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Massachusetts Commission for the Blind  
Virtual Town Hall – July 10, 2020

Massachusetts State Seal

Slide 2

Welcome

MCB logo with braille above each letter in M C B and Massachusetts Commission for the Blind written underneath

Commissioner David D’Arcangelo

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Assistive Technology

Director of Assistive Technology

Alexander Pooler

Slide 4

AGENDA

* Consumer Training Unit Overview
* MCB Consumer Interview
* Smart Speaker Pilot Program
* How to Use a Smart Device for COVID-19 Information
* Guidelines for Remote Evaluations
* Experiences using Remote Log-in Tools during COVID-19
* Maintaining Good Ergonomic Practices in Alternative Work Spaces
* Questions & Answers using Chat or MCBinfo@mass.gov

Slide 5

Consumer Training Unit (CTU) Overview

Richard Flint

Supervisor for Technology for the Blind Consumer Training Unit

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Consumer Training Unit Overview

Contact the Helpdesk

617-626-7401

Monday thru Friday

8:45 am to 5:00 pm EDT

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Consumer Training Unit Overview

What does the Helpdesk do?

* Troubleshoot
* Train
* Schedule Training

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Consumer Training Unit Overview

Other Options for Assistance

* Microsoft
* Google Accessibility
* Be My Eyes App
* 1-800-936-5900 Microsoft

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MCB Consumer Interview

with Tyler Littlefield

Evan Silver

Assistant Director of

Assistive Technology

Slide 10

Tyler Littlefield

* Accessible COVID-19 Statistics Tracker
* <https://cvstats.net/>

Photo of Tyler Littlefield. Photo shows a man with brown hair who has light skin tone and who is blind wearing a red collared shirt.

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MCB Smart Speaker

Pilot Program

Alexander Pooler

Director of

Assistive Technology

Slide 12

Amazon Echo Project Overview

* Project Proposal
* Project Deliverables
* Future of Smart Speakers

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How to Use a Smart Device for COVID-19 Info

Margaret Gaffney

Region V, New Bedford

Assistive Technology Specialist

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Using a Smart Device during COVID

Ask Alexa these Questions:

* How many cases of Covid are in (state or county) today?
* What are the symptoms of Covid?
* What is my risk for the Covid virus?

Siri and Google: Similar results

Bixby: Poor and out of date results

Covid iPhone app: Accessible with voiceover

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Guidelines for

Remote Evaluations

William Hersh

Region I, Springfield

Assistive Technology Specialist

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Experiences using Remote Log-In Tools during COVID-19

Brendan Finn

Region II, Worcester

Assistive Technology Specialist

Slide 17

Maintaining Good

Ergonomic Practices in

Alternative Work Spaces

James Verrill

Region III, Merrimack Valley

Assistive Technology Specialist

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Questions & Discussion

Via Chat or [MCBinfo@mass.gov](mailto:MCBinfo@mass.gov)

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Connect with MCB

Website: [www.mass.gov/mcb](http://www.mass.gov/mcb)

Twitter/Instagram: @massblind

Facebook: @masscommblind

LinkedIn: Massachusetts Commission for the Blind

YouTube: Massachusetts Commission for the Blind