



MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

## **Anderson Center Consulting & Training** **Position Statement on Applied Behavior Analysis**

What is Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)? It might be easier to discuss what ABA is not... ABA is not *Discrete Trial Teaching*; however, Discrete Trial Teaching is designed *using the principles of ABA*. ABA is not about making individuals stop doing things they enjoy or find comforting. **ABA is about teaching socially significant behavior that will afford individuals increased opportunities for socialization, independence, and engagement in society.**

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board offers this definition of Applied Behavior Analysis, "a science based on the use of learning principles to improve lives. **The practice of ABA focuses on assessing the environmental influences on behavior, assessment-based intervention, and data-based decision making.**"

Anderson Center Consulting & Training (ACCT) firmly believes in utilizing teaching and intervention strategies that have a recognized body of scientific evidence to support their use with autistic and other neurodiverse learners. Consultants understand and appreciate the value in engaging autistic/neurodiverse individuals and their families/support network, when developing, implementing, and evaluating teaching and intervention strategies.

While delivering consultation services, ACCT consultants will:

- Appreciate an individual's unique talents, preferences, strengths, desires and needs
- Offer suggestions and recommend interventions within the framework of ABA
- Collect and review data to help inform decision making
- Support socially significant behavior in collaboration with an individual, individuals, families, and others important to an individual

Ultimately, **ACCT strives to optimize the quality of life of all individuals served, recognizing that improved quality of life is defined uniquely and distinctively by each person.**