

MODEL LIKE YOU MEAN IT

0.1 ASHA CEU and 1 Act 48 PDH

WITH: ANASTASIA MARTINEZ M.A. CCC-SLP AND MACY MARTURANO M.S. CCC-SLP

ANASTASIA IS AN EMPLOYEE OF TOBII DYNAVOX.

MACY IS AN EMPLOYEE OF TOBII DYNAVOX.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify three benefits of modeling
- Identify two components of successful modeling for any individual
- Develop two practical modeling strategies you can implement right away



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Language acquisition is a gradual process, and this holds true for individuals who use augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). Developing communicative competence requires consistent exposure to language modeling within rich, supportive environments. While modeling spoken language is familiar to many caregivers and professionals, modeling on AAC systems often presents unique challenges. This session explores the critical role of AAC modeling in language development, emphasizing its benefits and practical applications. Participants will be introduced to evidence-based strategies for modeling on AAC systems and will gain actionable techniques to support a diverse range of communicators. The presentation aims to empower educators, clinicians, and families to foster meaningful language growth through intentional and accessible AAC modeling practices.

Speaker's Bio: Anastasia (Ana) Martinez is a dedicated SLP and Tobii Dynavox Solutions Consultant with experience working with both children and adults in outpatient, home health, and skilled nursing settings. While skilled in a variety of areas, Ana has a particular passion for working with adults, finding fulfillment in improving their quality of life and is driven by the belief that everyone deserves a voice. In her spare time, Ana enjoys listening to scary stories and smothering her pit-bull mix with kisses.

Macy Marturano is an SLP and Tobii Dynavox Solutions Consultant with experience working with pediatric and adult clients in school and outpatient settings. Macy was trained under the AAC Collaboration Grant at Penn State in specialized curriculum, clinical experiences, and research to prepare her for working with AAC users. While skilled in a variety of areas, Macy is passionate about working with individuals with autism and CP, and believes in the power of AAC to make a meaningful difference in their lives.