

Sobczyk, Lisa M - DHS

-----Original Message-----

From: Aumanstal, Mason E - DHS [mailto:MasonE.Aumanstal@dhs.wisconsin.gov];

Sent: 6/27/2018 12:22:02 PM

To: Tiffany Glass [mailto:glas0188@umn.edu];

CC: Sobczyk, Lisa M - DHS [mailto:Lisa.Sobczyk@dhs.wisconsin.gov];

Subject: RE: questions about the State AT Plan

Good Afternoon Tiffany,

Thank you for your interest in the State Plan for Assistive Technology. We hope that the answers below adequately answer your questions.

1. There currently is no flow chart as this state plan only encompasses assistive technology as provided through the State Assistive Technology Program (known as WisTech). The charts on page 8 and 9 of the state plan only reflect subcontractors who deliver AT services on behalf of the WisTech Program and receive funding to do so. The budget is not reflective of partnerships the WisTech Program has with other organizations, providers, or stakeholders. The AT Advisory Council membership is more reflective of formal partnerships with other state entities and includes Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Council on Workforce Investment, Independent Living Centers, and Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Office of Blind and Visually Impaired. To learn more about the Council, please visit: <https://atc.wisconsin.gov/atc-home.htm>.
2. The program data that the AT Advisory Council monitors is data specific to the WisTech Program and requirements of the AT Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. This includes information on state-level activities, specific to the WisTech Program, including device loans, device exchanges, device reutilization, device demonstrations, and state financing. Additionally, data on state leadership activities such as training and technical assistance provided by the WisTech Program is also collected and reviewed by the AT Advisory Council. The council uses this and other information to ensure that the goals outlined in the State Plan are met. The AT Advisory Council does not and would not monitor AT data from other DHS resources or community partners, as their scope is dictated by federal legislation.
3. WisTech subcontractors provide AT services directly to consumers. Independent Living Centers, the WisTech subcontractor primary service provider, serve individuals with disabilities from birth to death. As mentioned in response to question 1, DPI serves on the AT Advisory Council and provides input on the WisTech Program. DPI also works with ILCs and often reaches out to them to provide AT assessments in the schools and refers consumers who have AT needs beyond the school setting to the ILCs.

4. WATI doesn't officially exist anymore, the website is maintained by former WATI staff who still work in the area of AT. DPI ceased funding WATI. WATI was not funded by WisTech. Many people still use the materials and resources created by WATI but to my knowledge it's only a group of professionals volunteering time to do maintenance of the WATI website.

I sincerely hope that this information is beneficial to you. We look forward to hearing from you again as it relates to the State Plan for Assistive Technology, as feedback from individuals like yourself will ensure that the current and future assistive technology needs for the State of Wisconsin are being met.

Thank you again for your email.

Best Regards,

Mason Aumanstal

Assistive Technology Program Coordinator

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MasonE.Aumanstal@dhs.wisconsin.gov

From: Tiffany Glass [mailto:glas0188@umn.edu]

Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 8:28 AM

To: Aumanstal, Mason E - DHS

Subject: questions about the State AT Plan

Hello,

I hope you are doing well! I recently received a notice about the opportunity to provide feedback about the State AT Plan draft.

I'm the parent of a person who uses electronic AAC for communication; we live in WI. I'm grateful for the opportunity to provide feedback, but first have some questions;

1. Is there an organizational diagram or flow chart available to show on one page how the WisTech AT program relates to, or interacts with, the other mechanisms in WI for AT access, oversight, and implementation? Are the charts on page 8 and 9 of the plan comprehensive lists?
2. I see on the website that the AT Advisory Council monitors program data; is this exclusively data from the Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources, or does the AT Advisory Council assist in monitoring data from other DHS sources or community partners?
3. Does WisTech provide assistance or oversight for the provision of AT for children with disabilities in WI? How is this accomplished? What is the relationship between WisTech and WI DPI?
4. I see from the website that WATI has been defunded; is there more background information available about why it was defunded and how its mission is being carried out in its absence?

Thanks very much!! If it would be helpful to chat by phone, my number is (651) 343 6048.

Best regards,

Tiffany Glass