

Legislative Update

Public Policy Update: FABA is Working to Fix a Broken System, Again.

By Eric Prutsman, Esq., FABA General Counsel & Lobbyist

If you provide behavior analysis services under Florida's Medicaid Behavior Analysis Program you know firsthand the problems that thousands of providers and clients have been experiencing over the past six months. When the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) launched the new Behavior Analysis Program last year, it was after FABA had litigated the Agency's proposed behavior analysis policy rule, and after FABA had settled the lawsuit that resulted in a number of changes to the policy. FABA voiced its objection and testified at numerous public meetings that allowing providers without adequate experience in behavior analysis to provide services was a serious flaw in the policy. It was no surprise when chatter began online about fraud being committed by individuals with little or no behavior analysis experience. FABA continued to recommend changes to the Agency and the Agency made some modifications to the policy to require more than a mere attestation by a provider that they had sufficient experience. As 2017 came to a close, the Behavior Analysis program appeared to be operating with fewer problems than had been experienced six months before when the initial issues with the enrollment and authorizations surfaced.



Eric Prutsman
FABA Lobbyist

What was not realized by most was the extent of alleged Medicaid fraud being committed by providers enrolled to provide behavior analysis was pervasive, especially in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. On May 14, 2018, AHCA imposed a six-month moratorium on the enrollment of behavior analysis providers in Broward and Miami-Dade. The basis for AHCA seeking approval from the federal Medicaid authorities to impose the moratorium was a determination that Broward and Miami-Dade were the counties with the highest volume of fraudulent activity. AHCA indicated that more than 100 provider groups were under investigation by the Medicaid Program Integrity Office and more than 700 behavior analysis

providers had been determined to have enrolled through deception or other improper practices. More than 75% of the provider applications failed to demonstrate that the applicant was qualified and eligible to participate. Additionally, the dollar amounts of the alleged Medicaid fraud in the Behavior Analysis Program was staggering: over \$100 million dollars in the first year of operation.

As part of its petition to seek the moratorium AHCA also had to indicate what impact the moratorium would have on the access to services. AHCA assured the federal Medicaid administrators that there would be no loss of access to services because there were far more behavior analysis providers than there were individuals who need the services. However, based upon the many e-mails and phone calls that FABA receives every day, access to care is being impacted by

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President's Corner

Setting the Record Straight

By Nikki Dickens, FABA President and Program Chair

As the President of FABA, the role requires the individual to “wear numerous hats” including that of mediator, editor, organizer, time manager, and advocate—to name just a few. At this time, I feel the need to wear the hat of “soothsayer.” As all behavior analysts have an ethical obligation to distribute accurate and honest statements (BACB, code 8.02), I feel our membership deserves to know facts instead of relying on several myths that have been distributed through private parties on social media.



Nikki Dickens

MYTH #1: Members of the FABA Board are compensated for their work or have financial gain by serving the membership.

FACT: The FABA Board consists of a wide variety of individuals that are elected by the membership who volunteer their time including:

- *President:* Nikki Dickens
- *President-Elect:* Andrew Houvouras
- *Past-President:* Corey Robertson
- *Treasurer/Secretary:* Jon Bailey, PhD
- *Member-At-Large,* Marta “Tiki” Fiol
- *Member-At-Large,* Kerri Peters, PhD
- *Member-At-Large,* Megan Miller, PhD
- *Member-At-Large,* Matt Potak
- *Member-At-Large,* Baker Wright, PhD

FABA also has an appointed Executive Director, Amy Polick, PhD – also an uncompensated position. The only compensated employees are Leigh Stehlik, FABA Business Manager, and two other office staff.

While no one on the board is compensated for his or her service, we all have a shared goal of enhancing the behavior analysis profession and advocating for policies that ensure that providers are able to provide their clients with quality care using a streamlined process that ultimately changes the lives of the people we serve.

MYTH #2: FABA does not have a lobbyist.

FACT: Advocating for our members in Tallahassee and beyond is one of our top priorities and is central to FABA’s overall role. That’s why we continue to work with our well-respected and award-winning professional lobbyist Eric Prutsman, Esq. Eric has successfully worked with our team to navigate the nuances of executive and legislative lobbying efforts and regularly communicates with key lawmakers and agency officials – and we’ve seen significant outcomes over the years. Additionally, the legislative committee is FABA’s most active committee and we always welcome additional input from members.

MYTH #3: FABA only recently began advocating for their members by “fighting” the Medicaid issues.

FACT: Nothing could be further from the truth. FABA has a long history of engaging AHCA on Medicaid policy and reimbursement issues. FABA has testified and met with AHCA staff since the behavior analysis policy rule was first proposed in 2014. FABA was the first and only association to file a lawsuit against AHCA for its proposed rule on behavior analysis, and has continued to lobby for improvements to enrollment, credentialing, and the administration of the program. FABA does not post every sensitive action or tackle every debate on social media. That would limit our effectiveness, particularly when more progress can be made working directly with lawmakers and agency officials. However, if members have questions or would like to get more involved with our advocacy efforts, please do not hesitate to reach out.

MYTH #4: The Medicaid debacle is the only uphill battle going on in the state that faces our members.

FACT: FABA is actively working on and has tackled several recent items: relations with APD and conditions for Medwaiver Behavior Analysts, the seclusion and restraint bill that re-surfaces frequently, and the possible movement of developmental disabilities under Medicaid or managed care among other hot topic issues.

You can routinely read about legislative updates in the *FABA Observer* in Eric’s *Legislative Update* series. Additionally, if any member has questions or would like to get more involved with our advocacy efforts, please do not hesitate to reach out.

MYTH #5: FABA does not support other entities who are working toward the same goals and interests.

FACT: The FABA Board feels it would be inappropriate to support a single private organization/association’s fundraising campaign as this gives the impression that FABA somehow vetted such an organization. Simply put, it is unfair to our members and could undermine the brand and reputation that FABA has among both members and policymakers. FABA seeks to ethically support each member with equity and equality and feels we should abstain from any public action that could be viewed as favoritism.

FABA will not engage in negative commentary and frowns upon divisive and deceptive statements that further confuse members. However, FABA cannot ethically make professional commitments that cannot be kept (per the BACB Professional and Ethical Compliance

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FABA is Family

Corey L. Robertson, M.S., BCBA, Past-President

In my Presidential Address last October, I made the point that FABA is more than an annual conference, more than an opportunity to earn CEs through workshops, invited events, and submitted presentations. FABA is not a group of secret elites putting each other in power. FABA is FAMILY: a member association of like-minded professionals whose lives have been irrevocably changed by the science and practice of Applied Behavior Analysis. As the end of my five years of serving on your executive committee (2 years as member-at-large, and one year each as President-Elect, President, and now Past President) comes to a close, I want to remind you of your role in this family, and just what FABA is.



Corey L. Robertson

FABA was started in 1980 in order to provide a place for members of a growing profession of behavior analysis to come together: to provide networking and continuing education opportunities, but also to create a membership organization that could advocate for the rights of Florida's most vulnerable populations. As the profession continues to grow, as demand for ABA services expands, and as support for services struggles to keep up, it is more important than ever that our professionals have a means to communicate with one resounding voice.

In my limited time volunteering on the FABA Executive committee, there have been a few occasions where we have received communications from individuals incensed by the challenges of providing services through Medicaid in Florida. These individuals have asked "What is FABA doing" or "why isn't FABA doing more" or have expressed criticism at what is or isn't being done or said publicly. But again, I would remind you that YOU are FABA. While the executive committee is made up of volunteers nominated and elected by the membership (or to be precise, the limited number of members who participate in the annual elections), there are volunteer opportunities on a number of committees, including the legislative committee, which has been very active for years. It is certainly easier to criticize a few

volunteers than to volunteer one's own time. It is easier to send an email than it is to drive across the state at a moment's notice to attend public hearings on policy. It is easier to call FABA "them" rather than "we".

If you have attended the annual FABA conference in the past, but have yet to feel like you belong to FABA as an organization, I welcome you to reach out to your fellow professionals, and to the members of the Executive Committee. I welcome you to volunteer your time and energy. If you aren't happy with the way things are going, I welcome you to get involved and lead the effort to influence policy in Florida. If you feel like you don't know anyone in the FABA leadership, I encourage you to nominate yourself or your colleagues to the board, and vote them in.

The future of behavior analysis is uncertain, but I feel it is promising. A strong membership organization is vital to our defending our right to practice, and to our continued growth as a profession. More importantly, the individuals and families we serve and represent depend on us to be a strong voice in advocacy.

It is been a pleasure and an honor to serve my family over the past few years, and look forward to seeing you all in September, and seeing some new faces take up the charge to continue to support the science and practice of behavior analysis in Florida.



Legislative Update *continued from page 1*

long wait lists, and struggles to find providers, especially in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Additionally, wait lists are growing all across the State at an alarming rate.

Nearly every aspect of the behavior analysis program has been impacted by AHCA's attempts to halt the fraud: additional screening in the enrollment process; additional criteria in the credentialing review; more documentation for authorizations; and more detailed reviews for reimbursement and audits. Clients have been impacted because the modifications to the program have meant longer waits and the loss of valuable treatment time for children. And on top of all of these changes, AHCA's termination of Beacon and replacement with eQ Health exacerbated an already problematic program for providers and

their clients. For BCBA providers that are doing everything right, the extra fraud-prevention measures has translated into delays for service delivery and reimbursement.

FABA has met with AHCA's leadership and eQ Health on the challenges our members are facing and will continue to press ACHA for changes in the policy. AHCA has committed to continue to work with FABA to develop solutions to make sure access to care is not an issue. FABA has also met with key legislative leaders to engage AHCA on behalf of their constituents. Please continue to send your comments and concerns to politicalaction@fabaworld.org so that we can share your stories with AHCA and legislators in order for AHCA to make the needed changes to the program.

Discontinuation of Services

By Matt Briere-Saltis

Human beings aren't perfect, and research indicates most behavior analysts are human. Because mistakes happen, we as an industry have developed a stringent code of ethics. This works to both proactively advise practitioners of ABA on best practice as well as provide some structure to the recourse that may follow if a violation occurs. The BACB provides data on all violations of the Ethical Compliance Code that result in a formal complaint being filed. Of the ten categories of complaints discussed, the area of Insufficient Service Continuity had by far the lowest percent of complaints to be substantiated. Only 22% of the 27 total complaints were found to have a substantiated violation. That means 78% of the complaints, or nearly 4 out of every 5, were unsubstantiated. That's a high percentage, seemingly indicative of some disconnect between the expectations of the consumer and the behavior of the analyst.

The BACB's Ethical Compliance Code 2.15 states that "Discontinuation only occurs after efforts to transition have been made. Behavior analysts discontinue a professional relationship in a timely manner when the client: (1) no longer needs the service, (2) is not benefiting from the service, (3) is being harmed by continued service, or (4) when the client requests discontinuation." And that behavior analysts "do not abandon clients and supervisees. Prior to discontinuation, for whatever reason, behavior analysts: discuss service needs, provide appropriate pre-termination services, suggest alternative service providers as appropriate, and, upon consent, take other reasonable steps to facilitate timely transfer of responsibility to another provider."



Matt Briere-Saltis

So what is leading to the high number of unsubstantiated complaints regarding discontinuation of services? With respect to parsimony, it's likely that clinical disagreements between the consumer and the provider are often involved in the discontinuation of services. Rural areas and specialty populations should be considered especially at-risk, by nature of the difficulty in referring out to another provider. Certainly, there are likely a myriad of complications and setting events that contributed to the complaints received by the BACB. Whatever the antecedents that may lead to the potential for discontinuation of services, there are ways we can remain within compliance of the Ethics Code.

An important first step is always to ensure that the family or individual receiving services is well informed regarding their role and the role of the behavior analyst within the treatment relationship. Ongoing communication regarding goal and intervention choices, as well as rationale can also work to keep the consumer and provider on the same page. Continuing these conversations importantly provides reminders and plentiful opportunities for consumers to ask questions or provide feedback. Ultimately, some service agreements are not able to be salvaged and discontinuing is a necessary outcome. Having ample documentation along the way can work to both be a source of information for the consumer, as well as evidence of efforts being made by the behavior analyst to act according to his or her Code of Ethics. By educating and empowering our consumers we are reinforcing a foundation upon which behavior analysis can continue to change lives for the better.

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The advertisement features a background image of hands using a tablet. In the foreground, there is a white apple and a white bowl. The text is overlaid on a dark background.

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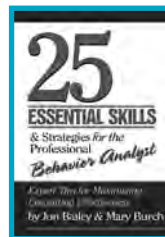
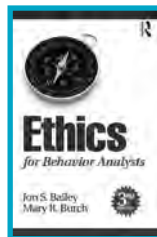


The Florida Scrub Jay: *An Endangered Species*

The Florida scrub jay is the only species of bird that is unique to Florida. This blue and gray bird reaches lengths of 12 inches with a wing span of 13.5 inches. — A special thanks is due to Dr. Al Murphy who has been identifying FABA's endangered species for more than 20 years.

Ethics Anyone?

By Authors Jon Bailey and Mary Burch



Jon Bailey, PhD



Mary Burch, PhD

Wrestling With a Marketing Department

NOTE TO READERS: This is the 36th in a series of articles on ethics where we answer questions from behavior analysts. This question came from a query through the ABAI Hotline.

QUESTION: “I have been hearing a lot of differing opinions on an ethical question that I have, and I was wondering if you could help. It is my understanding that companies cannot post pictures of their clients to social media or their websites ethical guideline 2.06 (e) mentions that we must not share any identifying information (written, photographic, or video) about current clients or supervises within social media contexts.



This seems like a very clear indication that photos are not allowed to be shared. However, I continue to see many companies posting pictures of their clients on social media and on their websites- in addition I reached out to a behavior podcast and they gave me this response:

“Thank you for talking about ethics in social media. As per our ethical guidelines (8.04), companies can post client photos to company website/social media accounts only if they do not use the clients first and last name and written consent for that specific purpose has been obtained. For testimonials, 8.05 states that behavior analysts should not use testimonials from current clients! If a testimonial is used, a disclaimer should include that the client is a former client, whether it was solicited or unsolicited, and include an accurate description of the current relationship between the company and the testimonial (if there is a current one). This is very different from our previous guidelines (before January 2016) and companies are slowly working on making their marketing ethical. Companies have the responsibility to work with their marketing teams to make sure that marketing is adhering to the ethical guidelines (even if marketing doesn't agree!).”

I was wondering if you knew the actual answer to this question: Can a company post pictures of clients to social media/website as long as there is written consent and no identifying information?”

ANSWER: You are correct about not posting pictures of clients on social media or their websites. *Our Professional and Ethical Compliance Codes for Behavior Analysts* is very clear that client confidentiality is of the utmost importance (some leeway may be given if the photos are taken in such a way that the child's face is not visible.) If the posting of pictures was instigated by a BCBA that person can be reported to the Board.

Further, it is our position that Code 2.06 Maintaining Confidentiality, *trumps* 8.04 (b) which actually relates to presentations that an organization might give at a conference, it does not pertain to marketing of a company.

As to the “behavior podcast”, we strongly disagree with their recommendations and would always urge you to get a second opinion from a behavior-analysis ethicist before proceeding with their advice; “working with” a marketing team means educating them about our Ethics Code, not allowing them to take the lead. Marketing should not drive ethics, it is the other way around. If you read 2.06 (a, e) of the Codes closely I think you will see where we are coming from.

“2.06 Maintaining Confidentiality. RBT

(a) Behavior analysts have a primary obligation and take reasonable precautions to protect the confidentiality of those with whom they work or consult, recognizing that confidentiality may be established by law, organizational rules, or professional or scientific relationships.

(e) Behavior analysts must not share or create situations likely to result in the sharing of any identifying information (written, photographic, or video) about current clients and supervisees within social media contexts.”

Marketing is important to present a positive image of our field but they must work within *our* Code of Ethics.

Updates from ABAB

(The Association for Behavior Analysis of Brevard)

By Marta T. "Tiki" Fiol, MS, BCBA, President of ABAB

The Association for Behavior Analysis of Brevard held a CEU event on May 3rd, 2018 at Florida Institute of Technology. David P. Kelly III, Ph.D., BCBA, presented **Leadership: Art, Science or Both?** and was well received. Immediately following his presentation, the ABAB held a social at MainStreet Pub in Downtown Melbourne. In the upcoming months we are planning several other CEU and Social events. We would love to be able to continue to find other community locations to host the events. This would allow local organizations an opportunity to showcase their programs and allow for ongoing outreach and collaboration. Additionally, if you are interested in presenting on a topic feel free to let us know! You can reach us at: ABABrevard@gmail.com or you can message us on our Facebook page: Association for Behavior Analysis of Brevard.



"Tiki" Fiol

For the third year in a row we volunteered at the Surfers for Autism event on June 9th, 2018. Volunteers are able to assist in the ocean with surfers, help as a part of the shore-line team keeping everyone as safe as possible, and also handing out water and food. This is one of our ongoing community outreach events and we look forward to continuing to assist in various ways in upcoming years.

On July 14th and 15th, 2018, the ABAB will be holding an intensive Tools for Positive Behavior Change caregiver training as an additional community outreach event. This will be held at the Florida Institute of Technology. Families will be able to learn and practice techniques with feedback from behavior analysts throughout the weekend. We will also be providing snacks and lunch for both days. Funding for this event was made possible by the money our chapter raised by participating in CoFABA events.

In October of this year the ABAB is striving to provide information and outreach as a part of FABA Awareness month. We will be contacting Local and State Representatives as well in inviting families, first responders, schools and other valued community members to provide education and build relationships. If you are interested in volunteering, hosting or inviting individuals, we welcome you to join us!



David P. Kelly III presenting at an ABAB CEU event



ABAB volunteers at the Surfers for Autism annual event

Save The Date

38th Annual Meeting
September 12-15, 2018
Hyatt Regency • Bonita Springs

Come and see the FABA Page on Facebook, or Better Yet . . .

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FABA Multicultural SIG News

By Haydee Toro, PhD, BCBA-D, Yulema Cruz, MS, BCBA, and Elisa Cruz-Torres, EdD, BCBA-D

Greetings from the Multicultural SIG! It is almost that time of the year again, and diversity is in the air. Here are some oldies but goodies, as well as upcoming news. During last year's FABA Conference, we had five presentations in Spanish, and were honored with the participation of Drs. Jose Martinez-Diaz and Iser De Leon at our SIG meeting. The gathering provided an opportunity for multicultural participants to get to know multicultural professional role models in a more intimate capacity. Their shared experiences were indeed compelling and inspirational. This year, we have prepared a few Spanish presentations, as well as other talks that may suit professionals with an interest in expanding multicultural awareness. The SIG meeting will focus on the topic of mentorship, and we are once again honored to welcome Drs. Anibal Gutierrez and Maricel Cigales as our guest speakers. We cannot wait!

We would also like to announce that this summer, we will be offering a half-day conference for Spanish-speaking parents and professionals in South Florida. Continuing education opportunities will be available. Topics will include cultural diversity, understanding quality in ABA service provision, ethical and practical responsibilities of RBTs, as well as evidence-based practices. Information will be forthcoming on the FABA

Multicultural Special Interest Group Facebook page. Join our page!

We want to encourage anyone with shared interests to participate in our annual meeting at the upcoming 38th FABA Conference in Bonita Springs. We look forward to welcoming professionals seeking to broaden our current initiative. Join us!



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Updates from CABA

(Capitol Association for Behavior Analysis)

The Capitol Association for Behavior Analysis (CABA) is eager to announce the new executive officers for 2018 – 2019.

President: Stephenie Cannon

Vice-President: Kahiya Fairclough

Treasurer: Katie Mayer

Secretary/Social Media/Event Coordinator:
Chandler Ferguson

We are excited to spend another year sharing our passion for behavior analysis throughout Tallahassee! Our ultimate goal for the upcoming year is to disseminate the field of ABA and increase community involvement in CABA.

Our executive board is excited to announce that we have been in correspondence with various influential BCBA speakers

for the upcoming semester. In addition, we have begun developing plans for increasing participation in community events, facilitating parent discussion and involvement, and fostering support for local behavioral analytic research. In an effort to further expand CABA membership and knowledge about our field, we plan to reach out to undergraduate students pursuing degrees in similar fields through presentations and student meetings. We are looking forward to an eventful year!

We also post many details regarding future events and current updates on Facebook and our Instagram account. You can follow us on Facebook at 'Capitol Association for Behavior Analysis' and on Instagram at 'CABA_Tally'. Those interested in joining CABA may contact us at: caba.tallahassee@gmail.com. We look forward to a year of progress, education, and fun joined by other supporters of behavior analysis.

Updates from ECABA

(Emerald Coast Association for Behavior Analysis)

By Leah Silver

The ECABA executive board is excited for the new opportunities that this year will bring to continue to share ABA with our community! Below is a bit of information about the incoming officers.

Leah Silver (President), grew up in Poughkeepsie, New York and completed her undergraduate degree at Davidson College in North Carolina. Leah is currently completing her practicum work at Florida State University's Early Childhood Autism Program (ECAP), a clinic providing ABA therapy to children with autism.

Lindsay Sanders (Vice President) is from Ozark, AL and obtained her undergraduate degree at Troy University in psychology with a minor in ABA. She is currently a second-year graduate student at Florida State University's ABA program and is completing her practicum at Focus On Behavior. Outside of ABA, she enjoys paddle boarding and going to the zoo!

Tami Hunter (Secretary) is from northern Utah and received a bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education from Utah State University. She has been involved with behavior analysis for 4 years and plans to continue in the same area of Autism in the schools and at a clinic.

Olivia Sanders (Treasurer) is from Jacksonville, FL and received her bachelor's from Florida State University in criminology and psychology. She first discovered ABA the summer before her senior year at FSU. She worked at Cayer Behavioral Group for over 2 years before starting at FSU in Panama City for her master's in ABA where she currently works at the Early Childhood Autism Program (ECAP). She was inspired to work with this population (children with ASD) because of her older brother who also has autism. Seeing him grow and become so successful living with autism has motivated her to want to work with families who often struggle with the same issues her family dealt with and to be a part of helping to improve the quality of their lives.

In addition to her many roles including FABA president and director of FSU ECAP, ECABA is fortunate to have Emily "Nikki" Dickens as their community liaison for this coming year. Many of our members have been fortunate enough to have Nikki as their supervisor and mentor during graduate school and her support and guidance has been invaluable.





Save the Date 38th Annual Meeting

September 12-15, 2018



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President's Corner *continued from page 2*

Code 1.04c) should any future actions on the part of any organization begin to be unethical or unfavorable for our members.

Our leadership team also strongly believes that the most effective way to achieve our shared goals is to work toward productive solutions – not “bombard” any individual or organization in a counterproductive manner.

MYTH #6: FABA is working to “force” licensure on our members

FACT: More than half of states in the country have some form of licensure in place. Therefore, the issue of licensure is certainly a worthwhile discussion to be had both among FABA members and in the Capital. FABA championed licensure several years ago and with the increasing number of states passing beneficial licensure initiatives, FABA may again in the future investigate the topic. However, the Board is not currently pursuing licensure as an active legislative committee action.

MYTH #7: The BACB does not support licensure.

FACT: The FABA team spoke with the BACB’s leadership and was assured that they do, in fact, support good licensure and actually worked with FABA on its recent licensure efforts. Please refer to the article posted on the BACB website and

the information available by clicking on the BACB website’s Licensure/Regulation link.

Regarding pursuing licensure: “The BACB welcomes the opportunity to comment on and help support proposed legislation, rules, and regulations that will strengthen the behavior analysis profession and the overall value and recognition of the BACB’s credentials” (BACB, 2018). They also provide a model act for licensure.

Dr. Jon Bailey personally supports licensure (as do many other FABA Board and FABA members who continue to align their interests with those of the BACBs). Dr. Bailey recently published an Op-Ed article about how licensure can relate to the issues experienced in Medicaid.

MYTH #8: Licensure would detract from the BACB or significantly increase financial obligations for members.

FACT: Licensure is not currently being pursued, but any efforts to do so would be discussed at the annual meeting and in conjunction with the BACB to ensure our members’ interests are met and all concerns are addressed. For further discussion on the matter, please refer to: [Policy Insights from the Behavioral and Brain Sciences](#). Right now, our focus remains on other pressing issues that are affecting providers across the state.

Get Ready for the FABA Conference!

By Leigh Stehlik, FABA Business Manager

Are you considering attending the 38th Annual FABA Conference? If not, you should be! More than 1400 attendees are expected to attend this year's annual event, which will be held September 12-15, 2018 in Bonita Springs Florida at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa. The FABA Conference program is full of opportunities to learn about the latest research and trends in Applied Behavior Analysis.

Once you decide that this year's FABA conference is the place to be, here are some details to help you plan your trip...

When to Arrive and Leave

The conference officially begins on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 8 am, and ends on Saturday, September 15th. Pre-Conference workshops are held on Wednesday, September 12th and require an additional ticket purchase. Post-Conference workshops are held on Saturday from 9-12 and require an additional ticket purchase. Please note that on Saturday, conference sessions as well as workshops will be held.

Most attendees will want to arrive by Wednesday evening in order to attend participate in the annual Speed Networking event and the Hospitality Suite.

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, September 11

FABA Store and Packet Pickup open 5:00 pm

Wednesday, September 12

FABA Store and Packet Pickup open 8:00 am
Workshops run from 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Speed Networking 7:00pm
Hospitality Suite 7:30pm

Thursday, September 13

FABA Store and Registration open 7:00 am
Sessions run from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Keynote Address 11:00 am
Presidential Social/Poster Session 5:00 pm
Reunions/Company Dinners 7:00 pm

Friday, September 14

FABA Store and Registration open 7:00 am
Sessions run from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Presidential Address/Business Meeting
11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Ignites @ Nite! – 8:00 PM
Friday Night Social with DJ Tim Courtney
9:00 pm

Saturday, September 15

Sessions run from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Workshops run from 8:00 am - 11:00 am
Closing Invited Address 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

All sessions on Thursday, Friday and Saturday are open to all conference ticketholders. Workshops require an additional ticket to attend.

Name badges will be issued to all registered attendees, regardless of registration type, and must be worn at all times to gain entrance to sessions, events, the Exhibit Hall and all other areas of the Convention. One-day registrants will find the day they selected for attendance prominently printed on their badges. Exhibit Hall-only passes indicate limited Convention access. Guests must also wear their badges.

Your badge will not be mailed. You will receive your badge along with additional conference material at the conference packet pickup desk when you arrive.

Session Room Behavior

Extensive planning goes into scheduling sessions in appropriately sized rooms; however, the popularity of sessions is not always predictable, and overcrowding occasionally occurs. If a session room reaches capacity, attendees must follow the instructions provided by FABA staff, Hyatt Regency staff, volunteers, or security staff.

Attendees may be instructed not to stand against the walls or block the aisles or doors, or they may be denied entry if the room is too crowded. FABA is obligated to abide by the guidelines established by the Fire Marshal. If a room reaches full capacity and we do not have your cooperation, the Fire Marshal has the

authority to delay or even terminate the session until any problem has been satisfactorily corrected. Please be courteous and respectful to staff and student volunteers when you are directed elsewhere.

Attendees are asked to be respectful of their fellow attendees and to be mindful of potential disruptions during sessions, such as eating food, use of phones or other mobile devices, or the presence of infants and children. Phones and other mobile devices should always be silenced. Attendees should not be photographing presentation slides unless explicit permission has been granted by the presenter(s); please respect the Recording Policy.

Transportation:

Southwest Florida International Airport in Ft. Myers (RSW) is the closest airport, about 13 miles and a 24 minute drive. The hotel does not offer a shuttle. The cost of a taxi at RSW is \$35 which is a standard charge through MBA, the taxi concessionaire at RSW – <http://www.flylcpa.com/taxirates/> Uber is also available at RSW.

Once you get your baggage from baggage claim you can go outside through door #5. There will be a shuttle service/car pickup line that you can get a ride to the hotel. Otherwise you can call one of the below listed companies to pre-arrange a pickup.

A1 Royal Airport Transportation –

<http://www.a1royallimousine.com/>

Majestic Airport Service –

<http://www.a1royallimousine.com/>

Apple Transportation –

www.appletransportation.com

Other options for flying:

Miami International Airport (MIA) is approximately a 2 hour drive by car.

Tampa Airport (TPA) is approximately a 2 hour drive by car.

Orlando Airport (MCO) is approximately a 3 hour drive by car.

Parking:

Both Valet parking and self-parking are available at the hotel. FABa does not validate, reimburse or offer discounts on parking rates.

Valet Parking: 45 USD daily

Self-Parking: Free

Weather/Conference Attire

In September, the temperature is an average high of around 90 degrees, with an average low around 75 degrees. Meeting room temperatures tend to be cold. Please bring a light sweater or jacket to all meetings.

Visas

Should you require an invitation letter for a Visa application for travel to the U.S. to attend the conference, please forward proof of your conference registration to the Jennifer Bonney at Jennifer_bonney@fabaworld.org, and a letter will be issued to you.

Accessibility for Registrants with Disabilities

FABa is committed to providing an outstanding experience for all participants. We strive for full access to the activities of these events based on an awareness of participants' needs and appropriate planning. Accessibility accommodations relating to mobility, hearing, vision or other areas may be provided.

We ask that requests for reasonable accommodations requests be made as early as possible, and well in advance of the event, so we may best accommodate individual needs and requirements. Onsite requests will be accommodated to the best of our ability; however, available resources may be limited.

For questions or concerns about accessibility at this year's conference, please contact Leigh Stehlik at leighstehlik@gmail.com

Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn and network with other Behavior Analysts from around the country. Register today!



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FABA Observer Policy

Submission of Copy

Readers are invited to submit articles and information of general interest to FABA members. Preference is given to submissions that are e-mailed to the address below. Other submissions should be typed, double-spaced and not exceed two pages. The Editor reserves the right to edit copy to conform with newsletter style and with space limitations. Please submit to Mary Burch at the email address given below.

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Members:

Jon Bailey, Al Murphy, Leigh Stehlik, Brandon Perez, Deb Hanratty, Matt Potak, Yulema Cruz.

FABA Local Chapters

Matt Potak behavioranalysis@gmail.com

Legislative Committee:

Yulema Cruz, Megan Miller, Sharon Older, Matt Potak, Eric Prutsman, Mary Riordan & Baker Wright.

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Newsletter Submissions

The FABA Observer is published 3 times per year. Articles and accompanying high resolution photos should be sent to Editor Mary Burch: dogs@nettally.com

Submission/Publication Dates

Rates for camera-ready 1/4 page ad (3.5 " wide x 4.75 " tall) is \$50 per issue; 1/2 page ad (7 " wide x 4.75 " tall) is \$100 per issue. Contact the FABA Business Manager for 3-issue special rates. We reserve the right to refuse any advertising.

Submit ad materials to:

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leigh_stehlik@fabaworld.org