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IL-ABA POST

Insurance Task Force Update

JENNIFER KLAPATCH TOTSCH, PHD BCBA-D, *IL-ABA PRESIDENT*

It's been almost three months since our Emergency Town Hall meeting in October, during which we began our discussions of the impact of BCBSIL's proposed rate cuts, and it's been busier than ever behind the scenes at ILABA. Following our initial meeting with BCBSIL in November, Autism Speaks and the Illinois Autism Task Force both formally communicated their support of ILABA's position on the rate cuts to BCBSIL. Shortly thereafter, BCBSIL communicated their intention to postpone the rate change by 6 months. While this temporarily stay in rates allows providers more time to prepare for the impact of the rate cuts, it does not change the ultimate outcome. Of the 57 agencies that responded to our survey on the impact of these rate cuts, 88% responded that the proposed rates would be insufficient to cover the cost of treatment while maintaining current quality. Similarly, 75% of responding agencies reported that the new rates would pose a significant reduction in access for BCBSIL beneficiaries. In addition to the predicted impact on access to services, providers are also reporting concern about being able to maintain high quality standards amidst these cuts. Of the 57 agencies that responded to the survey, 67% indicated that the new rate changes would significantly reduce the amount of supervision that their BCBAs could provide to their technicians/therapists and 79% reported that the rate changes would make it significantly more difficult for them to recruit and retain technicians/therapists.

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIOR
ANALYSIS

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- ~ Unlimited posts on the job board
- ~ Vendor booth at the conference, with **priority placement**
- ~ Full page agency logo on conference materials
- ~ Agency spotlights on ILABA Facebook

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Silver

- ~ Unlimited posts on the job board
- ~ Vendor booth at the conference
- ~ Agency spotlights on ILABA Facebook

Bronze

\$350

- ~ Small agency logo on all conference materials
- ~ Vendor booth at the conference
- ~ Agency spotlights on ILABA Facebook

YOUR AGENCY SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT IS
VITAL TO ILABA'S MISSION. TO LEARN MORE,
GO TO THE ILABA WEBSITE.

Given your concerns, the Insurance Task Force has been meeting weekly, in addition to consulting with an antitrust attorney and insurance consultant, to determine the best ways we can advise and support our provider community. One question that we continue to field is “what issues warrant a complaint being filed with the Department of Insurance?” We are in the process of putting together a task analysis for this process, in addition to leveraging our committee’s connections to get a meeting with the head of the Department of Insurance on this matter. Another meeting with BCBSIL is currently slated for the first week of March; we are hopeful for continued, productive conversation regarding how the provider community and BCBSIL can work together collaboratively to best serve our consumers. As always, updates will be reported regularly as they become available. ILABA Board Members and Committee Members volunteer countless hours every week in service of supporting our provider and consumer community. To further bolster these grassroots efforts, we also rely heavily on the guidance of outside experts, such as our lobbyist, our insurance consultant, and our antitrust lawyer. However, we can’t do this without your continued financial support.

In addition to becoming a member, please visit www.ilaba.org/support for more ways you and your organization can support ILABA. ****



An Integrated Approach to Care

SpringHealth’s Behavior Analysts, Therapists, Social Workers, Counselors and Psychologists combine their expertise to create positive outcomes for their clients. As a team, they provide person-centered, coordinated, and cost-effective care. Our unique approach helps the people that we serve live their lives to the fullest.

Now hiring passionate clinicians in Illinois, Indiana, California, North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and Kentucky!

Visit <https://www.springhealthinc.com/> for more information!



Interested in getting more involved in ILABA?

Elections are just around the corner!

**This year, open positions include
Treasurer and Operations Coordinator-Elect.
Keep an eye out for the call for nominations!
Self-nominations are encouraged!**



Behavioral Perspective Inc.'s (BPI) mission is to be a leader in the field of ABA by providing top quality service, supporting families, and empowering individuals to reach their full potential.

Through intensive and client-centered programming, advanced staff development, and continued staff and parent support, children can reach their goals of maximized independence and an improved quality of life.

BPI offers in-clinic services including Apple Academy. Apple Academy is designed for children ages 2-7 years old that benefit from an intensive ABA setting. Apple Academy staff includes BCBAs, BCaBAs, and RBTs.

BPI also offers in-home and community based ABA therapy to maximize generalization of skills across environments.

BPI works collaboratively with schools using evidence-based strategies for student growth and success. BPI provides solutions for learners, teachers, classrooms, schools and districts through individualized school consultation services.

BPI's values include:

- BPI supports and challenges our staff to continually grow in the field of ABA by providing intensive training and support.
- BPI measures our success by the individual success achieved by each of our clients and families.
- BPI supports families by first meeting them where they are at and then providing them with the guidance and encouragement needed to achieve success, one step at a time.
- BPI utilizes only researched based interventions to effectively teach socially significant skills to our clients.
- BPI empowers individuals to achieve their goals by teaching functional skills that create lifelong impact.

BPI provides services in the greater Chicagoland area, intending to reach children and families with the highest need for ABA. You can learn more at www.bpiaba.com. ***



ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR
BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Becoming a Sustaining Agency

ILABA is committed to improving the presence of Behavior Analysis in the state of Illinois. By becoming a Sustaining Agency, you are supporting our mission and current critical efforts including **obtaining licensure, educating fellow providers, advocacy in the State, and outreach.**

Below are recommendations for your values-based contribution. **Determine your contribution based on the value you find in the work we do.** Contributions must be a minimum of \$100 to become a Sustaining Agency, which are not tax deductible.

Suggested contributions are based on the number of people an agency employs:			
1-10	\$100	51-100	\$1,000
11-18	\$200	101-200	\$1,500
19-25	\$300	201-400	\$2,000
26-50	\$500	401+	\$3,000

VISIT: [HTTP://WWW.ILABA.ORG/SUPPORT/](http://WWW.ILABA.ORG/SUPPORT/)

TotalSpectrum

We know why you became a health care professional. You wanted to make a difference in people's lives, and you wanted a career that offered more satisfaction rewards. At Total Spectrum, we provide the highest quality care and assistance to people with autism. That's why our people are our greatest asset. Every Total Spectrum employee is here because, to them, caring is more than just a job—it's a way of life.

Now Hiring

BCBAs & RBTs

for in-home ABA services
in Indiana, Illinois,
Michigan, & Wisconsin

Mission Statement of Total Spectrum

To achieve an environment that allows
the clients we serve to reach their
**maximum potential &
highest level of independence.**

BCBA Responsibilities:

- Manage a caseload of *incredible clients & families*
- Establish and monitor treatment of clients
- Collaborate with a team of highly qualified BCBAs
- Supervise and train RBTs on client programs

Benefits include:

- Health insurance
- Paid Holidays, Vacation Days, Sick Days, Conference Days
- Mileage Reimbursement
- 401K Enrollment
- Flexible Schedule
- CEU Allowance
- Paid maternity leave

RBT Day to Day:

- Provide direct services in-home to amazing clients as developed by a BCBA
- Collect and record data during each session
- Help a child with autism reach their fullest potential!
- Seeking fun, energetic, and smart individuals who have a desire to make a difference.

Benefits include:

- Paid RBT Training
- Mileage Reimbursement
- Opportunity to grow in the field of ABA
- Flexible Part-Time schedule
- Direct/indirect supervision hours provided

Interested?

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Michelle Sexton,
Recruiting Manager, at
msexton@totalspectrumcare.com
or if you have questions, you can
reach her at 630-779-6806.



650 W. Grand Ave.
Suite 207
Elmhurst, IL 60126
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www.totalspectrumcare.com



The Caravel Approach

With nine locations across Illinois and Wisconsin, we work in partnership with families to design customized autism treatment programs. Our programs are rooted in the principles and science of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy. We create real-world learning experiences that help children on the autism spectrum build a wide range of skills.

We Are Autism Health Specialists.

At Caravel Autism Health, we believe that every child with autism deserves an independent, happy life and to connect with the world. Helping children on the autism spectrum and their families is our singular focus.

Why Choose Caravel?

Work with an incredible, dedicated, and collaborative team. We also offer competitive pay and a full benefit package including: Medical, Dental, Vision, Health Reimbursement Arrangement, Short Term Disability, Long Term Disability, Life Insurance, Dependent Life Insurance, Employee Assistance Program, 401K with Employer Match, Paid Travel and Mileage reimbursement, Tuition Reimbursement, and BCBA Candidate Supervision.

Our Values

ADVOCACY * CLINICAL COMMITMENT * OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE * PASSION
* PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT * TEAM WORK

Contact Us: Amber Feldkamp
Talent Acquisition Specialist
Office: 847-607-1060
Email: afeldkamp@caravelautism.com

Licensure Update

JOHN M. GEURCIO, PH.D., BCBA-D, IL-ABA MANAGER

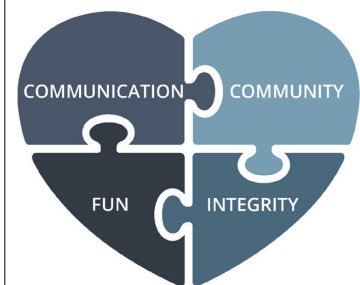
Our licensure efforts are ramping up, and the bill has recently been re-filed for the Spring legislative session, as House Bill 5580 (HB 5580). You can find full text of the bill and track its progress through the legislative process [here](#). The current version of the bill has attempted to address all of the feedback that the licensure committee has received to date about the bill. In addition to collecting responses from the survey that went out, we met with primary stakeholders and community members that will be impacted by the bill and have begun meeting with key organizations in Illinois that have pledged their support to our licensure bill. These organizations will lend their political liaisons and hopefully their organizational process to our purpose. We have also started to develop a list of organizational supporters so that we can distribute this with our informational materials whenever we are discussing the bill. If you would like to formally register your support (or your organization's support) for HB 5580 with ILABA, please do so [here](#)!

Our next steps will be to develop a white paper that would be a more in-depth treatment of the purpose and intended results of licensure. A great deal of education needs to take place relating to the advocacy role that licensure can help play as well as increases in consumer protection that will occur with the passage of the licensure bill. Our lobbyist is also working with the key bill sponsors in the legislature to be able to move the bill forward in both the House and the Senate. He has worked steadfastly to make sure that key Legislators and others within the disability community are aware of our bill and the positive results that would follow its passage. Please stay tuned to our emails and [Facebook page](#) for more ways you can support the bill, and forward any comments or concerns to that you have or hear to ilaba@abainternational.org. ****



GBC aba
helping transform lives

Our team of compassionate, caring individuals focuses on GBC aba's core values to inspire and empower individuals, their families, and their communities.



We use high quality, innovative ABA programming to help build confidence and independence through our client-centered approach.

For more information on our services or if you are interested in joining our team, please visit www.gbca.com



The Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis (ILABA) provides a forum for behavior analysts in the state of Illinois to stay up to date on legislative issues as they apply to our field as well as to offer continuing education and advocacy for ABA practitioners throughout our state. Visit www.ilaba.org to become a member and get involved!

2018 Annual Conference

APRIL 12TH AND 13TH, 2018 AT THE HILTON IN OAK LAWN, IL

Registration for our 2018 Annual Conference is now open! We have a fantastic line up of presenters for our symposia and workshop and the opportunity to earn 10 BACB Type 2 CEs, including 4 Ethics CEs. Don't forget to check out our student paper and poster competition! Visit www.ilaba.org/conference for more information and to register!

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP:

WHO HAS A SEAT AT YOUR TABLE?

MAKING ABA SERVICES ACCESSIBLE FOR MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS

Fawna Stockwell, PhD

Behavior analysis provides a powerful technology for changing socially significant behavior and methods to expand clients' networks of reinforcers. At the same time, many people who stand to benefit greatly from ABA experience barriers to accessing services due to financial need, a history of mistreatment by helping professionals and others in positions of authority, and a lack of available services tailored to their cultural background. This presentation provides a space for practitioners to explore ways that their applied work can address the needs of marginalized populations, including people who are living in poverty or at a low income level, gender and sexual minorities, and others. Attendees will have the opportunity to apply the concepts covered using scenarios and explore how the BACB ethics codes support work in this area. ****

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

THE TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR SUPERVISORS OF ABA TECHNICIANS IN AUTISM PROGRAMS

Tim Courtney, MS

The Training Curriculum for Supervisors of ABA Technicians in Autism Programs is designed to train supervisors and aspiring supervisors in evidence-based methods of supervising staff who provide ABA (applied behavior analysis) services for people with autism. The content is based on over four decades of ABA research and application on staff training and supervision as well as the authors' hands-on experience. The content includes critical supervision knowledge and skills coinciding with the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB®) task list for effective supervision, and provides the BACB's required eight hours of supervision training. The curriculum is performance and competency-based, requiring trainees to meet classroom and on-the-job criteria to successfully complete the training. The Curriculum content is relevant for supervisors of staff providing ABA services across a variety of settings, including center-based programs, homes, schools, and clinics.

ON RADICALIZING BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS**Diana Walker, PhD**

In 1986 Malagodi argued that radical behaviorism was not yet radical and described why this conclusion was true. In an ode to pragmatism, he also laid out a path toward radicalization in the context of a call for cultural analysis. The current presentation will argue that in 2018 radical behaviorism is still not radical, and that what needs to be radicalized is not behaviorISM but the entire field of behavior analysis. This presentation argues that we SHOULD radicalize the field; however, with regard to whether we CAN, the answer is NO. But the reason we cannot BE radical is because being radical is an ongoing, aspirational goal, not an end in itself. This presentation will discuss successive approximations toward the radicalization of behavior analysis that have occurred or are ongoing, and how we must continue on the path of radicalization in our science and practice. Radicalizing behavior analysis is the ethical, moral, and pragmatic thing to do. ****

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? PRIVATE BEHAVIORAL EVENTS FROM A BEHAVIORAL POINT OF VIEW**Dr. Jay Moore, PhD**

In private behavioral events, the stimuli that influence an individual's operant responses, or the responses themselves, or both are not accessible from the vantage point of another individual. Behavior analysts recognize two types of private behavioral events. The first type concerns the development and maintenance of verbal reports about our sensations and feelings, such as when we say a pain is sharp or dull. In this type, the verbal community establishes the verbal responses by basing the necessary differential reinforcement on public stimuli and relations, such as public accompaniments and collateral responses. Stimulus control then transfers to the private stimuli accompanying the public. Another possibility is through a kind of stimulus generalization, such as when the properties of the private form coincide with those of the public form that already exerts control. However, the verbal reports are often metaphorical, owing to imprecise stimulus control. The second type of private event concerns the development and maintenance of covert operants, such as when we think, solve problems, and daydream. For thinking and problem solving, the covert operants are links in a behavioral chain and contribute to discriminative control. For daydreaming, the covert operants are reinforcing in their own right. In this second type, the response systems for covert operants are the same as for overt operants. The covert operants are typically acquired at an overt level, then recede in magnitude to a covert level—perhaps becoming effective at even an incipient or inchoate level, because of an individual's further experiences in the environment. Private stimuli contribute to discriminative control through stimulus generalization of proprioception from public to private forms. Often but not necessarily the covert operants are verbal. Overall, the behavior analytic conception of private behavioral events constitutes a useful alternative to traditional conceptions of important processes that appeal to fanciful mental or cognitive phenomena. ****

APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS IS A SCIENCE AND, THEREFORE, PROGRESSIVE

Dr. Justin Leaf, PhD

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a science and, therefore, involves progressive approaches and outcomes. In this commentary we argue that the spirit and the method of science should be maintained in order to avoid reductionist procedures, stifled innovation, and rote, unresponsive protocols that become increasingly removed from meaningful progress for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). We describe this approach as progressive. In a progressive ABA approach, the therapist employs a structured yet flexible process, which is contingent upon and responsive to child progress. We will describe progressive ABA and provide rationales for both the substance and intent of ABA as a progressive scientific method for improving conditions of social relevance for individuals with ASD. ****



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THE BUSINESS OF BEHAVIOR: BALANCING PROFESSIONALISM, ETHICS, & THE BOTTOM LINE

Dr. Joshua Pritchard, PhD

As more and more behavior analysts strike out on their own, it becomes apparent that they need support in best practices of business. From employee misclassification to accidental fraud, behavior analysts have a number of pitfalls that they may not be prepared to avoid. In this talk, we will identify a number of common practice issues which confront behavior analytic business owners on a frequent basis and then provide a decision-making strategy to avoid such and/or correct their relevant systems to remain a sustainable organization with ethical practices. We will discuss how business practices can be driven by the leadership team's values and ethics while still creating a sustainable financial organization and will conclude with a list of recommendations for a budding entrepreneur who plans to try their hand at the business of behavior. ****