

Voice Options Program Summary

September 1 - September 30, 2023

Current Month Accomplishments

- The Voice Options Program (VOP) exceeded the initial program goal of serving 500 consumers and moved 2,172 individuals through Short-Term Loans into the Long-Term Loan process.
- A total of 28 contracts executed for FY 23-24 with 1 outstanding.
- Began the new regional distribution of Speech Generating Devices. Providers have given feedback and VOP will focus on underserved populations in California.
- As of 9/30/23, 27 invoices are pending for FY 22-23. VOP staff are working with providers to expedite invoice completion.
- 514 consumers have been served in Northern California region.
- Started grant process with a new VOP Provider Disability Community Resource Center.

Statistics from Completed Datasets: Summary

- The VOP offers in-person services to 99 percent of Californians through 28 Program Providers spanning across 47 counties and offers services virtually and by mail to ensure comprehensive state-wide coverage across California.
- Since July 1, 2020, the VOP has served consumers ranging in age from 18 months to 88 years and encompassing over 50 types of speech-related disabilities and disorders.
- In FY 22-23, 2,172 consumers have completed their Short-Term Loans and have requested Long-Term Loans.
- 2,145 datasets have been submitted for completed Long-Term Loans.
- 39 percent of VOP referrals are made by Speech Language Pathologists and 14 percent are made by Independent Living Centers.
- 70 percent of consumers made telephone calls during the Short-Term Loan period. 98 percent of these phone calls were considered successful by consumers, many of whom indicated they had never made a phone call prior to entering the VOP.

Consumer Statistics from Completed Datasets (2145)

Preference for Speech Generating Applications

- 44% Touch Chat HD
- 29% Proloquo2Go
- 11% LAMP
- 9% Go Talk Now Plus
- 5% Proloquo4Text
- 2% Predictable
- 1% Predictable Spanish

Demographics

- 42% Hispanic/Latinx
- 26% Caucasian/White
- 10% Asian Pacific
- 9% African American/Black
- 5% Southeast Asian
- 2% East Indian
- 2% Decline to State
- 1% Native American
- 1% Pacific Islander
- 1% Other

Gender

- 69% Male
- 30% Female
- 1% Decline to State

Age

- 43% Age 0 to 6
- 27% Age 7 to 17
- 10% Age 18 to 22
- 7% Age 23 to 29
- 4% Age 30 to 39
- 2% Age 40 to 49
- 2% Age 50 to 59
- 5% Age 60 and Older

Disability Type

- 50% Autism
- 10% Developmental Disability
- 6% Cerebral Palsy
- 6% Down Syndrome
- 12% Speech Delay
- 4% Apraxia
- 4% Other
- 1% Traumatic Brain Injury
- 2% Stroke
- 2% Aphasia
- 1% ALS/Lou Gehrig's Disease
- 1% Dysarthria
- 1% Muscle Weakness
- 1% Oral Cancer

Authorized by

- 70% Speech-Language Pathologist
- 11% Family Physician
- 7% State Agency
- 5% Rehabilitation Counselor
- 3% Developmental Pediatrician
- 2% Licensed Physician Asst.
- 1% Nurse Practitioner
- 1% Federal Agency
- 1% Licensed Hearing Dispenser
- 1% Audiologist