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Alabama Department of
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News Advisory

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Tech event takes look at creative solutions for blind and visually impaired

TALLADEGA – Individuals who are blind or have low vision have a unique opportunity to try out innovative and cutting-edge technologies at a one-day tech event at the E.H. Gentry facility in Talladega on Jan. 23.

The 2015 Technology Symposium – “Gaining the Edge: Assistive Technology for Education, Employment, and Entertainment” – is a free event sponsored by the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS), the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind (AIDB), and the Alabama School for the Blind Alumni Association.

Individuals who are blind or have low vision and professionals who work in the field of blindness will have hands-on access to various new forms of assistive technology that aim to better their daily lives, said Debbie Culver, ADRS coordinator of Blind Services, who organizes the event and leads the symposium’s steering committee.

“A picture doesn’t necessarily have to be worth 1,000 words,” said Culver. “Excellent audio description is much more concise. This year’s expo will include information on not only how to access descriptive audio and advocate for its inclusion, but also how it profoundly affects our employment, education, and entertainment.”

Exhibits at the exposition will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 23 with training sessions running from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will be open to all attendees. Joel Snyder, an expert in the field of audio description, will lead the training sessions.

E.H. Gentry is located at 1105 Ft. Lashley Ave. in Talladega.

Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind is the world’s most comprehensive education, rehabilitation and service system serving children and adults who are deaf, blind, or have multiple disabilities.

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services is the state agency whose mission is to enable Alabama’s children and adults with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential.

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