

## *What is Access Technology?*

Being able to use business software, the Internet and other technology can make the difference between productive employment and unemployment.

Access technology is the term used to describe the tools and methodology for persons who are visually impaired or blind to access and use the computer and peripheral devices.

Our goal is to put the employer and the employee "at ease" with the technology.



*A one-on-one access technology training session at The Iris Network's Technology Center in Portland.*



## *Access Technology and Employment Services*

- *Builds a world where no person is limited in career aspirations by vision impairment or blindness, one person at a time.*
- *Strengthens the employee's contribution to meet your business need.*

*Access Technology and Employment Services is accredited by the Maine Department of Labor for job development and coaching services.*

*The Iris Network is accredited by the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Impaired.*



Helping people with visual impairment or blindness remain independent.

Access Technology  
and  
Employment Services

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800-715-0097

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189 Park Avenue  
Portland, Maine 04102

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## Access Technology

Combining a structured curriculum with a targeted response to accessing technology

- Customized instruction to bridge your business software with access technology
- Remote access technology training and business support
- Both PC and Mac platforms are part of the curriculum
- Courses in the Microsoft Office suite of products and the Internet
- Individual and class instruction for persons with vision loss

## Employment Services

A workforce resource for employers and employees

- Consultation to assist business with job retention of employees experiencing vision loss
- Identification of positions accessible to new applicants or current employees seeking job change
- Referral of qualified applicants and coaching to supplement customary training if needed

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## ATES Program Professionals

### **Bonnie Gouzie, Director of Access Technology and Employment Services**

Bonnie's area of focus is ensuring the access technology is in place for both the employer and the employee. With over 20 years of experience in the employment of people with disabilities and with an emphasis on technology, Bonnie has learned the art of creating strategies to remove barriers to successful employment.

### **Susan Anderson, Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, Employment Coordinator**

Susan is your initial point of contact. Believing The Iris Network is a resource to business, she will move quickly and efficiently to meet your business need. Susan is a 35 year veteran of rehabilitation and employment services to individuals with visual impairment or blindness.

### **John Allen, Employment Specialist**

John teaches basic access technology skills in our Technology Center. He also works on-site with businesses to supplement the customary training offered to new employees. His 20 years of experience working with young adults with vision loss and his diverse professional background including IT, hospitality and retail give him a unique and immediate understanding of your business needs.

### **Steve Kelley, Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist**

Steve specializes in accessible devices such as tablets and cell phones and provides environmental assessments to improve visual function in the workplace. He brings 5 years of experience to our team.

## Our Business Partners Include

AAA	Maine Medical Center
Caleb Group	TD Bank
City of Portland	The ROOFA
Cuddledown	Volk Packaging
HMS Host	Walch Printing

## Employers Say

*"The Iris Network is a great organization to partner with."*

*- J. Judkins, General Manager,  
Residence Inn Portland Waterfront*

*"I didn't know what it would take to hire someone with a vision and hearing loss but I trusted The Iris Network had the answers."*

*- P. Aldrich, Owner,  
Village Candle, Wells*

*"I was excited to offer a job to young people with vision loss. They did a great job!"*

*- S. Mullen-Campbell, Manager,  
Snack Shack, Crescent Beach*