

## **About the Assistive Device Exchange (A.D.E.) Program**

### **What is this site?**

Assistive Device Exchange (A.D.E.) is an online database where persons may list assistive devices for sale, give away, **OR** where they may find used assistive devices they need. This site provides an opportunity for those in need to access assistive devices no longer needed by others. There is currently no charge for using this service.

### **Purpose:**

The Assistive Device Exchange (A.D.E.) database was created in response to the following:

1. There is a growing demand for assistive devices within our community, as they enable people to live safely and independently within their community;
2. There is an increasing need for financial assistance when purchasing assistive devices as advances in technology and design can make the cost prohibitive;
3. Financial supports are limited, from both government and the community, to assist those requiring financial support to purchase Assistive Devices;
4. There is used equipment available, often stored in basements and garages.
5. Used equipment is frequently stored inappropriately, or for too long a period, which can result in the equipment being damaged or outdated and of no use to anyone;
6. Good used equipment needs to get in the hands of those who need it, thus extending the useable life of assistive equipment.
7. Quality equipment will no longer be discarded into area landfill.

### **Who can use this site?**

This program was developed for the population within Simcoe County & the District of Muskoka in Ontario, Canada.

Given the penetration and scope of the internet, the reach of this program is unlimited, and individuals from outside the designated area may wish to participate.

This is a **person-to-person based system**. Individuals listing equipment and those seeking to acquire assistive devices, will coordinate this exchange directly with each other.

### **How do I post an item onto the database (to sell or offer free of charge)?**

1. It's easy! On the left side (in yellow box) on the homepage screen, go to "submit a posting".
2. Complete the online form providing as much information as you are able.
3. Click on the "submit" button.

**Note:** *All submissions will be reviewed by Independent Living Services (ILS) before the listing goes "live". You may be contacted for clarification if needed.*

### **How do I update or remove my item?**

"Important! Be sure to Update your listing when your item has been sold, donated or you wish the listing to be removed for other reasons.

Go to your listing and click on "**Suggest an Update**" and follow instructions.

\*\* In "**Special Instructions**" please tell us why you are updating or removing your listing.

### **How do I use Assistive Device Exchange ( to find or purchase a device)?**

1. It's easy! Go to "New Search Page" and follow "search tips" for instructions.
2. When you find a potential match for your need, contact the individual through information provided within the listing.

3. **Buyer beware.** All equipment is offered in an "As is / Where is" condition, with no guarantee of its usefulness, **see the Disclaimer.**

It is recommended that equipment be assessed by an authorized medical equipment technician (see FAQ) prior to purchasing. At a minimum, the purchaser/recipient should at least examine, judge, and test any product being considered and ensure it meets the need identified by your health care professional.

### **Guidelines for Listing Equipment:**

1. All Assistive Device equipment should be in good working order, unless being offered for parts only. If equipment offered is for parts only, please clearly note this in Device Description on submission page.
2. Your submission will be listed for 90 days, unless you request it be removed earlier.
3. When a match is made, please notify the A.D.E. to have the item removed thus ensuring the accuracy of the database is maintained.
4. Clearly state if delivery is available, or if pick up is required. Details may be determined between parties.
5. All submissions will be reviewed by Independent Living Services (ILS), before the listing goes "live". You may be contacted for clarification.
6. The Assistive Device Exchange does not house or store any equipment.
7. Individuals use ADE at their own risk. Please take reasonable measures to protect your safety and privacy when posting to the list or participating in an

exchange. Individuals agree to hold neither the ADE nor anyone affiliated with the ADE responsible or liable for any circumstance resulting from an ADE-related exchange or communication.

8. Be aware! It is up to each individual when arranging for pickup of the device being sold/given away to be appropriately aware of the potential risk of having "a stranger" come to your home to pick something up. ADE assumes no responsibility for this risk. For example, you may want to say that you'll leave the item on the front porch while you are not home or arrange for a drop-off downtown, etc.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**\* How is Independent Living Services of Simcoe County & Area (ILS) involved in this exchange program?**

Independent Living Services is the host organization only, and does not endorse or recommend any of the items. All items for exchange are offered by the person/persons identified within the listing. All sales, deliveries and receipt of items are to be arranged directly between the party selling and/or giving and the receiver. **ILS accepts no responsibility or involvement in the exchange – please see the Disclaimer - listed on each page.**

**\*What is the cost of using the A.D.E.?**

Listing equipment is **free**. The equipment may be offered free of charge or for a price determined by the person listing.

**\*How long will my item remain on the database?**

90 days, unless the seller requests it be removed sooner. The Assistive Device Exchange will contact you after 90 days to determine if you wish to re-list. Your submission can be renewed to a maximum of 180 days.

**\*How do I update or remove my item?**

“Important! Be sure to Update your listing when your item has been sold, donated or you wish the listing to be removed for other reasons. Go to your listing and click on **“Suggest an Update”** and follow instructions.

\*\* In **“Special Instructions”** please tell us why you are updating or removing your listing.

**\*Is the listed equipment assessed for safe use?**

There are no inspections to certify the safety of devices prior to being listed. It is recommended that prior to considering equipment, it be assessed by an authorized medical equipment technician to ensure its functionality and safe use. Personal safety is the total responsibility of the purchaser/recipient of the device – see **the Disclaimer** listed on each page of the website.

**\* Is this equipment under any warranty?**

No. The equipment listed on this site is not under warranty. For more detail, this matter should be addressed with the person offering the equipment.

**\*Where do I find an authorized medical equipment technician?**

All vendors who sell assistive devices employ technicians who can perform an assessment on the offered equipment. There might be a cost involved for this assessment.

**\*If the equipment fails shortly after receiving, what do I do?**

All equipment is offered in "As is / Where is" condition.

**\*What if I can't afford to pay for the device? Is there somewhere that can help?**

If the equipment is required for a senior who resides in Simcoe County or the District of Muskoka in Ontario, Canada, Independent Living Services of Simcoe County and Area (ILS) may be able to help. Their Accessibility Resource Centre helps seniors in accessing a variety of funding sources which may be able to assist with the cost of an assistive device. Contact them directly at 705-737-3263, or toll free 1-800-465-1133 ext. 239 or [arc@ilssimcoe.ca](mailto:arc@ilssimcoe.ca); Fax: 705-737-1874; TTY: 705-737-3242.

**Contact Us:**

For information about using this site:

**Email:** [arc@ilssimcoe.ca](mailto:arc@ilssimcoe.ca)

**Telephone:** call 705-737-3263, ext. 239, or toll free 1-800-465-1133, ext. 239;

**Fax:** 705-737-1874; **TTY:** 705-737-3242