The Coalition of Center of Councils of Cortland County (referred to as the Coalition) has been awarded a $5,000 Grant from Central New York Community Foundation. This funding will be used to purchase approximately thirty Reminder Rosie’s and forty digital blood pressure cuffs with memory. This technology will enhance the services provided to caregiver’s in Cortland County by the Area Agency on Aging’s Caregiver Resource Center.

Reminder Rosie is a device that functions much like an alarm clock; however, the alarm is replaced by reminders recorded in a loved one’s voice. This device can remind the older person of appointments, to take their medication, or any other message that the caregiver needs to convey.

Digital blood pressure cuffs will increase the independence of the older person while relieving the caregiver of the stress of having to take the blood pressure on a regular basis. The cuff will have the ability to store blood pressure reading thus the caregiver and medical provider will have accurate information which will improve health outcomes.

Referrals for the Senior TECH program can come from medical providers, caregivers, and other agencies involved with the older person. Once a referral is received an Aging Services Specialist will schedule a home visit to complete a comprehensive assessment. This assessment will determine eligibility for the device as well as screen for any other services and supports that may be beneficial to the older person and their caregiver. The Aging Services Specialist will provide education to the older person and their caregiver. If it is determined that the older person is eligible and interested in the device a plan of care will be completed.

Eligibility will be determined following a complete assessment of the client and caregivers needs.

To insure sustainability with the program there will be a one-time fee associated with the service. Cost will be determined based on the monthly Federal Poverty Level Guidelines.
An Aging Services Specialist will work with the older person, caregiver and medical provider to determine effectiveness of the program to improve independence and overall health and wellness for the older person while reducing caregiver stress.