



Agreement for Applied Behavior Analysis Services

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a scientific discipline that utilizes behavioral principles to help individuals make meaningful and socially significant behavior changes. Marc Community Resources' ABA program utilizes Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) to conduct functional behavior assessments, design behavior support plans and train support staff and family members on how to implement written strategies. The goal of Marc's ABA program is to teach individuals how to access their environment more effectively, thereby reducing the need to engage in aberrant target behaviors. Marc's behavior support plans utilize positive reinforcement strategies, as well as a variety of other proactive measures to motivate individuals during the behavior change process. On-going support, training and consultation services will be available to help service providers and family maintain treatment gains.

ABA Program Overview:

1. A functional behavior assessment (FBA) will be conducted by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and is a process for identifying the purpose or the function of the behaviors. The BCBA will gather data, conduct interviews and directly observe the individual's behavior during the assessment period. Information gathered will be presented in a document with the behavior support plan (as described below). If during the assessment it has been determined that environmental modifications are necessary to support the implementation of a behavior support plan, these recommendations will be presented to the team prior to moving forward with ABA services. The assessment process generally takes 4-6 weeks to complete and will occur once enrollment into the ABA program has taken place. If the BCBA is unable to establish initial contact within 2 weeks of the enrollment due to lack of response then services will not move forward and discharge will be recommended.
2. Information gathered from the FBA will then be used to design an individually tailored behavior support plan addressing behaviors identified in the FBA. The plan will objectively define target behaviors, describe the function of the behaviors, identify treatment goals and objectives, and outline antecedent and consequence based strategies. The behavior support plan will guide staff and parents how to interact with the individual in a way to occasion positive and appropriate behaviors, as well as how to respond in the event problematic behaviors occur. This process generally takes 1-2 weeks to complete.
3. The BCBA will then present the "Functional Assessment & Behavior Support Plan" to the individual and adult recovery team and obtain written consent to begin implementation. The BCBA will then train support staff and family members on how to effectively implement all procedures outlined in the plan. This process generally takes 1-2 weeks to complete.
4. The BCBA and BCBA support staff will provide consultation services to ensure all strategies are being implemented with consistency and to address any questions or concerns that come up during the behavior change process. This component generally lasts 3 - 6 months.
5. The BCBA will obtain data taken by support staff to review and graph on a monthly basis. The BCBA will analyze the data to evaluate effectiveness of the intervention and will make revisions, if necessary; to ensure progress toward treatment goals is/are being achieved.

Expectations for ABA Consultative Services:

Timeline for Services:

1. ABA consultative services will generally be provided for **5 – 12 months**.

Criteria for Discharge:

1. All staff and team members have been trained on behavior support plan,
2. BCBA has provided on-site support and guidance to ensure behavior plan has been effectively implemented.

Criteria for Early Discharge:

1. If BCBA or BCBA support staff have been unable to establish initial contact with service provider agency due to lack of response within the first 2 weeks after enrollment.
2. If FBA identified environmental changes necessary for implementation of behavior support plan, services will not move forward until the recommended changes have been made. If environmental changes are not made within the initial period, discontinuation of ABA services will be recommended until the environmental changes have been met.
3. Environmental recommendations made in FBA have not been met or team is unwilling or unable to meet the recommendations.
4. Guardian and/or committee body does not approve behavior support plan within a 14 day period.
5. Individual is not benefiting from the service.
6. Individual, parents/guardians or direct support staff are unwilling or unable to participate in implementation of behavior support plan.
7. Individual, parents/guardians or direct support staff are at risk of or are being harmed by continued service.

Environmental and Implementation Expectations:

1. Consistent, permanent living arrangement.
2. Willing and able direct support staff, parents and/or caregivers to implement behavior plan.
3. Adequate staffing ratio to implement behavior plan; ideal staffing ratio not to exceed 1 staff per 4 individuals.

**Other environmental conditions may be identified as posing a barrier. In the event the environmental conditions prevent or hinder implementation of the behavior support plan, the BCBA will seek to eliminate those constraints or organize a meeting with the adult recovery team to address the concerns.*

Role of Direct Service Provider Agency:

1. Provide adequate staff to work with the individual.
2. Coordinate with BCBA to arrange initial staff training.
3. Provide support to BCBA regarding recommendation and implementation of behavior support plan.

Role of Direct Support Staff and Family/Caregivers:

1. Consistent participation in implementing behavior support plan and recommended strategies as written.
2. Collect applicable data to assist BCBA in monitoring progress.
3. Communicate with BCBA any identified issues with behavior support plan or implementation in order to find a resolution.

Consent for ABA Services:

Your signature below indicates that you have received and read the information in this document and agree to Marc Community Resources ABA Program policies, procedures and service delivery methods.

I give my consent for ABA services to be implemented by Marc Community Resources:

Individual/Guardian

Date

Caregiver or Service Provider

Date

Behavior Analyst

Date