

Spring 2007

Inside this issue

Page Article

- 1** UAAACT
 Conference Review
- Charter Schools and
 UAAACT Service
- 2** Ronald
 McDonald
 Charities
- DynaVox Funding
 Information
- New Equipment
 Approved for
 Central
 Information
- Training
 Suggestions for
 Next Year
- New Leadership
 Council Meeting

**The Computer Center for
Citizens With Disabilities**

1595 West 500 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84104
Phone 801-887-9380
Fax 801-887-9382
E-mail cboogaar@utah.gov

UAAACT News

Utah Augmentative Alternative Assistive Communication and Technology Teams

Editor: Byron Villeverde

UAAACT Web Site: <http://www.uaaact.org>

UAAACT Conference Review

Thank you for attending and participating in our 2007 UAAACT. We hope that you enjoyed our 2007 UAAACT Conference. From the many positive evaluations that we've received, it appears that the conference went well. The keynote speakers did a very fine job. The Eccles Center was also rate very highly.

As to what we could do differently, some of the items mentioned were, having more vendors, having poster sessions or over the shoulder sessions where UAAACT members could spend 20-30 minutes describing products and their implementation, or sharing strategies that work well for students with AT equipment. Some members have asked that another location, either Salt Lake or to Provo be considered. Also mentioned was assessing team members needs before sending out invitations to presenters.

Suggested speakers for 2009 UAAACT Conference are Kelly Fonner (suggested by Bradie Ormond and Alice Richins after attending his session at CSUN 2007), and also Susan Johnston from the U of U. Perhaps more of you could let us know your feelings by emailing us or discussing these and emailing your thoughts as a team through your team leaders. The conference planning committee will welcome and discuss any of your ideas.

Charter Schools and UAAACT Services

There are three ways for Charter Schools to receive UAAACT Services.

1. Like the Utah School For the Blind, charter schools can form their own UAAACT Team comprising of members from the different charter schools. At this time this would be limited to one team for the whole state, and they would need to submit a request for the formation of this team to the UAAACT Leadership Council.
2. Charter Schools can contract with the local school district for UAAACT Team services. Charter schools using this option would pay for the services of an existing team by contracting with the UAAACT team members' school district(s).
3. Charter Schools can request assistance from the Computer Center and work directly with Scott Baggaley and/or Craig Boogaard. They are available to assist a charter school's Special Education Team, and the request of their special education director. A charter school special education director (through Scott or Craig) can have access to the equipment in the UAAACT Central Inventory.

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC)

MISSION STATEMENT: The Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of the Intermountain Area lift children and families to a better tomorrow by providing a “home away from home” for families of seriously ill children receiving care from local hospitals, and by making grants to other programs that help children and their families in our community.

PURPOSE: RMHC of the Intermountain Area, Inc. will award grants for tangible items and direct services to non-profit organizations serving in the following areas.

Health and Medical Research

Medication

Medication and diagnostic equipment

Facility improvement (materials only)

Medical Supplies

Dental supplies

Education and the Arts, and Civic and Social Concerns

Targeted to “at risk”, under-served, children in areas such as arts therapy, after school programs, and health related education programs.

Supplies and Materials

Facility improvement

Equipment

Ronald MacDonald House Charities primarily funds programs that will improve the “quality of life” of all children and their families with an emphasis on the delivery of preventative health care.

For more information on the Ronald McDonald House Charities see their website at <http://www.rmhslc.org/>

Note: Some UAAACT Teams, working with their district foundation, have received equipment grants for an individual’s Assistive Technology needs through the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Next Leadership Council Meeting

The Next Leadership Council Meeting will be held on August 17, 2007 at 10:30 AM. Team Leaders, please contact your council member prior to this meeting if you have and questions or items for discussion or approval

DynaVox Funding Information

DynaVox wants you to know that you have many resources available to you, and one of those resources is the Funding Department. If you decide that a DynaVox device is appropriate for a student please follow this protocol:

1. Obtain an equipment quote from Tonya (see item 4 for contact info).
2. Your Speech Therapist needs to write up an evaluation.
3. We need to have a doctor’s prescription.
4. Submit the information to Melanie Henry, the Utah Funding Manager, 1800-344-1778 ext. 7917. Her fax is 412-222-1029, email address is melanie.henry@dynavoxtech.com. Melanie will contact your funding source(s) and work diligently towards obtaining the necessary approvals to get a device. (Failure to use DynaVox’s funding experts can result in a longer processing time.) Thanks, Tonya Turner, Sales Consultant - Colorado/Utah/Wyoming, 1-800-344-1778 ext. 7845, 719-231-5074 tonya.turner@dynavox.com

New Equipment for the Central Inventory

Fusion by (3)
Chat PC-M3+
GS Typing Tutor (also one for each team)
Mini Auggie
Read On (also one for each team)
Vantage Plus (2)
DynaVox V
Dragon Naturally Speaking (2)
DynaVox VMAX (2)
Gentle Mouse (3)

New Equipment Approved for each Team

Simon S.I.O. Stage 2
Co:Writer SE

Training Suggestions for Next Year

January 1, 2008 - Language Acquisition through Motor Planning: LAMP. A new seminar on AAC strategies for promoting the development of communication for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). It will be sponsored by the Prenke Romich Company. Allen Renshaw thinks that we can get a free LAMP Workshop in Utah. We would need at least 25 people in attendance.