

In this week's edition of Tech Spotlight, we want to spread the word about two wonderful mobile phone programs! Many of the individuals we support are in need of smart devices and mobile service plans, to connect with loved ones. Many access apps that facilitate their independence, as well as ones that are just plain fun to use!

TechOwl, housed at Temple University, is the PA state program to connect individuals with disabilities with tools and technology. If you aren't familiar with TechOwl, it's worth a visit to their website https://techowlpa.org/. You'll find tons of great resources and information about free wireless devices. If applicants have a disability, are over the age of six (6), and meet the income criteria; they can receive a free mobile phone. Applicants for the program must show proof of a wireless service agreement. The full application can be found at: https://bit.ly/2QAGGdD

Lifeline is a federal program that provides free or discounted mobile phones and service plans to eligible participants. Benefits and mobile providers vary by state. People who participate in the following government programs or are recently unemployed may qualify.

- Food Stamps/SNAP
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension benefit or Survivors Pension
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8

Learn more at https://www.lifelinesupport.org/

The everyday devices that we sometimes take for granted are often not easily accessible for those we support; even simple tech solutions can make a big difference! The Enabling Technology Department is always here to help, reach out to Julie Daly <u>julie.daly@kencrest.org</u> or Joe McGuire <u>joseph.mcguire@kencrest.org</u> at any time.