



Alabama Department of
REHABILITATION SERVICES



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News Release

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Upcoming event uses technology to ‘break down barriers’ for persons with visual impairments

TALLADEGA – Individuals who are blind or have low vision will be able to try out innovative and cutting-edge technologies at a technology expo at the Alabama School for the Blind in Talladega on June 6 and 7.

The 2013 Technology Symposium – “Breaking Down Barriers Through Technology” – 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.

The event is for individuals with visual impairments and professionals who work in the field of blindness to enhance their knowledge of available assistive technology, said Debbie Culver, ADRS coordinator of Blind Services, who organizes the event and leads the symposium’s steering committee.

“Modern mobile devices are shaping the lives of people with disabilities in ways that just weren’t possible just a short time ago,” said Culver. “This year’s expo will include information on the app revolution for Apple and Android mobile devices and how best to harness the power of smart phones and tablets to clear hurdles related to independent living and employment.”

Training sessions at the exposition will be June 7 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and June 8 from 8 a.m. to noon and will be open to all attendees. In addition to “Apps Roundup for iOS and Android,” other seminars will include “Overview of Assistive Technology,” “Navigating Upgrades in Microsoft Office,” “Comparison of Digital Book Readers,” “Accessing Art and Entertainment Through Technology,” and “The Future Changes in the Braille Code.”

Exhibits at the expo will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 6, and from 8 a.m. to noon on June 7. A Lunch & Learn including resource networking and vendor presentations will be June 6 from noon to 1:15 p.m.

AIDB is located at 205 South St. 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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PROVIDING SERVICES TO ALABAMIANS WITH DISABILITIES