

Join our growing network of Regional Implementation Leads in Augmentative Alternative Communication!

Projects are focused on developing the capacity of regional implementation teams to train, coach and provide technical assistance to school sites in building communication competence for students with complex communication needs.

**Building Tiered Supports for AAC
Project Focus:**

Building Tiered Supports for AAC is a model for developing the knowledge and skill set of ALL communication partners involved in developing communication competence with our complex communicators. Develop regional AAC Specialists, or support your current AAC Specialists into shifting roles towards training and coaching classroom teams *and* training and coaching site-based speech-language pathologists (SLPs) with students needing AAC on their caseloads in conducting AAC Needs Assessment and supporting collaborative teaming.

This project is designed to:

- Support better integration of AAC supports and strategies across all educational settings and environments.
- Build team-based decision-making and problem-solving around supporting student's development of communication competence with AAC strategies and tools.
- Build the confidence and competence of site-based SLPs in assessing the need for AAC and supporting the team in making appropriate tool recommendations for the majority of students who can benefit from these tools.
- Support and develop AAC Specialists to provide ongoing training and coaching for site-based SLPs, and to conduct comprehensive assessments for students with more complex access, sensory, cognitive or linguistic profiles and match to more advanced tools.
- Support AAC Specialists in accessing a range of sources of funding, including medically-based funding for speech-generating devices.

Over a three-year period, our team will work with your leads to conduct two cycles of training (we do/you do) with all staff (Tier 1 – AAC Foundations) and with site-based SLPs (Tier 2 – AAC Implementation). All training, coaching, assessment and implementation resources provided.