Building Relationships & Independence through Communication Supports

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Learning objectives

• Participants will be able to identify at least three communicative competencies for a fulfilled life as a teen or adult AAC user.
• Participants will be able to evaluate at least two domains they can focus on for building community for AAC users entering a major life transition.
• Participants will be able to identify two activities to be implemented into a teen or adult AAC user’s schedule to increase communicative competence.
Transitioning

• Education & Training
• Employment
• Independent Living
• Social / Community Life
• EVERYONE is a Communication Partner
  • Respond appropriately to someone using an AAC device
  • Talks WITH the person using AAC
  • Does not interact with the facilitator

• Active Listening
  • Be Patient
  • Paraphrase
  • Avoid distracting actions or gestures
  • Avoid interrupting the speaker
  • Exhibit appropriate facial expressions
  • Be empathetic
Dare to Dream

• “If we don't dream, take our dreams seriously, make them known to others, and work towards their fulfillment, then we will live according to someone else's decisions and visions for our lives”.

• Carol Marfisi
Peer Mentors

• Benefits
  • Increased self confidence
  • Teaches how to speak up and be heard
  • Improves interpersonal skills
  • Provides important contacts
  • Helps someone better understand what possibilities could happen
  • Sees someone just like them overcome to be successful
Supports

• Shout Outs
• Poetry
• Insults
• Comments
Communicative Competence
• Learn the AAC system
• Maintain the AAC system
• Use the AAC system
• Repair communication breakdown

Individual Goals
• First Steps
• Natural Supports
Domains

- Housing
- Education
- Employment
- Family/social
- Health/medical
- Safety
- Daily living
- Emotional/behavioral
- Transportation
- Cultural/language
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• Full Curriculum and Supports on the AAC Language Lab
  • www.aaclanguagelab.com

• Resources available
  • Power Partners
  • Communication
  • Social Skills
  • Computer Access
  • Empowerment