



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

## **Technology and Telecommunications Task Force 2021 Annual Report**

### I. Task Force Description

The CCD Technology and Telecommunications Task Force deals with issues related to access to telecommunications and assistive technology in education, employment, and independent living.

### II. Top 3 Issues the Task Force Worked On in 2021

1. Overall funding for AT, including expanded funding and reauthorization of the AT Act, – Hearing Aid Tax Credit (ASHA) legislation, funding and coverage of AT through Medicare and Medicaid, and/or other streams of funding for AT, as well as wide access to affordable broadband and the Lifeline program
2. Educating Congress and the Administration on assistive technology and accessibility issues
3. ICT Access and Accessibility Issues, including:
  - a. Advocating for web accessibility standards in regulation through the Department of Justice;
  - b. Implementation of the Government-Wide Strategic Plan on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce;
  - c. Ensuring compliance with Section 508 for ICT used by the federal government; and
  - d. Expanding access to accessible education technology (including AT and virtual platforms).

### III. Top 3 Issues Identified for 2022

1. Educating Congress and the Administration on assistive technology and accessibility issues

2. Overall funding for AT, including AT Act Programs, – funding through Medicare and Medicaid, and/or other streams of funding for AT, as well as wide access to affordable broadband and the Lifeline program
3. Full digital (including websites and other information and communications technology (ICT)) accessibility and accessible education

#### IV. Task Force Meetings

4th Friday of the month at 12:00 PM eastern

#### V. 2021 Co-Chairs

- Eric Buehlmann, National Disability Rights Network
- Audrey Busch, Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
- Joseph Nahra, Perkins School for the Blind
- Clark Rachfal, American Council of the Blind
- Mark Richert, Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired

#### VI. Task Force Webpage Link

[http://www.c-c-d.org/rubriques.php?rub=taskforce.php&id\\_task=14](http://www.c-c-d.org/rubriques.php?rub=taskforce.php&id_task=14)