*State Team Meeting, March 27, 2017, 9:30 am-3:30 pm*

*RISE Demonstration Center, 2730 Martin Luther King Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20032*

**Case Study – Sorting Resources**

Tia is a 23 year old woman who lives at home with her mother and one of her brothers. Tia has a great sense of humor and is very friendly. She loves to cook, especially sweets, although with limited reading and math skills, she doesn’t follow recipes well without assistance. She also loves being around children, especially her little nieces and nephew. Tia uses a motorized wheelchair and is able to use MetroAccess alone, if she’s been thoroughly trained. She has three older brothers. One brother also lives in the family home. Another brother lives in the DC Metro area with his own family, and the third brother lives in Ohio. They all love and support Tia, but don’t know what to do to promote her independence and employment. Tia’s mother works full-time as a teacher’s aide. Her father lives in the area, works and is involved in Tia’s life, as well.

Since Tia finished school last year, she spends most of her days watching TV or playing games on her IPAD. She has assistance from a personal care attendant for about 3 hours a day who helps her get dressed and eat in the morning. However, though, Tia spends most of her time alone during the day, until her mother gets home. Tia would love to have friends to talk to on the phone, go shopping with, although her SSI payments are not very much, and just hang out with them. Tia’s an active member of her neighborhood church, (they welcome her with open arms), but is afraid to volunteer for activities because she thinks people will tell her “no” due to her disability. Recently, Tia has been going to a bakery in her neighborhood and sometimes talks with the owner about some of the goodies they sell. Although Tia is capable of visiting the bakery alone, she never does because it’s too difficult for her to get in and out of her front door and she doesn’t want her mother to worry.

**Discussion and Questions:**

1) What are some of Tia’s strong points?

2) Who are the supporters in Tia’s life?

3) What technology does Tia use? What additional technology could help Tia become more independent?

4) What connections does TIA have in her community?

5) What are some possible employment or volunteer opportunities for Tia?