

# AAC Clinic Team



**Nicole Johnson**  
Senior Occupational  
Therapist



**Leslie Rowland**  
Speech-Language  
Pathologist



**Heather Houser**  
Communication Disorders  
Assistant



**Simon Grey**  
Equipment Coordinator



**Lori Serafino-Harper**  
Manager

## Contact us for more information:

AAC Clinic  
541 Glenridge Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario  
L2T 4C2

**Phone: 905-685-1381 Extension 85210**

**Email: [hdsaac@hoteldieushaver.org](mailto:hdsaac@hoteldieushaver.org)**



Communication Accessible Services Available



## MISSION

Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre is a community of holistic and compassionate care for all those who seek our service and those who serve. As a Roman Catholic facility, grounded in God's love, we provide the resources and care to enable people to reach their optimal level of health and wellbeing.

## VISION

The Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre will be a Centre of Excellence in rehabilitation, complex care and geriatric services and an employer of choice.

## Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday  
8:00 am until 4:00 pm

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[www.hoteldieushaver.org](http://www.hoteldieushaver.org)



## Augmentative & Alternative Communication Clinic



Serving adults in the  
Niagara Region since 2013

ADP Expanded Level AAC Clinic

Comfort. Care. Hope.



*“The Communication Team has taken the time to observe and interact with me, to truly understand my complex communication needs.”*

*“I enjoy my visits and learning to use my device.”*

*“The AAC Clinic made me realize that I could do it; that I could go back to school and not be so worried that I wouldn’t be able to complete my assignments or take tests.”*

## What is Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)?

A clinical practice that uses various methods of communication that can help people whose verbal speech or physical ability to handwrite does not meet their daily communication needs. AAC methods vary and may be personalized to meet each individual’s needs. For instance, using technology to support or replace speech and/or handwriting, using simple strategies to get attention, communicate using pictures, using your voice to type, using your eyes to type and mouse or using any body part to control a computer using a switch. Each client is unique. We listen to your communication needs and come up with a plan that works for you.

## Who Can Benefit from AAC?

- Adults who have speech problems that are so severe that they are not understood by others
- Adults who are unable to speak at all
- Adults who have physical difficulties that prevent them from using their hands to write or use a computer

## Why?

The ultimate goal of AAC assessment and intervention is not the use of technology, it is to find a solution to a severe communication disability so that people can interact with family, friends and in their community and participate in activities of their choice.

## Services Provided

The best technology fit is determined through matching physical and communication skills and needs of the individual to the features of communication equipment.

- Face-to-face Communication Assessment
- Written Communication Assessment
- AAC equipment is prescribed by an OT and SLP
- Equipment is customized for each individual
- AAC devices may be mounted to allow access where ever the client spends time
- Training is provided to the person using AAC
- Training is provided to communication partners
- As communication needs change, re-assessment is required
- If/when communication equipment doesn’t work, troubleshooting support is provided

## Referrals

- A referral from a physician or Nurse Practitioner is required.
- The referral form can be found on our website: [www.hoteldieuusher.org](http://www.hoteldieuusher.org)

## Admission Criteria

- Valid Ontario Health Card
- 18 years or older
- Speech and/or handwriting does not meet daily communication needs

## Funding for Communication Devices

- There is no fee for the services provided by the AAC Clinic
- If eligible, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Assistive Devices Program (ADP) may provide funding assistance for the purchase or lease of prescribed communication aids
- Funding assistance may be available through the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and various organizations such as Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy and ALS Canada