

From: EngAGE@CDA EngAGE@aging.ca.gov
Subject: FW: recommendation on technology
Date: January 17, 2020 at 7:34 AM
To: Carrie Graham clgraham@berkeley.edu, Wong, Jennifer@CDA jennifer.wong@aging.ca.gov
Cc: Willoughby, Adam@CDA Adam.Willoughby@aging.ca.gov



A recommendation from Jeff Thom.

Adam, I would suggest posting this one. Perhaps you could just title it something like: Recommendation from MPA Long-Term Services and Supports Subcommittee Member Jeff Thom.

From: jsthom@comcast.net <jsthom@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 7:22 PM
To: EngAGE@CDA <EngAGE@aging.ca.gov>
Subject: recommendation on technology

The ability to use technology in all aspects of our daily lives is absolutely essential to the capacity to live independently. A private or public website, an e-health portal, a medical table or other piece of equipment not accessible to those with mobility impairments, technology related to diabetes, a computer in an assisted living or other long-term care facility, emergency alarms that cannot be heard by a deaf or hard-of-hearing person, or the myriad of other items that come into play in health and social services settings cause often insurmountable obstacles for persons with disabilities. These include inadequate information for a person with a disability to manage one's health care or to provide sufficient information to a provider in order for him/her to do so, the lack of an ability to cope with emergency situations, the lack of knowledge about services to which a person with a disability may qualify or for which his/her eligibility status may have changed, and isolation due to the lack of information which brings about interpersonal communications.

Recommendation:

State law must be strengthened and enforcement mechanisms provided for, including fund, to ensure that both the private and public health and social services sectors provide goods and services that are accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities.