



## November 2017

Hello, National Therapy Center ABA Team! It's official: Fall is here! We hope that as you're heading in and out of your sessions that you make sure to take in the beautiful fall colors. Please also take a moment to check out the employee spotlight, new employee profile, topic training schedule, *and much more!*

### ABA Topic Trainings

Thank you to everyone who made it to at least one of the October Topic Trainings last month. This month, there will be two training dates in D.C. and one training in Bethesda. Please look out for an email from your BCBA's and be sure **to respond saying which training you will attend**. Because these trainings are replacing traditional department meetings, it is imperative that everyone attend. Additionally, the topics covered in this month's trainings will help prepare you for some major upcoming changes and we want to make sure everyone is well-prepared.

Trainings will be held on the following dates in the Capitol Hill ABA Office from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Date	Topic
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	SOAP notes and ClinicSource
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	SOAP notes and ClinicSource

Training will be held on the following date in the Bethesda ABA Office at 12 p.m.

Date	Topic
November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Caregiver Involvement and Communication

The four common functions of behavior:

"Everybody E.A.T.S."  
Escape, Attention,  
Tangible, Sensory



someecards  
user card

### Employee Spotlight

Big "shout out" to **Chavon Jackson** for having her session notes written up within 24 hours of completing each of her sessions. Chavon also consistently emails her time sheets by the deadline with no errors!

### *Happy Birthday!*

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>-Janelle  
McDonald

### *Check this out:*



*Sakura Dobbs is having fun at the playground with her client while working on targets in their natural environment using NET.*

## Reinforcement

*What is it?* When a stimulus is either presented or removed following a behavior to increase the probability of that behavior in the future. **Positive** reinforcement is when a stimulus is *added*. **Negative** reinforcement is when a stimulus is *removed*.

*How does it apply?* A lot of times we confuse a client's preferred items for reinforcement. Keep in mind: unless the presentation or removal of the item increases the future probability of the behavior, *it is not reinforcing*.

We can confirm the reinforcing effect of preferred items by conducting a reinforcer assessment.

## Special thanks ...

...to **Jere Smith** and **Cache' Nance** for helping with the D.C. office's annual Halloween Party! Both Jere and Cache assisted with prepping for the activities, running activity rooms, and clean up!

## Welcome, Emilio!



Emilio Garcia is a certified registered behavior technician (RBT). Emilio has been working as a RBT since 2015 when he started out with Personalized Therapy in Southern Maryland. In addition to working as RBT, he has worked as an after-school tutor for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, a camp counselor at an inclusive camp for children ages 5-12, and as a travel host for adults with different abilities. He is also currently working as a special education paraeducator. He graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in philosophy and a minor in education. In his spare time, Emilio likes to watch independent films, go running, and see live music. Emilio lives in Takoma Park, MD.