

# MINNESOTA

## Assistive Technology Resources



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### AbleNet, Inc.

2808 Fairview Ave. North  
Roseville, MN 55113-1308

**Phone:** (800) 322-0956 (651) 294-2200

**Fax:** (651) 294-2259

**E-mail:** [customerservice@ablenetinc.com](mailto:customerservice@ablenetinc.com)

**Website:** <http://www.ablenetinc.com/>

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology, Private Sector Companies

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

AbleNet offers products and possible solutions for teaching children with disabilities. AbleNet products help empower teachers and students with disabilities so students can develop skills, build literacy, foster independence and encourage participation.

### Assistive Technology of Minnesota

1800 Pioneer Creek Center, Box 310  
Maple Plain, MN 55359

**Phone:** (763) 479-8239 (866) 535-8239

**E-mail:** [info@atmn.org](mailto:info@atmn.org)

**Website:** <http://www.atmn.org/>

**Contact Name:** Carol Fury

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

Assistive Technology of Minnesota works to ensure that people with disabilities will have an established voice in the nonprofit community focused on assistive technology devices and services.

### Blind, Inc.

100 East 22nd Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

**Phone:** (612) 872-0100 1-(800) 597-9558

**Fax:** (612) 872-9358

**E-mail:** [info@blindinc.org](mailto:info@blindinc.org)

**Website:** <http://www.blindinc.org/>

**Contact Name:** Shawn Mayo, Executive Director

**Organization Type:** Disability/Disorder Specific, Independent and Community Living

**Disabilities Served:** Deaf / Blind, Visual Impairment / Blind

BLIND, Incorporated is an adjustment to blindness training center. They teach the skills that blind people need to become independent and employable such as braille, home management, the use of the white cane, and computers with screen reading software, etc. They instill in their students the confidence to put these skills into practice. Blind, Inc. utilizes the positive view of blindness of the National Federation of the Blind. They work from the premise that blindness

doesn't have to be a tragedy. We know that, if given training and opportunity, blind people can live full and productive lives.

### **Marblesoft**

12301 Central Avenue NE, Suite 205  
Blaine, MN 55434

**Phone:** (763) 755-1402

**Fax:** (763) 862-2920

**E-mail:** [mail@marblesoft.com](mailto:mail@marblesoft.com)

**Website:** <http://www.marblesoft.com/>

**Organization Type:** Private Sector Companies

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

Marblesoft is a developer of great educational software for pre-school, early elementary and special ed. Look here for information about their software as well as links to other sites related to technology and special education. Their programs run on Macintosh and Windows computers and feature a variety of special access methods for students of all abilities. Marblesoft's Early Learning programs have included single- and dual-switch scanning since 1984!

### **Minnesota-based Sight & Hearing Association**

674 Transfer Road  
St. Paul, MN 55114-1402

**Phone:** 1-(800) 992-0424 (651) 645-2546

**Fax:** (651) 645-2742

**E-mail:** [mail@sightandhearing.org](mailto:mail@sightandhearing.org)

**Website:** <http://www.sightandhearing.org/>

**Contact Name:** Kathy Webb, Executive Director

**Organization Type:** Information Centers, State and Local Organizations

**Disabilities Served:** Deaf / Blind, Hearing Impairments / Deaf, Visual Impairment / Blind

The mission of the Minnesota-based Sight and Hearing Association is to prevent the needless loss of vision and hearing through the development of effective screening, education and research programs. This Association was founded in 1939 as the Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Blindness. They later merged with the Pre-School Medical Survey of Vision and Hearing in order to further their mission.

### **Minnesota Department of Education: Assistive Technology**

1500 Highway 36W  
Roseville, MN 55113

**Phone:** 651-582-1599

**E-mail:** [kursten.dubbels@state.mn.us](mailto:kursten.dubbels@state.mn.us)

**Website:** <http://cfl.state.mn.us/>

**Contact Name:** Kursten Dubbels

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology, Information Centers, Parent/Family Support, State and Local Agencies

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) supports a variety of Assistive Technology (AT) initiatives designed to help ensure students with disabilities have access to appropriate assistive technology and receive a free, appropriate public education. Assistive technology can be as simple as a pencil grip or as complex as a voice-activated computer. AT initiatives include promoting professional development, information dissemination and technical assistance. AT resources (links at right) include the assistive technology listserv, an assistive technology manual, monthly articles about new assistive technology, information on the Statewide Assistive Technology Leadership Team and a current research synopsis.

**People Achieving Change Through Technology (an Ability Building Center Program)**

Ability Building Center; 310 Elton Hills Drive NW  
Rochester, MN 55901

**Phone:** (507) 535-7101 (507) 529-4607 - TTY

**Fax:** (507) 281-6270

**E-mail:** [pactt@abcinc.org](mailto:pactt@abcinc.org)

**Website:** <http://www.abc-pactt.org/>

**Contact Name:** Kim Moccia, Technology Resource Specialist

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

People Achieving Change Through Technology (PACTT) is a program of Ability Building Center, which is a non-profit rehabilitation facility located in Rochester, Minnesota. PACTT provides assistive technology services to disabled individuals of all ages, their caregivers, and the professionals who work with them. PACTT services include: Assessment and consultation of needs relating to adaptive computer solutions, school and workplace accommodations, simple alternative and augmentative communication and environmental control systems; Training for individuals or groups regarding recommended assistive technology; Customized workshops and presentations on assistive technology--Topics may include adaptive computer technology, switch access, educational or vocational assistive technology options and funding alternatives; and Equipment loan library provides access to assistive technology devices for the purpose of evaluation.

**Technical Assistance Alliance for Parent Centers**

8161 Normandale Blvd.

Minneapolis, MN 55437-1044

**Phone:** (952)838-9000 (952)838-0190 (TTY) 1-(888)-248-0822

**Fax:** (952) 838-0199

**E-mail:** [alliance@taalliance.org](mailto:alliance@taalliance.org)

**Website:** <http://www.taalliance.org/>

**Contact Name:** Sharman Davis Barrett

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

The Technical Assistance ALLIANCE for Parent Centers provides technical assistance for establishing, developing, and coordinating parent training and information projects under the

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The Technical Assistance ALLIANCE for Parent Centers is a partnership comprised of a coordinating office located at PACER Center in MN and four regional centers located in DE, OH, NC, and CA.

### **Minnesota STAR Program**

358 Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55155  
Phone: 651-201-2640 or toll free: 1-888-234-1267

This team serves in an advisory capacity to MDE and assists with planning statewide professional development activities relating to assistive technology. STAR participates in developing the annual assistive technology conference (Charting the Cs) and summer AT institute (Up to the MN\*AT) that provides AT information and training for teachers and professionals statewide.

Is a member of Minnesota Regions AT Collaborative (MNRATC), which is a collaborative of the regional network of AT centers originally created by STAR. The collaborative meets on a bi-monthly basis to discuss what is happening statewide regarding AT. Members of the collaborative work together sharing information and, when appropriate resources, to maximize the capacity for AT use within Minnesota.

STAR meets on a regular basis with a number of state agencies that work with individuals with disabilities (State Services for the Blind, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Rehabilitation Services, DD Council) to discuss disability issues, share legislative planning and funding strategies.

STAR works with [MinnesotaHelp.info](http://www.minnesotahelp.info) (www.minnesotahelp.info) to provide networking opportunities with other agencies; shares information to make sure that MinnesotaHelp.info has current information regarding AT services in Minnesota; and, promote awareness of each other's services. MinnesotaHelp.info is an online directory of services designed to help people in Minnesota identify resources such as human services, information and referral, financial assistance, assistive technology and other forms of assistance within Minnesota. The Web site is especially rich in resource information for seniors and their caregivers; people with disabilities and their caregivers; parents and families; and low-income people. STAR distributes information on MinnesotaHelp.info to consumers at various outreach events and MinnesotaHelp.info refers to STAR individuals and professionals in need of AT assistance.

STAR works with Disability Linkage Line a toll-free disability information and referral service (1-866-333-2466) through information sharing and by promoting each other's services. Disability Linkage Line is a single statewide information and referral resource for all disability-related questions. It provides free confidential assistance that links Minnesotans with disabilities to local and statewide resources. A resource specialist answers the call, listens to needs, explores options and provides information. STAR distributes information regarding Disability Linkage Line and they, in turn, refer to STAR consumers and professionals in need of AT assistance. In year one

STAR formalized trainings about AT resources for the Disability Linkage Line staff. STAR will also do a joint data analysis with Disability Linkage Line to help assure seamless services for consumers.