

**March 23, 2022  
7:00-8:00 PM EDT**

## **AAC and Students with ASD: California's Efforts to Close the Research to Practice Gap**



**Presented by Ann England, M.S., CCC-SLP**

### **ABOUT THE PRESENTER:**

Ann is the Project Coordinator of the SELPA Content Lead-ASD grant and the Co-Coordinator of the California Autism Professional Training and Information Network (CAPTAIN). The five-year grant is part of the California Department of Education's Statewide System of Support to provide educator training, coaching and resources in evidence-based practices for autistic students. The outcome of the grant work is to provide LEAs technical assistance and professional leadership to improve academic and social outcomes, increase successful inclusive education opportunities, and improve post-secondary success for students with ASD and other developmental disabilities.

### **SEMINAR DESCRIPTION:**

Based upon the 2020 systematic review conducted by the National Clearinghouse on Autism Evidence and Practice (NCAEP), AAC is a focused intervention that meets the evidence-based practice criteria for individuals with autism with 47 single case design studies. This webinar will describe the work in California to scale the implementation of the identified 28 evidence-based practices for autism that includes AAC. The free online e-learning modules, AFIRM, developed to translate the research-based information into practical procedures, will be described and include a walkthrough of the new AAC module. Although the AFIRM module can be a helpful tool to support the implementation of AAC, implementation science informs us that additional steps are needed for most practitioners. That is, professional development, coaching, and organizational support are all factors that are most likely necessary for closing the link of the research to practice gap.

**MODERATED BY:** Betsy Caporale

CE courses are available for Free to USSAAC/ISAAC members only.

Non-member pay \$25 for each webinar.

This course is offered for 0.1 ASHA CEUs (Introductory level; Professional

## area.) PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN TO:

- Define CAPTAIN (California Autism Professional Training And Information Network) and describe its role in California
- Explain the importance of the 2020 report: Evidence-based Practices for Children, Youth, and Young Adults with Autism by the National Clearinghouse on Autism Evidence and Practice, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute
- Describe the new AAC online e-learning Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules (AFIRM)

## TIME ORDERED AGENDA:

- 5 minutes: Introduction of speaker, USSAAC and topic
- 10 minutes: Overview of CAPTAIN (California Autism Professional Training And Information Network)
- 10 minutes: Review of the Evidence-Based Practices for Children, Youth and Young Adults with Autism March 2020 report and evidence for AAC
- 10 minutes: Describe new online e-learning Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules (AFIRM)
- 20 minutes: Walkthrough of the AAC AFIRM online module
- 5 minutes: Q and A

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) CEUs in speech-language pathology and audiology are awarded by the ASHA CE Registry upon receipt of the CEU Participant Form from the ASHA Approved CE Provider, USSAAC. CEU Participant Forms are available onsite at Registration. ASHA CEUs are provided to full registrations. This program is offered for .1 ASHA CEUs (Introductory Level, Professional Area)

## ASHA Disclosures:

- **Speaker**

*Financial:* Ann England will reap no financial gain from this presentation, nor does she have any products to sell for financial gain.

*Nonfinancial:* Ann England is an employee of the Marin County Office of Education/SELPA and her employment is funded through a grant from the California Department of Education and the California Collaborative of Educational Services

- **Moderator**

*The moderator has no financial or non-financial disclosures to report.*

To register for this Webinar please go to the following link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_d7TXEPttS9ghi7r2CIHCew](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d7TXEPttS9ghi7r2CIHCew)

*PLEASE NOTE: Only the first 100 attendees to log into the webinar will be guaranteed spots.*

## USSAAC EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Betsy Caporale, Gretchen Cole-Lade, Richard Hurtig,  
Stephanie Meehan, Wendy Quach

## about USSAAC

The United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USSAAC) is the national chapter of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). As the United States' only non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the entire AAC community, USSAAC provides an invaluable role, working to ensure that individuals who could benefit from AAC have access to the technology and services they need.

Benefits of membership include, but are not limited to:

- Free access to USSAAC webinar series with ASHA CEUs and USSAAC Twitter chats
- Advocacy for maintaining & expanding access to AAC systems and services
- Discount to 2022 ISAAC Conference – Mexico
- SpeakUp publication/Blog
- Information updates on USSAAC website & social platforms
- Membership in ISAAC with their additional benefits

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