



[home](#)
[about us](#)
[consulting](#)
[market intelligence](#)
[events](#)
[e-store](#)

Federal initiatives are creating a myriad of new financial opportunities. Each week, hundreds of requests for proposals (RFPs) and grant opportunities for health and human services are released at the federal, state, county, and municipal levels... **Is your organization aware of these new opportunities?**

The OPEN MINDS RFP HotLine

Let us find new contracts (and new revenue) for your organization! [Click here for information...](#)



The 2011 OPEN MINDS Executive Leadership Institute
 Leadership Skills in Times of Challenge (and Opportunity)
October 5 - 7, 2011 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

[Share |](#)

European "I2HOME" Project Developing Universal Remote Control for Elderly, Disabled to Control Home Environments

The European "I2HOME" project has developed a personalized and simplified Universal Remote Console (URC) intended to give older adults with physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities control over the various electronic appliances and services in their homes using their mobile phone or other devices. The I2HOME researchers envision the URC as a tool to give people living in a normal family home the assistive living technology normally found only in a custom smart home. The URC's customizable interface can be added to a remote control for an electronic device, a mobile phone, a computer, or to other devices. The goal is to give users the ability to switch on and program washing machines, lighting, heating, air conditioning, TVs, DVD players/recorders, and other household devices.

The URC has been tested in the following situations:

- Older adults—the user interface system consists of a graphic user interface display on a television screen, a remote control with very few buttons, and a smartphone-based graphical user interface
- Adults with mild cognitive impairments due to Alzheimer's disease—the user interface system consists of a graphical user interface display on a television screen that features a humanoid avatar that interacts with the user and an even simpler remote control
- Young individuals with mild cognitive impairments—the user interface system consists of a multi-modal user interface on a smartphone; the technology accepts user input via speech and gestures
- Persons with partial or full blindness—the user interface system consists of accessible html pages that can be processed by screen reader technologies

Although the URC is still a prototype and not ready for market launch, the researchers have standardized the platform under ISO/IEC 24752. The I2HOME researchers are part of the international Universal Remote Console Consortium, formed to promote and implement URC standards and support services, facilitating user interfaces that are simple and intuitive to use, including future interface technologies, such as task-orientation and natural language interaction. The URC is being used in other European projects related to developing Ambient Assisted Living technology to help older adults and people with disabilities remain in their homes and avoid entering a long-term care institution. The European I2HOME project is supported by the Digital Agenda for Europe, which was adopted by the European Commission in May 2010.

For more information, contact: Jan Alexandersson, Ph.D., Project Director, Senior Researcher, Head AAL Competence Center, DFKI GmbH, Campus D3 2, Stuhlsatzenhausweg 3, D-66123 Saarbrücken, Germany; +49 (681) 85775 -5347; Fax: 49 (681) 85775 -5021; E-mail: janal@dfki.de; Web site: www.i2home.org; or Gottfried Zimmermann, Ph.D., Project Director, Universal Remote Console Consortium, Trace Center, College of Engineering, University of Wisconsin, 1415 Engineering Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706; E-mail: zimmer@trace.wisc.edu; Web site: <http://myurc.org/>.

European "I2HOME" Project Developing Universal Remote Control for Elderly, Disabled to Control Home Environments. (2011, January 24). OPEN MINDS Weekly News Wire.

The OPEN MINDS Weekly

News Wire is a dynamic weekly web-based publication that helps you quickly spot the latest trends in the behavioral health and social services field. We cover the stories that are going to have an impact on the way you do business—from policy developments, federal and state legislation, and financial trends pieces, to the latest evidence-based practice research and technological developments. You won't find any other news source that brings you this type of in-depth coverage specifically designed for the field.



To learn more about the OPEN MINDS Weekly News Wire, or view the latest edition, [click here](#).

[OPEN MINDS | Market Intelligence Services | Weekly News Wire](#)

© 2011 OPEN MINDS : [Contact Us](#)