



Connecting to Care  
"Giving Students Equal Access"



Geoffrey Barley, M.S.  
*Advanced Assistive Technology Specialist*  
*Professional ATACP Certified*



Vickie Edgar, M.A., CCC-SLP, ATP  
*Speech-Language Pathologist*  
*RESNA Certified Assistive Technology Professional*

**Exciting News:**

Connecting to Care is happy to announce the newest addition to our *Comprehensive Assistive Technology Services* for students using or in need of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Devices to access education. Speech & Language Pathologist, Vickie Edgar has joined our Assistive Technology (AT) team now offering professional Speech Pathology Assessments, identifying speech objectives for IEP Goals. AT Specialist, Geoffrey Barley provides AAC Device Assessments, Device Programming and Training.

**Defining Assistive Technology:** AT is a term used to describe any device, technology, tool, or product, from the simplest to the most complex that can make a particular function easier or possible to perform. From low tech to high tech devices, technology is changing the way nonverbal students are communicating and accessing their educational environment, regardless of their ability. Connecting to Care specializes in AAC devices, systems, strategies, and tools that replace or support natural speech.

**AT Service Objectives:** Connecting to Care (CtoC), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, is certified by the California Department of Education (CDE) to provide these services as a Nonpublic Agency (NPA). Located in Redding, California, CtoC's mission is to fill gaps in services, with a focus on improving the lives of individuals with mental health issues, special needs, and physical barriers to resources. The purpose of the AT program is to provide a comprehensive Assistive Technology service, including speech assessments, equipment recommendations, programming, and training, to help students access education and improve their ability to communicate.

**How to initiate AT services:** Assistive Technology Services are provided for Public & Private School-Aged Students. Districts are served under a Local Education Agency (LEA) SELPA Master Contract. School services are initiated through Individual Education Plans (IEP) and Individual Service Agreements (ISA) for the purposes of assisting students in accessing education. To begin services, a Referral letter, Student Intake Packet, and Individual Service Agreement can be found on our website at [www.connectingtocare.org](http://www.connectingtocare.org)

**For further information, please contact:**  
Connecting to Care - Phone: 530-722-1156  
3330 Churn Creek Road, Suite D5, Redding, CA 96002