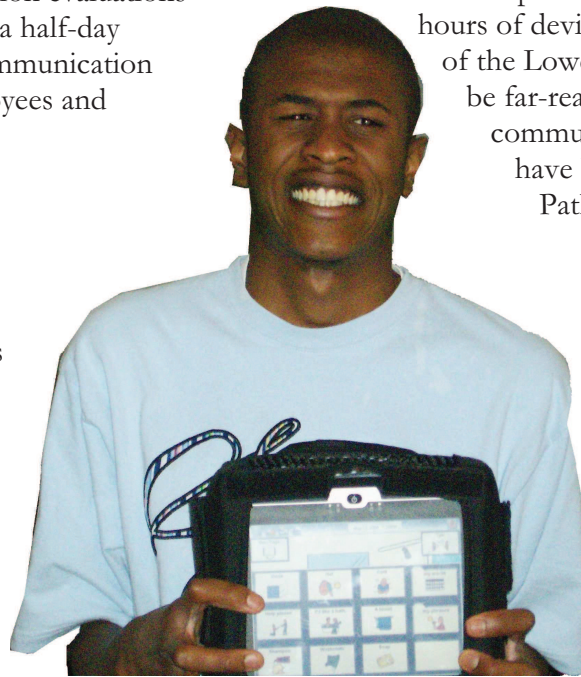


June 2009

**D**evelopmental Pathways was awarded \$25,000 from The Denver Foundation's Lowe Fund. The funds were designated to explore alternative methods of communication for our clients, their families and providers. Twenty four American Sign Language courses were offered throughout the Spring and Fall of 2008. A partnership with Assistive Technology Partners was formed to set up comprehensive communication evaluations for nine clients and to offer a half-day workshop on alternative communication methods to Pathways employees and Program Approved Service Agencies.

These evaluations aided in determining how individual needs could be met with the advancement of technology in order that the participants could be far more involved in decisions made on their behalf including those affecting their own health and safety. Based on the final recommendations from the evaluations completed over the course of the year, the grant purchased several low to high-tech items including four communication devices—a DynaVox M3, a Tango! and two Go Talk 20+'s.

In addition, nine communication accessories for eleven clients were recommended and purchased which included design software for the Go Talk 20+ Boardmaker, a computer Tracball, the ability to "unlock" a laptop used for communication purposes, vocabulary cards, Go Talk 20+ overlay software, Braille keyboard stickers, X-keys stick for the keyboard, a ClearSounds Talk 500 Talking Caller ID phone and an additional five hours of device training. The benefits of the Lowe Fund grant continue to be far-reaching as these additional communication opportunities have been made available to Pathways families.



Pictured is Jayson Marshel holding his Dynovox Communication device.