For some children with complex communication needs, it is the method of accessing the Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) system that is significantly affecting their development of intelligible, autonomous communication. These children, who have significant physical and/or sensory challenges, often need to learn movements to access Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) systems.

This intensive five day workshop will provide participants with an in-depth opportunity to explore the movement differences associated with cerebral palsy, Rett Syndrome and severe sensory processing challenges. There will be a focus on identifying these posture and movement challenges in relation to their impact on communication development, assessment and intelligibility. A range of strategies and a process to teach movements for communication will be demonstrated.

After this seminar, participants will have developed their ability to:

1. Observe and analyze the movement challenges for children with cerebral palsy (and like conditions), Rett Syndrome and severe sensory processing challenges
2. Explain how to accommodate for challenging postural control
3. Explain how to develop sensory-motor control of selective movements
4. Teach movements for communication using gesture, light and high-tech AAC systems
5. Assess and teach movements for the operation of communication devices and technology
6. Discuss the concept of parallel learning for light technology and high technology including the Stepping Stones to Switch Access (Burkhart) and eye gaze technology
This five day intensive workshop will be most effective for teams who are working with children who have severe physical and sensory challenges and are struggling to access augmentative communication systems. Teams may include: speech language pathologists, educators, PT’s, OT’s, family members, school leadership and support personnel. However, it will also be of significant value and give direction and knowledge to individual therapists, educators and family members.

It would be helpful, but not a requirements, for one of the members of the team to have previously attended an Introductory PODD (Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display Communication) training.

**Presenters:**

Claire Cotter (B.AppSc.( OT), Dip. CE Hon, OTR) is an occupational therapist with 38 years experience in this field. She is the Manager and cofounder of the Cerebral Palsy Education Centre in Melbourne, Australia. She is committed to the best possible outcomes for families who are raising a child with cerebral palsy and other neurological disabilities. With expertise in teaching motor control, addressing sensory processing challenges, developmental play and technology for children with neurological impairments, she addresses the sensorimotor challenges to communication access. Claire coordinates a wide range of professional development opportunities across the sector and contributes to published research papers and online resources (visit www.cpec.org.au). She regularly presents papers and workshops.

Gayle Porter is a Speech Pathologist with 30 years hands on experience working with people with complex communication needs. Gayle is a senior speech pathologist and cofounder of the Cerebral Palsy Education Centre in Melbourne, Australia. She also has a private practice working with both children and teenagers with complex communication needs in their local schools. Gayle developed and has published resources on the Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display (PODD) communication books and page sets for speech generating devices. In addition, she has authored articles, publications and chapters on Augmentative and Alternative Communication and cerebral palsy. Gayle is a highly sought after international presenter.

Linda Burkhart is an internationally known pioneer in the field of simplified technology for children with severe challenges with more than 40 years experience in this field. She has developed numerous adapted materials and innovative strategies for using these devices with children. She is the author of a number of books and software titles on topics of assistive technology and augmentative communication. Linda was a classroom teacher for fifteen years. Then for eight years, she worked as an Augmentative Communication and Assistive Technology Specialist for the Center for Technology in Education, a joint project between Johns Hopkins University and the Maryland State Department of Education. Currently, Linda works as a private consultant and technology integration specialist. She presents trainings and workshops nationally and internationally.
Name: ___________________________________________

Title/Position/Parent: _______________________________

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***Email required for registration confirmation, receipt, and additional information. Proof of registration and payment will be required to be admitted to the seminar (Please contact us if you do not receive confirmation)

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Full registration $1,100 (course and lunches)

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* All POs must be paid in full by June 24, 2016 or registration will be cancelled.*Checks should be made payable to: Linda J. Burkhart

Cancellations must be in writing and received no later than June 24, 2016.

Please send completed registration form to:

Linda J. Burkhart
6201 Candle Ct, Eldersburg, MD 21784

e-mail: training@Lburkhart.com

fax: 410 795-8834      Phone: 410-795-4561
Teaching Movements for Communication will take place July 25-29, 2016 from 8:30-4:30 at the BEST WESTERN Westminster Catering & Conference Center

Registration at 8:00 am, July 25, 2016

BEST WESTERN Westminster Catering & Conference Center
451 WMC Drive
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Phone: 410-857-1900
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Toll Free Reservations:
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Accommodations: Please make arrangements directly with the Best Western Hotel

Rooms $89 per night if booked by June 24, 2016
(Mention this course to receive this discounted rate)