

Cheap internet access for disabled

By Sam Varghese, The Age

23 May 2005

A quarter of a million people - the aged, disabled and veterans - will soon be able to get low-cost internet access.

They will be eligible for dial-up connections at \$5.50 a month, under a deal negotiated by Technical Aid to the Disabled Australia and the internet service provider ISPOne.

The agreement was announced jointly by the ACT Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services, John Hargreaves and ACT Liberal Senator, Gary Humphries on Friday.

TAD Australia executive director John O'Neill said in a statement that ISPOne would charge no set-up fee for the accounts, which would provide unlimited downloads and flexible contracts.

"It will be fully supported and available to people with a disability support pension, a DVA (Veterans' Affairs) entitlement pension and an aged pension card, and TAD clients," O'Neill said.

Technical Aid to the Disabled is a non-profit organisation that aims to improve the quality of life and independence of people with disabilities, and the aged.