

# UATP Opens Second Assistive Tech Lab | CPD

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There is a new face in the assistive technology scene in Roosevelt—and he's ready to get people rolling. Cameron Cressall is the coordinator of the new Assistive Technology Lab on Utah State University's Roosevelt campus. Assistive technology is used to help people with disabilities achieve independence. The new lab will work in partnership with other providers, including the Active Re-Entry Independent Living Center in Price, to provide customized assistive technology to Utahns in the Uintah Basin. "It's not hard to be passionate about my job," Cressall said. "I'm building, creating, doing fun things, making people happy." While the lab is just getting started in Roosevelt, Cressall is not new to assistive technology. He worked in the AT Lab in Logan, where he regularly helped people meet their goals for independence. Both AT labs are part of the Utah Assistive Technology Program in the Center for Persons with disabilities, and they do more than just repair equipment. They also customize it to ensure it works for individuals with disabilities. "We look forward to working with Cameron to continue meeting the needs in the Uintah Basin," said Nancy Bentley, Active Re-Entry's director. "Now we can involve the community even more, because the lab can take used devices, give them another life and put them into the hands of the people who need them." "The AT Lab on USU's Logan campus has provided services that have helped a lot of people in Northern Utah," said Sachin Pavithran, the UATP director. "We're excited to bring those services to the Uintah Basin,

and to provide them in a mobile format to reach people in rural settings." Before getting involved in the disability field, Cressall worked in construction and building. Eventually he found himself back in school at Utah State University, taking the Interdisciplinary Disability and Service Learning (IDASL) class offered through the CPD and completing a bachelor's degree in social work. The IDASL class teaches people from all fields of study about disability issues. It also gives service learning opportunities to students, including an option to gain experience in the Assistive Technology Lab on the Logan campus. "It totally changed my life," Cressall said. "Of all the classes I've taken at USU, that one class had more impact, hands down, than any other. ... It led me to what I do today." It also provided a good blend of tinkering, building, customizing and serving people. *Both the Logan and Roosevelt labs need your donations—especially of used assistive technology equipment like wheelchairs, scooters, lifts and power wheelchairs. If you have devices you would like to donate, please call 1-800-524-5152.*