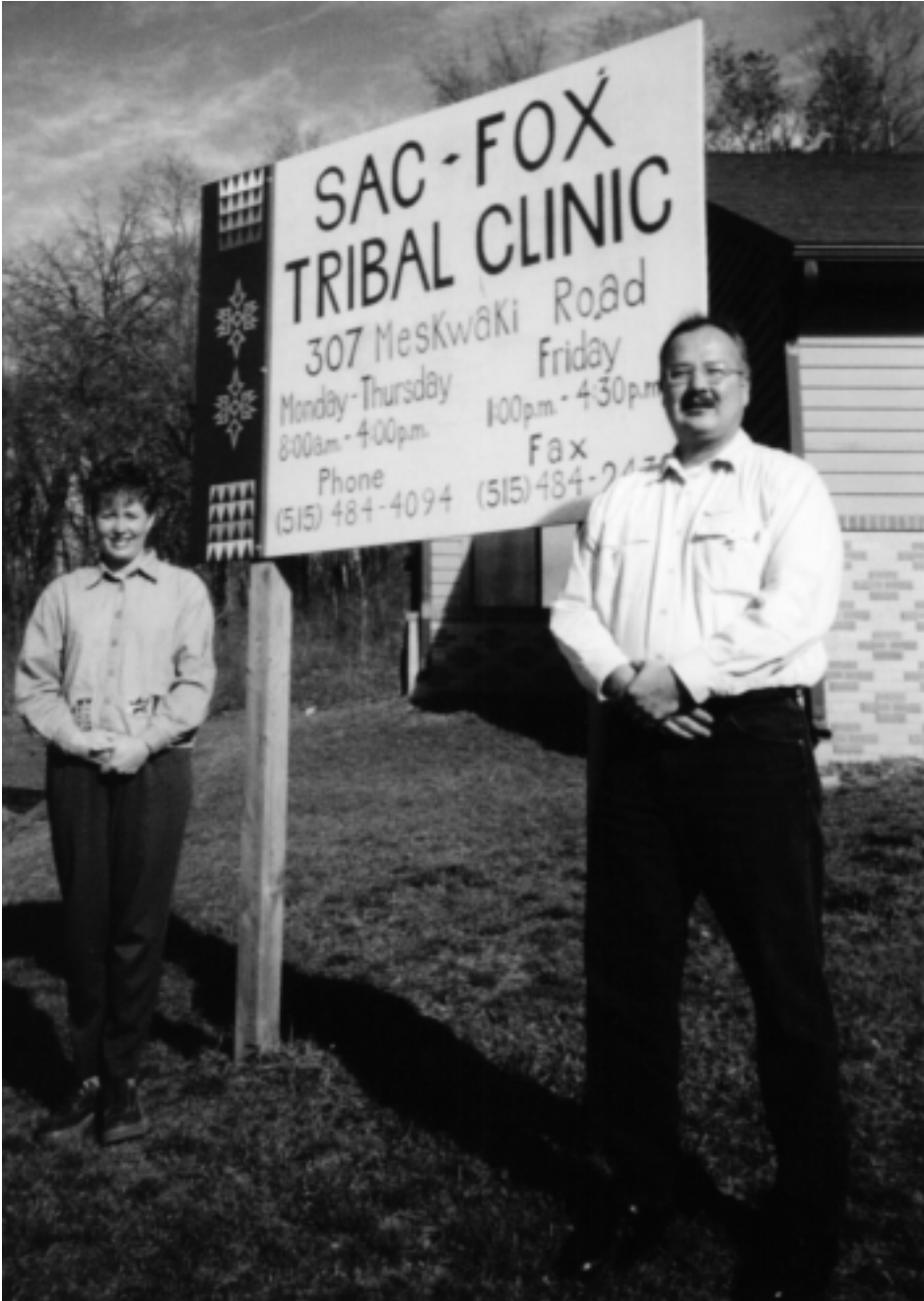


ipat **nfotech** News

Iowa Program for Assistive Technology ♦ Infotech

A program of the Center for Disabilities and Development



Access to AT through Sac and Fox Tribal Health Services

through funding support from the Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (IPAT), Easter Seals began working with the Sac & Fox Tribal Health Services to meet the needs of the Meskwaki Nation persons with disabilities and older persons in February 1999. With an estimated 40% prevalence of diabetes among the communities 1,200 members, there is a high incidence of disability. Due to the secondary conditions of diabetes, common limitations occur, such as stroke, amputation, low vision, neuropathy, and arthritis.

continued on page 2

In this issue . . .

Funding Assistive Technology in Iowa: An IPAT Resource Manual	2
hawk-i: Insurance for Children	3
UERS	6
Improving Telephone Access for Persons with Disabilities	8

IPAT/Infotech Newsletter is published quarterly through the Iowa Program for Assistive Technology, Center for Disabilities and Development, 100 Hawkins Drive, S295, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1011.

Infotech/IPAT is now accessible electronically through the World Wide Web at: www.uiowa.edu/infotech/

Pictured at (left) Kim Miller, Public Health Nurse and (right) Mark Merrick Jr., Public Health Director, Sac-Fox Tribal Clinic.

Access to AT through Sac and Fox Tribal Health Services *continued from front page*

With Easter Seals 75-year history of providing services to persons with disabilities and 15-year history of targeting rural, under-served populations, this program was a perfect match between IPAT, Easter Seals, and the Sac & Fox Tribal Health Services.

This collaborative effort began when Easter Seals staff presented to the Sac & Fox Tribal Health Services staff, including the Public Health Nurse and Community Health Representatives. The presentation included hands-on demonstrations of various types of assistive technology. The over 50 items demonstrated were then collected in a demonstration suitcase, which is housed with the office of the Public Health Nurse at the Sac and Fox Tribal Health Services. This suitcase is used by staff, to allow community members a chance to try out and experience various gadgets, gizmos, and devices.

Upon completion of the presentations, the staff at the Sac and Fox Tribal Health Services were able to

identify members of the community who were elderly and/or had disabilities. Through the medical experience of the Public Health Nurse and the rehabilitation and technical expertise of Easter Seals staff, home visits were arranged by the Public Health Nurse. During these visits, staff from both organizations conducted an accessibility survey and activities of daily living assessment. When appropriate, persons were able to try various types of devices that can increase their safety and independence. Another service offered during these visits is access to used durable medical equipment through Easter Seals Equipment Services program. The Sac & Fox Tribal Health Services staff write a medical prescription for equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, and a variety of other durable medical equipment. The equipment fee is covered by the Meskwaki Nation through designated funds managed by Liz Roberts. When equipment is not available in the inventory at Easter Seals, staff contact

the Used Equipment Referral Service at IPAT to determine the availability of equipment for sale.

This relationship has been strengthened over the years. Services are now provided through a variety of means. Referrals are coordinated through the Public Health Nurse. Upon receiving the referral, on-site visits are conducted jointly by Easter Seals staff and the Public Health Nurse.

As a result of the forward thinking of the Meskwaki Nation, Easter Seals and IPAT have been granted opportunities to be involved in a variety of activities. These include an assistive technology display at Meskwaki Health Fair, presentations at Elderly Meals, monthly articles in the Meskwaki Newsletter, and involvement in House Services Planning Sessions.

The success of this collaborative effort is due to the strengths, yet uniqueness, of each partner. Each partner's expertise is needed in order to provide quality services to the Meskwaki Nation community. ♦

Funding Assistive Technology in Iowa: An IPAT Resource Manual



The **IPAT Funding Manual** is now available for purchase. It contains all the InfoTech fact sheets on public and private resources for funding assistive technology, detailed information on private insurance funding for assistive technology, help sheets, and a comprehensive resource directory. The cost is \$25.00. This manual is designed to be used by those with frequent and varied funding questions, such as service providers. Please remember that individual funding questions can always be directed to InfoTech's funding specialists at 800-331-3027. The table of contents is available for viewing at:

<http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech/Funding/>

Pictured at (left) are Jennifer Britton and Juli Hansen (right). IPAT is pleased to welcome Juli as a new funding information specialist working with Jennifer at InfoTech. Juli will work part-time for InfoTech and continue her work as an information specialist at Iowa COMPASS.

hawk-i

Insurance for Children

James F. Elliott, Deputy Director of Litigation
Legal Services Corporation of Iowa

What do you do when your children have no health insurance but you have too much money to be eligible for Title 19? You may want to consider the hawk-i program.



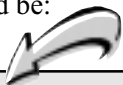
many Iowa children can get health insurance through the “hawk-i” program. Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (hawk-i) is Iowa’s version of what is known nationwide as CHIP – Children Health Insurance Program. Through CHIP, the federal government makes funds available to all states to expand coverage of health insurance to children.

The hawk-i program only insures children under age 19. The income guidelines for the hawk-i program are fairly generous. At present, the income guideline is 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Families also get a 20% earned income deduction. This means a family can earn up to 220% of the federal poverty guidelines and still qualify for the program. Although the number of eligible children is 33,250, only a third of those who could qualify are enrolled in hawk-i.

What does hawk-i cost?

For many eligible households, the premium is free and for others the cost is \$10 per child per month and no more than a total of \$20 per month. To find what your cost would be:

Next, look at the chart below. Find the range where the number on line (8) falls to see how much it would cost to get hawk-i health insurance.

- 
- | | |
|--|----------|
| (1) Start with total gross earned income | \$ _____ |
| (2) Multiply by .2 | x .2 |
| (3) Figure the total | = _____ |
| (4) Write down the number from line (1) | _____ |
| (5) Subtract the number from line (3) | - _____ |
| (6) Figure the sum | = _____ |
| (7) Add unearned income | + _____ |
| (8) Figure the result | = _____ |

continued on page 4

hawk-i Insurance for Children


continued from page 3

All of the figures in this table are likely to change in April 2002 when the new federal poverty guidelines are released.

If you are eligible, changes in income during the 12-month enrollment period do not affect the child's eligibility to participate in *hawk-i*. However, if income has decreased, a family may request a review to determine whether they are required to continue paying the premium.

Non-financial eligibility criteria

In order to be eligible for the *hawk-i* program, a child must be uninsured. A child who is currently enrolled in a health plan may not be eligible. A child may not be eligible until six months have gone by since being enrolled in an employer-sponsored health plan. The rules for the *hawk-i* program state that there are a number of exceptions to the 6-month rule, and they are:

- 
1. Employment was lost due to factors other than voluntary termination.
 2. Coverage was lost due to the death of a parent.
 3. There was a change in employment to a new employer that does not provide an option for dependent coverage.
 4. The child moved to an area of the state where the plan does not have a provider network established.
 5. The employer discontinued health benefits to all employees.
 6. The coverage period allowed by COBRA expired.
 7. The parent became self-employed.
 8. Health benefits were terminated because of a long-term disability.
 9. Dependent coverage was terminated due to an extreme economic hardship on the part of either the employee or the employer. Extreme economic hardship for employees shall mean that the employee's share of the premium for providing employer-sponsored dependent coverage exceeded 5% of the family's gross annual income.
 10. There was a substantial reduction in either lifetime medical benefits or benefit category available to an employee and dependents under an employer's health care plan.
 11. Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage in another state was terminated due to the family's move to Iowa.

A child must be a resident of Iowa in order to be eligible for the *hawk-i* program. The child who is receiving *hawk-i* has to be a citizen or lawfully-admitted alien. The citizenship or alien status of the parent or responsible person is not to be considered in determining eligibility of the child. In fact, the parents do not need to disclose their citizenship or alien status for the *hawk-i* program. A child will not be eligible for *hawk-i* if the child is eligible for health insurance coverage as a dependent of a State of Iowa employee.

Finally, if a child is eligible for Medicaid through Title 19, the child will not be eligible for *hawk-i*. When *hawk-i* gets an application, they screen it for potential eligibility for Medicaid. They refer Medicaid-eligible applicants to the Department of Human Services, which will contact the family to see if they wish to receive Title 19 benefits.

The parent or caretaker of the child must file the application for *hawk-i* benefits. A non-custodial parent cannot file the application for a child.

What happens when I send in my application?

Applications forms go a company called MAXIMUS, which has a contract with the Department of Human Services to administer the *hawk-i* program. MAXIMUS will review your application and determine if you are eligible for *hawk-i*. If it appears you may be eligible for Medicaid, they will refer your application to the Department of Human Services. If you are eligible, then you will be able to receive insurance for your child from one of three private insurance companies.

You are entitled to get a decision in writing of any planned action that effects the enrollee's eligibility or amount of benefits. If you disagree with the planned action, you can file an appeal with the Iowa Department of Human Services (IDHS). The appeal should be in writing and filed with the local or state IDHS office. The appeal should also be filed within 30 days from the date of the adverse action. There is a "good cause" exception for up to 90 days to file an appeal, but it is not recommended that you rely upon this exception. If you are appealing a denial of assistive technology, you may be eligible for free legal assistance in an appeal through the AT Legal Project of the Iowa Program for Assistive Technology toll-free at either 800-331-3027(voice) or 877-686-0032 (TTY). If the appeal does not concern assistive technology, lower income Iowans can contact Legal Services Corporation of Iowa at 800-532-1275 (voice/TTY) to see if they can obtain legal representation.

Currently three companies provide insurance through the *hawk-i* program. Where you live in the state determines whether or not you are eligible for a particular insurance company. A few counties in the state offer a choice between two different companies. Each company's coverage is a little bit different, but they all have to provide basic health insurance.

Each plan does provide for payment of assistive technology. Generally, under all three plans, durable medical equipment is covered, so long as it is medically necessary. Hearing aids and eye glasses are covered with certain



The three companies are:

- **Wellmark** (1-800-800-1043)
- **Iowa Health Solutions** (1-800-928-8004)
- **John Deere Health Plan, Inc.**
(1-800-247-9110, TDD 1-800-884-4327)

Under the *hawk-i* program, these insurance companies provide the insurance, and you will receive an insurance card with the program's name and information on coverage. Under the *hawk-i* program each plan must cover the following:

- Doctor visits
- Outpatient hospital services
- Well child visits
- Vaccines and shots (immunizations)
- Emergency care
- Inpatient hospital services
- Prescription medicines
- Eye glasses and vision exams
- Dental care and exams
- Hospice care
- Speech therapy and physical therapy
- Ambulance services
- Nursing care services
- Durable medical equipment
- Hearing exams
- Home health care
- Chiropractic care
- Mental health/substance abuse care

limitations as to costs, and from which provider you may have to purchase the products.

To get an application, you can call *hawk-i* at 1-800-257-8563 (TDD 1-888-422-2319) Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., or you can download an application off the

web at <http://www.hawk-i.org>. Both English and Spanish versions are available.

**James F. Elliott,
Deputy Director of Litigation
Legal Services Corporation
of Iowa**

WERS

USED EQUIPMENT REFERRAL SERVICE

If you would like additional information on an item, or wish to place an ad, please contact InfoTech at 800-331-3027 (voice/TTY). When calling in reference to an item, please give the code number that appears next to the listing. **All prices listed are negotiable and seller are willing to take the best offer.*

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

■ Ambulation/Therapy Equipment

- 1423** Negotiable - Walker, excellent condition [Cedar Rapids, IA]
1493 \$700 - Rifton Gait Trainer, small (older model), sling seat, arm/chest/ankle prompts [LeMars, IA]

■ Architectural/Home Adaptations

- 1488** Negotiable - Bird C. Cronin, Inc, over the door pulley kit [Homestead, IA]
1483 Negotiable - Bruno curved stairway system, Electra Ride 3, custom rail stair lift, 1 year old [Ames, IA]

■ Augmentative/Alternative Communication

- 612** \$100 - Intro Talker by Prentke Romich, with light pointer, and wheelchair mount, new battery, like new [Wallingford, IA]

■ Hearing Technology

- 3** Negotiable - Sears personal amplification system, wireless infra-red system [Waterloo, IA]

■ Mobility Aids

- 1480** \$3,500 - Scalamobile with wheelchair, portable unit that walks a wheelchair upstairs, excellent condition, new \$7,000 [Rogers, MN]

■ Personal Care/Home Management

- 1365** \$500 - Adjustable Bed, full-size; remote control, vibrator massage unit [Norwalk, IA]
1452 \$250 - Adjustable bed, "Poster" control therapeutic bed, twin sized, never used [Allison, IA]
1480 \$750 - Electric hospital bed, used one year [Rogers, MN]
1488 \$300 - Mobilte by Invacare hospital bed w/mattress, very sturdy, button controls, semi-automatic [Homestead, IA]
1488 \$1,000 - Sunrise SS3A hospital bed w/mattress, 2 years old, excellent condition, fully-automatic, 500 lb capacity, new extra remote [Homestead, IA]

- 1489** Negotiable - Hospital bed, electric, 12 yrs old [Forest Lake, MN]
1492 \$1,200 - Electric hospital bed and mattress, waffle cushion and trapeze, used 6 months [Spencer, IA]
112 \$500 - Stand Aid, 5 1/2 feet tall, hydraulic lift [Sioux Falls, SD]
112 \$1,000 - Power Trainer with foot and hand controls, mileage gauge, barely used [Sioux Falls, SD]
135 \$275 - Insul-Gauges, for blind, no moving pieces, not easily broken, set or separately, \$5 per gauge [Minneapolis, MN]
135 \$375 - Insul-Gauges, 2 sets with wooden case [Minneapolis, MN]
612 \$50 - Health-O-Meter Pediatric Scale, model 322, 36 lb. Capacity [Wallingford, IA]
1478 \$200 - Romat Larynx speaking device, never used, includes battery charger [East Moline, IL]
1423 Negotiable - Commode [Cedar Rapids, IA]
1478 \$25 - Romat Larynx speaking device, older model, works well [East Moline, IL]
1480 \$150 - Lubidet, never been used [Rogers, MN]
1480 \$3,000 - Sure Hands wall lift with 2 poles, used very little, new \$6,000 [Rogers, MN]
1490 \$650 - Pride electric lift chair, Whisper Quiet, tan, used 2 months, excellent condition [Mason City, IA]
135 \$900 - Invacare Model 9800 Patient Lift with accessories, hanger bar, chains/hooks and sling, very good condition [Minneapolis, MN]
612 \$2,000 - Barrier Free Uni-lift Lift System, 24 feet of straight track [Wallingford, IA]
1365 \$500 - Hoyer Hydraulic Lift, used only once, new [Norwalk, IA]

- 1488** \$600 - Invacare 9805 Careguard Transfer Lift w/sling, hydraulic, 450lb limit [Homestead, IA]
1488 \$250 - Invacare Transfer Lift, hydraulic w/sling, 350lb limit [Homestead, IA]
1480 \$50 - Roll-in shower commode chair with padded seat, never used [Rogers, MN]

■ Three Wheeled Power Mobility

- 112** \$3,000 - Little Rascal Electric Scooter, heavy duty, less than a yr old, indestructible tires [Sioux Falls, SD]
1472 \$900 - Rascal III Three Wheeled scooter, new in 1996 with automatic trunk lift [Cedar Rapids, IA]
1475 \$1,000 - Chauffeur 4 wheeled scooter; rechargeable batteries; never used; excellent condition [Deloit, IA]
1475 \$1,000 - Chauffeur 4 wheeled scooter; rechargeable batteries; used 2 times; excellent condition
1477 \$900 - Pride Hercules 3000 lift for van [Ankeny, IA]

■ Travelchairs/Stollers/Car Seat

- 612** \$200 - Adaptive stroller, can also be used for car seat [Wallingford, IA]

■ Vehicle Accessories

- 1474** Negotiable - Hand Controls [Tripoli, IA]
1449 \$50 - Tilt-Tote wheelchair carrier for back of car, with cover [Muscatine, IA]
1476 \$1,200 - Crow River wheelchair lift for full sized van; hydraulic lift [Plainfield, IA]

■ Vehicles with Lifts/ramps

- 999** \$15,000 - 1996 Chevrolet van, full sized, Crow River lift, less than 40,000 miles [Tripoli, IA]
1051 \$20,000 - 1996 Ford Windstar Conversion van; lowered floor; wheelchair ramp; lock down; tie downs; removable front seats; well equipped; excellent condition; 48,000 miles [Mora, MN]

The items listed on the Used Equipment Referral Service are updated monthly. To get a copy of the updated list, you need to call us at the beginning of each month to have a list mailed to you. You can also have your name added to an email reminder list or check out the web site at <http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech/UERS>.

UERS

continued from page 6

- 1473 \$8,000 - 1983 Ford Econoline; 83,000 miles; new Sandler rear lift with remote; 48" clearance; 351 engine; automatic with 4 bucket seats [Colfax, IA]
- 1474 \$19,000 - 1996 Chevrolet; full sized; Crow River Lift with remote control; 35,000 miles; automatic door openers; wheelchair tie downs; good condition [Tripoli, IA]
- 1480 \$8,500 - 1993 Volkswagen Eurovan GL, automatic, front and rear air and heat, power windows, am/fm cassette, Braun hydrolic wheelchair lift, Easy Lock restraint system, 61,000 miles [Rogers, MN]
- 1484 \$3,000 - 1988 Ford Aerostar with Braun Lift; 112,000 miles; 1992 engine; good tires and new battery [Tipton, IA]

Wheelchair Accessories

- 135 \$400 - Roho Double-Valve Inflatable Wheelchair Cushion [Minneapolis, MN]
- 135 Negotiable - Gel cushion, 16x18 inches [Minneapolis, MN]
- 135 \$300 - Roho 1-Valve Inflatable Wheelchair Cushion [Minneapolis, MN]
- 135 Negotiable - Wheelchair back reinforcement [Minneapolis, MN]
- 135 \$20 - Geo-Mat 3'x 6" for Use on a Bed, Fitted Sides to Attach to Bed [Minneapolis, MN]

Wheelchairs - Manual

- 135 \$700 - Quickie/Breezy Manual Wheelchair, lap and shoulder belts with removable head rest, anti-tip bars, seat - 18" wide x16", new hand grip extensions [Minneapolis, MN]
- 1423 Negotiable - Invacare Rolls manual wheelchair; removable; padded armrests; footrests; excellent condition, [Cedar Rapids, IA]
- 1452 \$400 - Invacare Patriot manual wheelchair, weighs 20 lbs, 1 yr old [Allison, IA]

- 1480 \$400 - Quickie light weight manual wheelchair with head rest, 1 year old, excellent condition
- 1481 \$300 - 9000 XT Super low Hemi manual wheelchair, used one month, foam cushions [Creston, IA]
- 1488 \$400 - Invacare Rolls IV 918, manual wheelchair, extra heavy duty, w/leg and foot rests, 24x20 seat [Homestead, IA]
- 612 Negotiable - Zippy tilt-in-space, pediatric manual wheelchair, pink [Wallingford, IA]

Wheelchairs - Power

- 50 \$4,500 - Jazzy 1120 power wheelchair; programmable controls; leg rests; very little use; high seat; lap belt; joy stick [Mechanicsville, IA]
- 79 Negotiable - Invacare power wheelchair, full/flat recline, good belts & tires, needs batteries, charger included [Postville, IA]
- 1416 \$1,000 - Invacare Action Storm Ranger X power wheelchair, joy stick, adjustable adult size, gel cushioned seat, 3 yrs old, used 2 years, valued at \$4,000 asking \$1800 [Lemars, IA]
- 1449 \$1,800 - Excel power wheelchair, like new, only used 1 month [Muscatine, IA]
- 1457 \$1,900 - Jazzy Pride power wheelchair, 1120 Model, excellent condition, extra tray, oxygen holder attachment, like new [Dubuque, IA]
- 1471 Negotiable - Jazzy Pride electric wheelchair; model 1100 [East Dubuque, IL]
- 1477 \$4,000 - Pride Jazzy 1120 power wheelchair; used 50 hours [Ankeny, IA]
- 1479 Negotiable - Sunrise Medical Quickie V121 power wheelchair; battery charger; extra ushions; 1 year old [Coralville, IA]
- 1480 \$7,500 - Invacare Storm Series power wheelchair with frog legs, tilt adjustable back, easy lock wheelchair restraint system, excellent condition [Rogers, MN]

- 1482 Negotiable - Jet 1 power wheelchair with joy stick, new condition [Marion, IA]
- 1485 Negotiable - Invacare Excel, like new, green, battery charger [Dubuque, IA]
- 1487 \$3,000 - Jazzy 1103 power wheelchair, used only 1 year, excellent condition, never outside, 17" turning radius, 90 degree swivel seat and other options, owners manual available [Clive, IA]
- 1488 \$2,500 - Invacare Storm STMRX-TS power wheelchair, w/Genus tilt & recline seating, power elevating leg rests, lateral supports, new batteries and charger, Jay Gel-seat cushion 18x19 [Homestead, IA]
- 1489 Negotiable -Everest & Jennings power wheelchair [Forest Lake, MN]
- 1489 Negotiable -Everest Y Jennings, narrow adult power wheelchair, excellent condition [Forest Lake, MN]
- 1489 Negotiable -Everest & Jennings power wheelchair [Forest Lake, MN]

UERS Reminder

This is just a reminder to newsletter readers who have listed equipment for sale, or to purchase. Be sure to call every 60 days to update your listing!

If you have not updated your list, it will be automatically dropped. If your listing has been dropped, you can reinstate the ad. Just give us a call at 800-331-3027.



Improving Telephone Access for Persons with Disabilities

CALLING ON YOU FOR HELP

Did You Know?

- Telecommunications Access Iowa is a state program that helps Iowa residents pay for specialized phone equipment needed to use the regular telephone network.
- Iowa's program currently serves only people that cannot use the phone because they have a hearing or speech impairment or are deaf/blind.
- Iowa's program does not serve individuals who have impairments that prevent them from holding a phone, picking up a phone, getting to or answering the phone or remembering telephone numbers.
- Iowa's program is funded entirely by Iowa's telephone companies.
- Eighteen (18) states have telecommunications equipment programs that do serve people who have physical, cognitive and sensory impairments.
- Telecommunications Access Iowa can extend coverage to people who have physical, cognitive and sensory impairments without affecting the state budget or cutting back on customer service.

Do You Want To Know More?

We are interested in hearing from people who have special phone equipment, as well as from people who want the equipment but do not qualify under current program rules. If you are interested in learning more about the Iowa program or expanding program coverage, please provide the requisite contact information. You can call the Iowa Clinical Law program toll free at **(866) 251-5491**. Ask for John Craiger, Helen Schartz or Len Sandler. You can also e-mail us at: law-legal-clinic@uiowa.edu or leonard-sandler@uiowa.edu. The information you provide will not be disclosed or shared without your permission.

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

Executive Editor: Amy Hanna

Graphic Designer: Richard T. Huber

The **IPAT/Infotech** newsletter is a publication of the Iowa Program for Assistive Technology, a project of the Center for Disabilities and Development, Nationally designated as Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities. The Center is a component of University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, University of Iowa Health Care. InfoTech aids individuals with disabilities, parents, families, and professionals by providing information on the availability of both new and used adaptive devices. No endorsement of products or services is intended. For more information on devices or for help in locating other types of specialized equipment, call:

1-800-331-3027 (toll-free, voice)

1-877-686-0032 (toll-free, TTY)

IPAT/InfoTech is accessible electronically through the World Wide Web at:

www.uiowa.edu/infotech/

• • • • •

Iowa Program for Assistive
Technology/Infotech Staff

Director

Jane Gay

Coordinator, Outreach & Training

Amy Hanna

Coordinator, Funding

Jennifer Britton

Juli Hansen

Coordinator, Information Services

Ann Dudler

Support Staff

Julie Rogers

Barb Nidey

IPAT/Infotech is supported by the National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research, U.S. Department of Education. This material does not necessarily reflect the views of NIDRR/ED or indicate official endorsement of their contents.



Printed on
Recycled Paper



Center for Disabilities and Development
100 Hawkins Drive Rm. S295
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1011

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit Number 45

Iowa City, Iowa