist</td>
<td>x 2964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Moossa</td>
<td>Mobility Director</td>
<td>x 3585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Occupational Therapist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brittany Reed</td>
<td>Speech Therapist</td>
<td>x 2463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacy Gross</td>
<td>Speech Therapist</td>
<td>x 3231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Shuman</td>
<td>Recreational Therapist</td>
<td>x 6433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Brandon</td>
<td>Physical Therapist</td>
<td>x 7071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Sites</td>
<td>Speech Therapist</td>
<td>x 5576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other:___________</td>
<td>Other: ____________</td>
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McGuire VA Medical Center
Frequently Called Numbers:

Main hospital 804-675-5000
Green Clinic x5536
Yellow Clinic x5542
Red Clinic x5543
Orange Clinic x5680
Blue Clinic x5680
Drug Rehab Clinic x5410
Mental Hygiene Clinic x5411
PTSD Clinic x3495
Rehabilitation Clinic x5330 or x5331
Audiology x5254
Blood Lab x4883
Compensation & Pension x4665
Fisher House x6601
Health Benefits x5611
Home Based Primary Care x6766
Medical Specialty Clinics x5602
Oxygen x4352
PADRECC (Parkinsons) x5931
Patient Representatives x5246, x5545
Police x5134, x5278
Prosthetics x5121
Pulmonary Sleep Lab x6738
Supplies x5724
Surgical Clinics x5752
VISOR X2231
VISN 6 FACILITIES

NOTE: Community Based Outpatient Center (CBOC)

1. Asheville VAMC, NC
   1100 Tunnel Rd
   Asheville, NC 28805
   Phone: 828.298.7911
   Franklin CBOC
   647 Wayah St.
   Franklin, NC 28734-3390
   Phone: 828.369.1781
   Rutherford County CBOC
   374 Charlotte Rd
   Rutherfordton, NC 28139
   Phone: 828.288.2780

2. Durham VAMC, NC
   508 Fulton St
   Durham, NC 27705
   Phone: 919.286.0411
   Hillandale CBOC
   1824 Hillandale Rd
   Durham, NC 27705
   Phone: 919.383.6107
   Raleigh CBOC
   3305 Sungate Blvd
   Raleigh, NC 27610
   Phone: 919.212.0129
   Greenville CBOC
   800 Moye Blvd
   Greenville, NC 27858
   Phone: 252.830.2149
   Morehead City CBOC
   5420 U.S. 70
   Morehead City, NC 28557
   Phone: 252.240.2349
   Dialysis Clinic, Brier Creek
   8081 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 130
   Raleigh, NC 27617
   Phone: 919.286.5220
   Blind Rehab Clinic, Brier Creek
   8081 Arco Corporate Drive
   Raleigh, NC 27617
   Phone: 919.286.5235
3. **Fayetteville VAMC, NC**
   
   2300 Ramsey St  
   Fayetteville, NC 28301  
   Phone: 910.488.2120  

   **Hamlet CBOC**
   
   100 Jefferson St  
   Hamlet, NC 28345  
   Phone: 910.582.3536  

   **Jacksonville CBOC**
   
   241 Freedom Way, Suite 1  
   Midway Park, NC 28544  
   Phone: 910.353.6406  

   **Robeson County CBOC**
   
   139 Three Hunts Drive  
   Pembroke, NC 28372  
   Phone: 910.272.3220  

   **Wilmington CBOC**
   
   736 Medical Center Drive,  
   Wilmington, NC 28401  
   Phone: 910.763.5979  
   Future address:  
   1705 Gardner Rd  
   Wilmington, NC 28405  

   **Village Green Annex**
   
   1991 Fordham Drive  
   Fayetteville, NC 28304  
   Phone: 910.822.7998  

   **Dialysis Center/C&P**
   
   2301 Robeson St  
   Fayetteville, NC 28305  
   Phone: 910.483.9727  

4. **Hampton VAMC**
   
   100 Emancipation Dr  
   Hampton, VA 23667  
   Phone: 757.722.9961  

   **Virginia Beach CBOC**
   
   244 Clearfield Ave  
   Virginia Beach, VA 23462  

   **Albemarle CBOC**
   
   1845 W City Drive  
   Elizabeth City, NC  
   Phone: 252.331.2191  

5. **Richmond VAMC**
   
   Hunter Holmes McGuire VAMC  
   1201 Broad Rock Blvd  
   Richmond, VA 23249  
   Phone: 804.675.5000
Emporia CBOC
1746 East Atlantic St
Emporia, VA 23847
Phone: 434.348.1055

Fredericksburg CBOC
Townsend Office Park
1965 Jefferson Davis Hwy
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Charlottesville CBOC
650 Peter Jefferson Pkwy, Suite 160
Charlottesville, VA 22911
Phone: 434.293.3890

6. Salem VAMC
1970 Roanoke Blvd
Salem, VA 24153
Phone: 540.982.2463

Danville CBOC
705 Piney Forest Rd
Danville, VA 24540
Phone: 434.710.4210

Lynchburg CBOC
1600 Lakeside Drive
Lynchburg, VA 24501
Phone: 434.316.5000

Staunton CBOC
102 Business Way
Staunton, VA 24401
Phone: 540.886.5777

Tazewell CBOC
123 Ben Bolt Ave
PO Box 645
Tazewell, VA 24651
Phone: 276.988.2526

Wytheville CBOC
165 Peppers Ferry Rd
Wytheville, VA 24382
Phone: 276.223.5400

7. Salisbury VAMC
W.G. "Bill" Hefner VAMC
1601 Brenner Ave
Salisbury, NC 28144
Phone: 704.638.9000
Charlotte CBOC
8601 University East Dr
Charlotte, NC 28213
Phone: 704.597.3500

Winston-Salem CBOC
190 Kimel Park Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
Phone: 336.761.5300

Hickory CBOC
2440 Century Place SE
Hickory, NC 28602
Phone: 828.431.5600

Winston-Salem Clinic
Marketplace Mall
2101 Peters Creek Pwy
Winston-Salem, NC 27127
Phone: 336.761.5300

8. VISN 6 Office
VA Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network (VISN6)
300 W. Morgan St. Suite 700
Durham, NC 27701
Phone: 919.956.5541
Description of Assistive Technology Services

The Assistive Technology Program of the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Service is responsible for the evaluation, development and implementation of appropriate assistive technology services, strategies, devices and/or practices to improve the functional challenges faced by service members and veterans in their daily life roles in various environments.

Administers and interprets assistive technology evaluation in the following areas of assistive technology:

- Powered Mobility & Seating
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Devices
- Specialized Computer Access
- Electronic Cognitive Devices
- Electronic Aids to Daily Living
- Adaptive Sports
- Learning Technologies

Adapts and modifies treatment plans, activities and procedures to meet the needs of the patients. Elicits patient participation in implementing assistive technology objectives in restoring or maintaining patient performance. Determines need for appropriate assistive/adaptive devices/equipment and training. Educates patient and family/caregiver in the proper application/installation/use of specific device(s).
The Assistive Technology Program team members provide services in the primary areas of polytrauma, spinal cord injury, mental health, acute care, outpatient, and community living centers.

The Assistive Technology Program provides these services either in-person or via telerehabilitation. In-person appointments are held either in the Polytrauma Transitional Rehabilitation Center AT Outpatient Clinic or the PM&RS Inpatient AT clinic. Telerehabilitation uses video teleconferencing as a convenient alternative for providing Assistive Technology care for Veterans, especially for those who live in rural areas or who have difficulties traveling outside their home. In addition, the AT program utilizes the patient open wireless access available throughout the hospital.

McGuire VA Medical Center Vision Impairment Services in Outpatient Rehabilitation (VISOR) Programs provides assistive technology evaluations and treatment for individuals with low vision deficits and blindness. For more information, call 804-675-5221 or visit www.richmond.va.gov/services/Vision_and_Blind_Rehabilitation_VISOR.asp

Eligibility for Assistive Technology Services...

Individuals meet the following criteria:

- Veteran or Active Duty Service Member
- At least 18 years of age
- Medically stable
- Have impairments that restrict ability to participate in functional areas such as basic daily living tasks, independent living, employment, school, cognition, and/or psychosocial adjustment
- Willing to participate in the AT program.
**TRANSITIONAL CRITERIA:**

Criteria for transition of AT services includes:

- Transition level of care: intensity (frequency and duration) of treatment increases or decreases
- Transition from location: location of services changes.

**DISCHARGE CRITERIA:**

The treating AT clinician determines discharge when the patient:

- Has met documented rehabilitation goals
- Becomes unwilling to participate in the program
- Reaches a plateau in progress toward long term goal achievement
- Becomes medically unstable

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**

Monday - Friday 7:00am - 4:30pm

**TELEREHABILITATION:**

The Assistive Technology Program offers clinical video telerehabilitation to other VA Medical Centers, CBOCs and your home. The AT Program offers evaluations, training, education and consultation in most areas of assistive technology that the program provides.

If you are interested in AT services, but want to go to a closer VA medical center or CBOC, a TeleHealth Service Agreement must be put into place between the two facilities, prior to the first appointment.

If you are interested in AT services at your home, then the following needs to be answered:

- What do you need?
  - Internet Connection
• Email Address
• Computer, laptop, smartphone or tablet with microphone/camera access (download a free app with iOS: VA Video Connect)

• Interested?
  • Contact Melissa Oliver at 804-675-5000 x2134 or Jessica Barton 804-675-5000 x3712
Commonly Asked Questions

1. What is AT?

AT stands for Assistive Technology which is a generic term that includes assistive, adaptive, and rehabilitative devices for people with disabilities, injuries or illness. This includes the process that is used in selecting, locating, and using the devices.

2. Why am I here?

Your physician made a referral to the Assistive Technology (AT) Program. We are here in order to assist you in becoming more independent by using different types of assistive technology.

3. Will or Can I get an iPAD?

This will be determined after being evaluated by a member of the AT Team. We will make a determination on the most appropriate device that will meet your goals/needs, which may or may not be an iPAD.

4. Does it matter if I am service connected or not?

Most of the time it does not matter if you are service connected or not, when it comes to AT devices. However, if you need any driving adaptations, then service connection does matter. For further details, contact Kinesiotherapy (KT) Driving Rehab at x6857.

5. Does the AT Program install devices outside of the hospital?

No, AT does not do home installations of AT equipment. The AT Program makes final recommendations and submits consults to prosthetics. Prosthetics then obtains quotes from third party vendors, in your local area, to complete the installations.
6. Does this device cost me anything?

The AT devices do not cost you any money. However, you may be responsible for utility expenses (i.e. if a smartphone is purchased, then the veteran is responsible for the phone service; or if a printer is purchased, the veteran is responsible for the replacement ink cartridges).

7. When will I receive my device?

Once your AT evaluation and training are completed, the AT Clinician will put in a consult to Prosthetics. Then, Prosthetics has 7 days to complete the purchase order for the recommended device. The devices’ arrival date will vary depending on the manufacturer or vendor. The AT clinician will contact you as soon as the device arrives to set up a follow up appointment to issue and train you on the device.

Note: Powered mobility, adaptive sports equipment, environmental control units and adaptive driving equipment will vary on their delivery dates. Contact your treating AT clinician for details.

8. What if my device is outdated?

Replacement devices are only recommended when there is a clear clinical justification that the current AT device does not meet your needs.

9. What if my device breaks or needs maintenance/repairs?

If your AT device breaks, contact Prosthetics (804-675-5000 x5121) and notify them, so that they can either replace the item or have someone repair the AT device. See Adaptive Sports Education Sheet for information regarding maintenance and repairs for wheeled sports.

10. What if my device gets lost? Or Stolen?

If your AT device is lost, notify the AT clinician that issued you the device and they will put in a new consult to prosthetics for a one-time replacement.
If your AT device is stolen, put in a police report. Once you have a copy of the police report, turn that into the AT clinician that issued you the device and they will put in a new consult to prosthetics to replace it.

11. What if I have questions after I am discharged from the AT Program?

Always contact the AT clinician you were working with or the AT Program Coordinator, Melissa Oliver, OTR/L (804-675-5000 x2134) so that we may be able to assist you with your questions.

12. Do I have to come back to receive my device?

Yes, the AT Program provides hands on education and training with the AT devices; therefore, normally you will come back to the AT program to receive your device to be trained. The AT clinician can also answer any questions you may have.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE AT PROGRAM at 804-675-5000 x2134
Veterans Health Administration (VHA) employees will respect and support your rights as a patient. We are pleased you have selected us to provide your health care. We plan to make your visit or stay as pleasant for you as possible. Your basic rights and responsibilities are outlined in this document. Please talk with VA treatment team members or a patient advocate if you have any questions or would like more information about your rights.

I. **Respect and Nondiscrimination**

- You will be treated with dignity, compassion, respect and free of humiliation, as an individual. Your privacy will be protected. You will receive care in a safe environment. We will seek to honor your personal and religious values.

- You or someone you choose has the right to keep and spend your own money. You have the right to receive an accounting of VA held funds.

- Treatment will respect your personal freedoms. In rare cases, the use of medication and physical restraints may be used if all other efforts to keep you or others free from harm have not worked.

- As an inpatient or long-term care resident, you may wear your own clothes and keep personal items. This depends on your medical condition.

- As an inpatient or long-term care resident, you have the right to social interaction and regular exercise. You will have the opportunity for religious worship and spiritual support. You may decide whether or not to participate in these activities. You may decide whether or not to perform tasks in or for the Medical Center.

- As an inpatient or long-term care resident, you have the right to communicate freely and privately. You may have or refuse visitors. You will have access to public telephones. You may participate in civic rights.
• As a long-term care resident, you can organize and take part in resident groups in
the facility. Your family also can meet with the families of other residents.

• In order to provide a safe treatment environment for all patients and staff, you are
asked to respect other patients and staff and to follow the facility’s rules. Avoid
unsafe acts that place others at risk for accidents or injuries. Please immediately
report any condition you believe to be unsafe.

II. **Information Disclosure and Confidentiality**

• You will be given information about the health benefits that you can receive. The
information will be provided in a way you can understand.

• You will receive information about the costs of your care, if any, before you are
treated. You are responsible for paying for your portion of the costs associated with
your care.

• Your medical record will be kept confidential. Information about you will not be released
without your consent unless authorized by law (i.e., State public health reporting). You have
the right to information in your medical record and may request a copy of your records.
This will be provided except in rare situations where your VA physician feels the information
will be harmful to you. In that situation, you have the right to have this discussed with you
by your VA provider.

• You will be informed of all outcomes of care, including any injuries caused by your medical
care. You will be informed about how to request compensation for injuries.

III. **Participation in Treatment Decisions**

• You, and any persons you choose, will be involved in decisions about your care.
You will be given information you can understand about the benefits and risks of
treatment. You will be given other options. You can agree to or refuse treatment.
Refusing treatment will not affect your rights to future care but you have the
responsibility to understand the possible results to your health. If you believe you
cannot follow the treatment plan, you have a responsibility to notify your treatment
team.

• As an inpatient or long-term care resident, you will be provided any transportation
necessary for your treatment plan.

• You will be given, in writing, the name and professional title of the provider in charge
of your care. As a partner in the health care process, you have the right to be
involved in choosing your provider. You will be educated about your role and
responsibilities as a patient. This includes your participation in decision-making and
care, at the end of life.
• Tell your provider about your current condition, medicines (including over the counter and herbals) and medical history. Also, share any other information that affects your health. You should ask questions when you don’t understand something about your care. This will help in providing you the best care possible.

• You have the right to have your pain assessed and to receive treatment to manage your pain. You and your treatment team will develop a pain management plan together. You are expected to help the treatment team by telling them if you have pain and if the treatment is working.

• You have the right to choose whether or not you will participate in any research project. Any research will be clearly identified. Potential risks of the research will be identified and there will be no pressure on you to participate.

• You will be included in resolving any ethical issues about your care. You may consult with the Medical Center’s Ethics Committee and/or other staff knowledgeable about health care ethics.

• If you or the Medical Center believes that you have been neglected, abused, exploited or humiliation, you will receive help.

IV. Complaints

• You are encouraged and expected to seek help from your treatment team and/or a patient advocate if you have problems or complaints. You will be given understandable information about the complaint process available to you. You may complain verbally or in writing, without fear of retaliation.
PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Your compliance with the following list of patient responsibilities is necessary to assure that you receive the highest quality of care. It also shows the importance of your contribution to your care.

You are responsible for:

1. Following all of the Medical Center’s safety rules and posted signs.
2. Being considerate and respectful to all medical center staff and other patients.
3. Cooperating with your treatment team. If you have any questions or disagree with your treatment plan, you are responsible for discussing it with your treatment team.
4. Trying to prevent any injury to yourself, other patients, visitors, and staff members by your own actions and to be responsible for the safekeeping of clothing, money, and personal possessions you choose to keep with you, while you are in this facility.
5. Keeping all of your scheduled diagnostic or treatment appointments on time.
6. Avoiding interference with the treatment plan of other patients, particularly in emergency situations.
7. Assisting staff by alerting them when another patient is having any difficulty.
8. Telling your visitors to be considerate of other patients and medical center staff.
9. Being understanding and patient if you encounter delays.
How to Address Concerns or Questions

Grievance Process

1. Written formal grievance will receive a written formal response within 2 weeks.
2. If no response ready, at 2 weeks person will be informed of delay and given an estimated time for response.
3. There will be no retaliation when filing a grievance.