

## **Culturally-Linguistically Responsive Practices in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (CLRP-AAC) Across the Lifespan**



*Presented by:*

### **Dr. Mariateresa (Teri) H. Muñoz, SLP.D, CCC-SLP**

Dr. Mariateresa (Teri) H. Muñoz is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Florida International University (FIU) located in Miami, Florida. Dr. Muñoz has an Associate of Arts Degree in *Speech Communication* from Miami-Dade College; a Bachelor of Science Degree in *Special Education* from Florida International University; and a Master of Science and Clinical Doctoral Degree in *Speech-Language Pathology* from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Muñoz is currently completing a second Doctorate Degree, *Doctorate in Philosophy in Teaching and Learning with a concentration in Special Education*, from Florida International University.

Dr. Muñoz has over 33 years of experience as a speech-language pathologist and special education instructor combined. Her areas of research, instruction, and clinical experience relate to culturally-linguistically responsive practices in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) across the lifespan, early childhood speech-language development and intervention, special education, adult language disorders, neuromotor speech disorders, and feeding/ mastication disorders, including Avoidant/Restrictive Intake Feeding Disorder. Dr. Muñoz is also the President and Founding Board Member of a clinical practice, St. Thérèse's Roses of Hope, Pediatric (and Adult) Center, Inc., a non-profit organization addressing speech-language-feeding deficiencies across the lifespan.

### **Abstract:**

The following presentation will describe culturally-linguistically responsive practices in augmentative and alternative communication (CLRP- AAC) across the lifespan. Dr. Mariateresa (Teri) Muñoz will highlight the significance of using an interprofessional education/ practice (IPE/ IPP) approach when using CLRP-AAC with individuals with complex communication needs of various age groups, such as infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-aged children, and young/ older adults. Participants will learn how to use an IPP approach in the assessment and treatment of individuals from culturally-linguistically diverse backgrounds who rely on AAC in various settings. Strategies for promoting self-determination and advocacy will also be provided during the presentation. Lastly, the participants will be provided with strategies to identify facilitators and barriers necessary to implement CLRP-AAC successfully.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. Describe interprofessional education and practice strategies necessary for planning, educating, and treating individuals from culturally-linguistically diverse backgrounds who rely on Augmentative and Alternative Communication
2. Describe strategies necessary for the development of language skills in infants, toddlers, and preschoolers from culturally-linguistically diverse backgrounds who rely on AAC to communicate
3. Describe strategies necessary for school-aged children who come from a culturally-linguistically diverse background who rely on AAC to communicate to access their academic learning
4. Describe strategies that promote quality of life in adults from culturally-linguistically diverse backgrounds who rely on AAC to communicate
5. Describe strategies that support customization of aided AAC methods to promote self-determining and self-advocacy in adults from culturally-linguistically diverse backgrounds who rely on AAC to communicate
6. Describe potential facilitators and barriers that can impact the implemental success of culturally-linguistically responsive practices in AAC use across the lifespan.

### **Disclosures:**

**Financial:** Dr. Muñoz is receiving a fee for speaking in today's educational activity.

**Nonfinancial:** No non-financial disclosures