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PROMOTING AN IDEA WITH AAC

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SUMMARY:

Marketing or promoting an idea is not typically associated with Augmentative/Alternative Communication(AAC). This paper utilizes the ChatPC communication device and a conventional laptop with both a ChatPC Editor and Power Point(Microsoft) to present a youth program description and invitation. The speaker is aided by the ChatPC and Power Point to promote the Congressional Award to offset the effects of a severe expressive/receptive language disorder secondary to Down syndrome. The speaker uses both verbal expression and synthetic speech(augmentative) to present his message. Projection of graphic and visual images enhances verbal output. Listeners are encouraged to participate in this opportunity that exists all over the world.

HISTORY:

The bibliography lists previous presentations which progressively build on the theme of delivering speeches with AAC. As such, they represent a “recipe” for AAC users interested in developing speech presentations. The speaker utilizes an independent and dependent role in construction and delivery of speeches. Secondary author provides support as needed with primary author producing as much as capability warrants in the selection, design, construction and delivery of ideational messages. Practice and rehearsal are extensively used to build confidence for the presentation.

CONTENT:

My name is Scott Kuebler and I am 23 years old. I have Down’s syndrome but stay Up most of the time. My accomplishment as first South Carolinian Gold medalist helps me to promote Congressional Award as a council member in South Carolina. Being an Eagle Boy Scout doesn’t hurt either.

My ChatPC helps me by saying words and phrases that I repeat. My brother, Gregory, designed the Power Point presentation that I use to tell people about Congressional Award. The ChatPC also has information I can repeat about earning a medal. The ChatPC and Power Point help me to get the message to people about how to earn the award. I explain each step in the process with pictures, words and speech.

My speeches are made in a similar way each time. First I have an idea like Congressional Award. Then I make an outline of the speech and fill in the words. Then I convert the words to picture symbols or digital photos. The script is entered into my communication device and then I practice the speech. This time, I will have the ChatPC and the Power Point working together.

My ChatPC is used for one other person or a small group. With a projector, I can talk to many people. Handouts of the speech help people to follow along. Pictures help people remember what I am talking about and how things look as I or you, are earning the medals.

Can you start working on your award now? Raise your hand if you can work on Congressional Award now! You know what to do and now to do it. If you have any questions, you can ask me. You have my name, address, phone number and email address, so ask me to help you to earn your Congressional Award. Who will be first? Thank you and Good Luck!

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