

Expression Connection

Assistive Technology and Augmentative Alternative Communication Services

The popular DSCBA Expression Connection educational program is in its 9th year providing communication systems, strategies, education, and techniques to individuals who have Down syndrome or co-existing Down syndrome and Autism, as well as their caretakers and education professionals.



Many people of all ages who are non-verbal or have limited language have benefitted greatly from Expression Connection services which provides alternative means to express basic needs, make choices, interact while learning and much more. Assistive Technology (AT) can also successfully provide independent ways to access classroom curriculum such as reading, writing, and math.

We are proud to have a menu of services to choose from through DSCBA Partner/Consultant and SLP/AAC Specialist Kati Skulski.

AT-AAC Services

- 1. Referral:** A free 30-minute phone consultation regarding the needs and questions of the client.
 - 2. AAC/AT Introduction:** A meeting of up to two hours with team members to explore equipment at the DSCBA's Lending Library that supports communication, reading, writing, and math.
 - 3. AAC Evaluation:** A comprehensive evaluation of up to 20 hours utilizing the individual's full communication capabilities (nonverbal, verbal, and aided communication). The assessment includes collaboration with all team members (home, school, community), system/device trials, formal and informal testing, etc. Recommendations for communication systems, goals, services, and an intervention plan will be provided.
 - 4. AT Evaluation:** An evaluation of up to 20 hours regarding specific challenges with traditional writing tools, written language composition, reading, math, and organization. The assessment includes collaboration with all team members (home, school, community), system/device trials, formal and informal testing, and more. Recommendations for AT tools/systems, intervention plan, goals, and services will be provided.
 - 5. Implementation Consult:** A consultation for individuals and teams who have systems and tools but want support integrating them into the individual's day to day routine, whether that is in school, home, work, or other.
 - 6. Action Plan:** Develop a plan to implement recommended tools and strategies.
 - 7. Coaching:** Learn about evidence-based partner strategies, teaching tools, and methods that facilitate use of AAC and AT tools.
 - 8. Tech Support:** Learn how to use, program, and feel comfortable with AAC and AT technology.
- * Services listed above are fee-based and provided at the DSCBA office in Danville or in the individual's home, school, or community environments.

* Limited scholarships provided by DSCBA are available with application submittal and approval.

For more information about this program please contact Kati Skulski: email kaskulski@gmail.com or call 510-381-9992



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Connecting Families for More than 20 Years

Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area • www.dscba.org

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