

# Assistive Technology Services at Boundless

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2.8.23



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## Objectives

- Introduce team
- Define Assistive Technology
- Provide examples of Assistive Technology
- Discuss eligibility for Assistive Technology Services
- Outline the process of acquiring Assistive Technology
- Describe the consultation, implementation, and support process
- Boundless SmartHome!
- Introduce BoundaryCare—a type of Assistive Technology available at Boundless

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## Ryan Burnett, PT, DPT, ATP

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- Ryan is the assistive technology manager here at Boundless.
- Physical Therapist with previous experience helping individuals procure optimally-configured wheelchairs.
- Ryan is certified as an Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) by the Rehabilitation Engineering and AT Society of North America (RESNA).

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## Abby Harris, MA, CCC- SLP

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- Abigail Harris is a speech-language pathologist at Boundless and expert when it comes to communication devices and other life-changing technology. She has years of experience working with people with autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, ADD/ADHD, and many other I/DD and behavioral health challenges.
- Abby is ready to use her skills matching individuals to the right technology to help your loved one discover their full potential!

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## What is Assistive Technology

- AT is any equipment used by individuals with disabilities to perform daily functions that might otherwise be challenging or impossible.
- These range from mobility devices to SmartHome technologies, such as automated lights and bathroom safety equipment.

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## What is Assistive Technology at Boundless?

- Driven by waiver funding
  - Rule 5123-9-12
- The goal of Assistive Technology is to discover what technology can best help maintain or improve an individual's independence, vocational skills, physical ability, with **less reliance on support from others.**
- Our focus at Boundless is in technology to promote independence and safety in home/community/vocational settings.

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# SmartHome AT Examples



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# SmartHome AT Examples



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## SmartHome AT Examples



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## SmartHome Hub

- Helps multiple devices connect to a central area (e.g. Amazon, Google, Apple, Samsung)
- Allow for integration of voice, switches, or use of external devices (e.g. communication device)



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## SmartHome AT Examples



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## Who is eligible for Assistive Technology

- **Individual Options (IO), Level One, or SELF Waiver**
  - Rule 5123-9-12 Home and community-based services waivers – assistive technology under the individual options, level one, and self-empowered life funding waivers.
  - Assistive Technology cannot exceed \$5000 per waiver eligibility span
  - The consultation, support, and equipment are billed to your waiver
- **Counties served—Franklin and contiguous, Boundless Locations (Montgomery, Wood, Medina, Mahoning/Trumbull)**
- **Must have Assistive Technology included as a component of their waiver**

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## Requirements to obtain Assistive Technology

- Assistive technology is intended to address an individual's assessed needs in a manner that **promotes autonomy and minimizes dependence on paid support staff** and should be explored prior to authorizing services that may be more intrusive, including homemaker/personal care.
  - Technology First initiative
- Must be included on their waiver; approved by SSA/Service Coordinator
- Must complete an Assistive Technology Consultation by a qualified provider to assess the fit between an individual and a device or system being considered for purchase
- Waiver funds used only when no other funds or resources are available
- Purchase of AT shall be the least costly alternative that reasonable meets their assessed needs

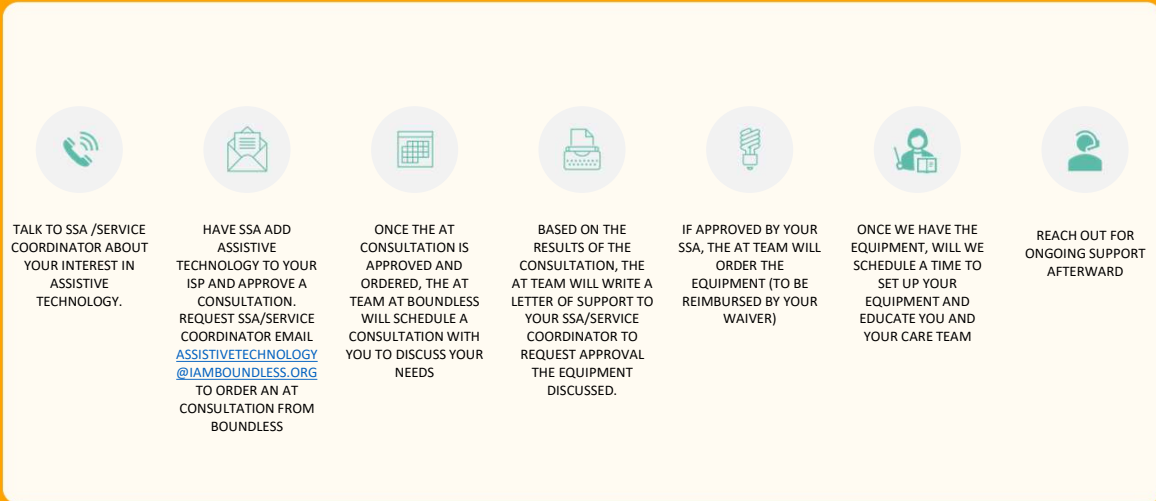
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What DOES NOT qualify as Assistive Technology, according to waiver language?

- General Utility or Internet service
- Items or equipment used solely for entertainment or recreational purposes
- New equipment or repair of previously approved equipment that has been damaged as a result of confirmed misuse, abuse, or negligence
- Purchase or rental lease of a personal computing device such as a desktop, laptop, or tablet that duplicates any similar equipment in the possession of, or service currently used by, the individual

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## Process of getting Assistive Technology



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## Consultation & Support Letter

- A collaborative conversation, discussing needs and goals in the home/community/vocational environment
- We may need to do additional research if unfamiliar with a device.
- Support Letter is sent to SSA, who provides approval/denial for the requested technology

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## Delivery and on-going support

- Once approved, the AT Team will provide education and setup assistance for your equipment
- Any Assistive Technologies that require structural changes to a home will require pre-planning with the SSA to determine installation.

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### Key takeaways...

- Assistive Technology *must* encourage independence, or progression toward independence
- Connection with SSA for consultation approval is key
- The consultation is collaborative! Come with ideas 😊

[AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org](mailto:AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org)

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## Boundless SmartHome

- Want hands-on experience with Assistive Technology? Schedule a tour of the Boundless SmartHome!
- Email [AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org](mailto:AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org) to schedule



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*"For people without disabilities, technology makes things easier. For people with disabilities, technology makes things possible."*

IBM Training Manual, 1991

[AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org](mailto:AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org)

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**BoundaryCare™**  
Keeping Care Close

Working with **boundless**  
inspiring the potential of people


**Remote monitoring  
that changes lives.**

Information for  
clients  
&  
guardians

BoundaryCare—an Assistive Technology available at I Am Boundless, Inc

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## What is it?



- BoundaryCare is an application designed to enhance independence, safety, and well-being through monitoring location and health data.
- BoundaryCare uses a specially configured Apple Watch to send reminders, gather wellness information, track location (if desired), and detect falls.
- BoundaryCare even includes 60 minutes of calling per month

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## What is it?



- BoundaryCare uses an Apple Watch to:
  - **Connect** individuals to caregivers and resources
  - **Check on** heart health, falls, elopement, exercises, and more
  - **Send** programmed reminders (e.g. medications)

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## How it works.



- When purchased through your waiver, BoundaryCare comes with an Apple Watch and iPhone
- The individual wears the Apple Watch, and the support person keeps the phone.
- Simply by wearing the Apple Watch, BoundaryCare will automatically send the individual's health data (HR, activity/exercise) and location to the app, viewable on the phone.
- To connect by voice, calls can be placed from the phone to the watch, with an available "auto-answer" features.

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## Monitoring

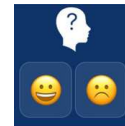
- You choose what to monitor:
  - Low and high heartrate thresholds
  - Heart Rhythm
  - Step Count
  - Daily Exercise Minutes
  - Daily Energy Burn
  - Fall detection
  - Location (safe zones)
  - Microsurveys (e.g. mood; Stoplight diet)



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## User Interaction

- What does the person with the watch need to do?
  - Not much! Just put it on your wrist in the morning and back on the charger at night. Wellness data (agreed to by you) will be collected silently in the background.
  - Microsurvey Example:



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## Why?

- Depending on your goals, BoundaryCare can be used to:
  - Promote Independence
  - Ensure safety and wellness (e.g. location; medication reminders)
  - Connect an individual to support (e.g. calling with auto-answer)
  - Achieve goals (e.g. step count; exercise)

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## Why?

### Use Case: Peg — Overnight Care



Peg has seizures that cause her O2 levels to plummet, and her most urgent need concerns nighttime supervision, when her mother doesn't necessarily wake up if there's a problem.

BoundaryCare helps by sending very loud alerts to her mother's iPhone if O2 levels drop, Peg's heart races, or she has a fall. BoundaryCare can alert a secondary caregiver if the first doesn't respond. The highly configurable alerts increase safety and give peace of mind.

When O2 drops to the customized threshold, BoundaryCare sends alerts.

### BoundaryCare

#### Peg's configuration

- Heart rate
- Heart rhythm
- Oxygen saturation
- Falls
- Configurable alerts



Oxygen sat.

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# Why?

## Use Case: Meera — diet & exercise



Meera lives in a group home, where she has signed up for the diet and exercise program.

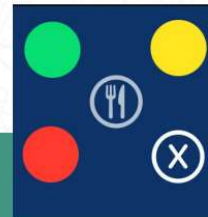
BoundaryCare helps by recording various activity metrics. It also sends out a reminder for her to do her exercises. And after every meal she completes a one-touch survey about her meal (following the “stoplight” diet of green, yellow, or red foods). She likes not having to report everything to her DSP.

One-touch diet surveys help track whether Meera is reaching her goal.

## BoundaryCare

### Meera's configuration

- Heart rate
- Activity monitoring
- Daily energy burn
- Exercise reminders
- Diet survey



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# Why?

## Use Case: Jared — mood & GPS



Jared likes to drive his motorized wheelchair to the store, but twice he has gotten stuck, unable to call for help. He also is subject to mood swings, which may be tied to poor sleep.

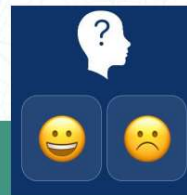
BoundaryCare helps by sending mood surveys, monitoring his sleep, and keeping him within phone contact of DSPs — keeping him as independent as possible.

One-touch mood surveys help DSPs know how Jared is feeling.

## BoundaryCare

### Jared's configuration

- GPS tracking
- Live location updates
- Phone calling (w/ auto-answer)
- Sleep monitoring
- Mood surveys



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## Parent/Guardian/DSP Interaction.



- BoundaryCare arrives ready-to-go!
- Upon delivery, the AT Team will help get you started with:
  - How to turn the watch on and how to charge it
  - How to connect the watch (and iPhone) to a local Wifi network
  - How to wear the watch
  - You can also connect the app to your personal phone, if desired

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## Eligibility

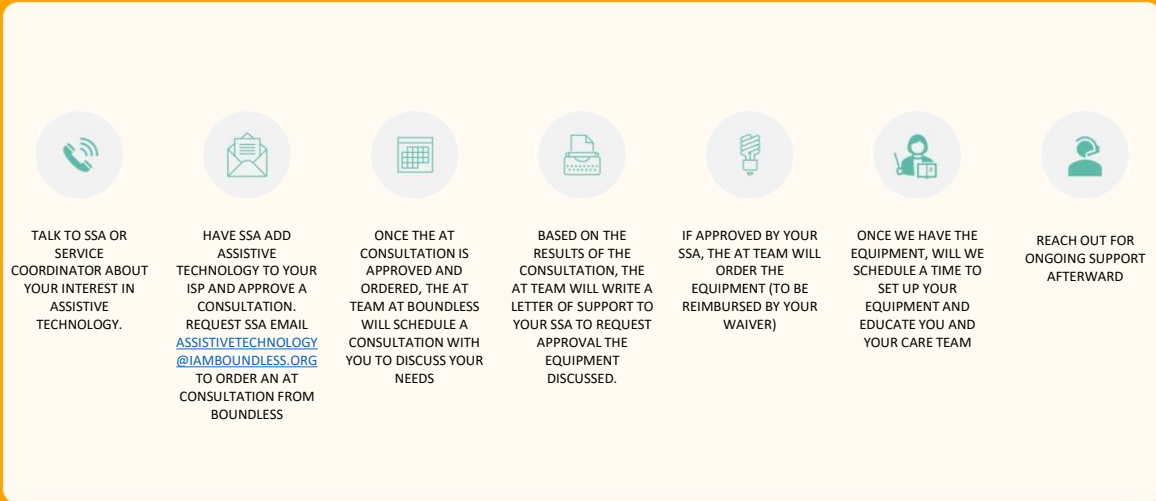
- An individual must have an IO, Level One, or SELF Waiver for Boundless to be able to provide BoundaryCare (watch, phone, and app)
- This is an equipment lease. If BoundaryCare is not meeting your needs, it can be returned, and payment would not continue.



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## How to get BoundaryCare





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## Trial and Feedback

- If interested in being part of the pilot program, please email [AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org](mailto:AssistiveTechnology@iamboundless.org), and include BoundaryCare in the subject line.
- Additional info session with BoundaryCare:
  - 9:00 am and 6:00 pm EST on Monday, Feb. 13 (next Monday)
  - BoundaryCare Webinar
  - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83440786725>
  - Meeting ID: 834 4078 6725
  - One tap mobile
  - +13126266799,,83440786725#
- **With your participation, we have the ability to bring feedback to BoundaryCare, improve the product and add more features**

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