

ABA Services

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) interventions are uniquely designed to meet the needs of children, adolescents, and adults with Mental Retardation and/or Autism Spectrum Disorders, who are experiencing behavior problems that impede their daily lives, education, work, relationships, or physical wellness. The therapeutic plan of care emphasizes:

- a) Data-based and measurable objectives.
- b) Parent and/or caregiver training.
- c) Safety net behavioral services.

ABA Services also support the local network of private providers through consultation services and training to the community.

ABA Mission

We envision our consumers as citizens who:

- are happy with their home lives, friends, families and relationships.
- learn new ways to respond to environmental stressors which contribute to their inappropriate behaviors.
- successfully meet their needs as independently as possible.
- remain socially appropriate in family and social activities.
- continue to improve their functional living, communication, and social skills.

With the help of our services, each person with challenging behavior will have the opportunity to improve their quality of life by gaining new skills and living a more productive life.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Harris County resident
- At least three years of age
- Demonstrates behavior problems
- Assigned Service Coordinator
- Services for the Program listed on the consumer's Person Directed Plan
- Referral from Service Coordinator Sent to Melinda Benjumea, Director
- Determination of Mental Retardation (DMR)
- Diagnosed with Mental Retardation, and/or Autistic Spectrum Disorder/Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD)
- Current financial assessment

Payment for service is determined by the financial assessment.

ABA specializes in services to people with:

1. Diagnoses of
 - a. Autism Spectrum Disorders/Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD)
 - b. Mental Retardation with or without a co-occurring psychiatric illness.
2. Challenging behavior problems.

ABA Services provided are:

1. Short-term services to assess behavior, develop effective treatment, and train parents/caretakers in ABA techniques.
2. Based on current scientific research.
3. Focused on reducing problem behavior while increasing appropriate behavior.
4. Time-limited and data-based.

ABA services may include but are not limited to: functional behavior assessment, data collection, preference assessment, task analysis, shaping, modeling, prompting, fading, and positive reinforcement.

Our ABA treatment team is comprised of staff with 30+ combined years of experience serving people with challenging behaviors, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Mental Retardation and mental health issues.

Board Certified Behavior Analysts

Deborah Grossett, Ph.D., BCBA
Jennifer Strickland, M.A., BCBA

UHCL Graduate Interns

Lourdes Barrachina, B.A.
Kail Graham, B.S..

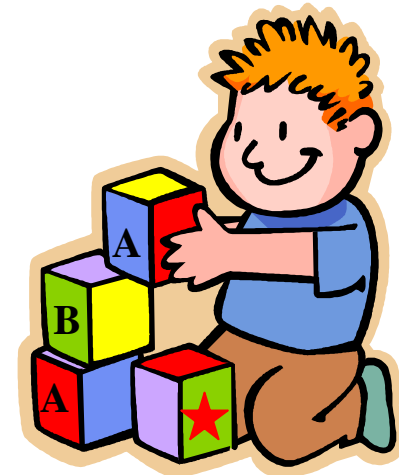
Schconda Keller, ABA Specialist

Maria C. Quintero, Ph.D.
Assistant Deputy Director,
MR Provider Services

Schwanda Anderson, Ph.D.
Neuropsychologist

Melinda B. Benjumea, LPA,LPC
Program Director

Jeanne Añorga
Senior Administrative Assistant



HOW TO ACCESS ABA Services

1. Persons already receiving MHMRA services may request ABA Services through their assigned MR Service Coordinator.
2. Persons new to MHMRA may request services by calling the MHMRA of Harris County Access Center at 713-970-7070.
3. Community providers may contract for services for their consumers by calling (713) 970-7657.

Mission Statement of MHMRA of Harris County

It shall be the mission of MHMRA of Harris County within the resources available, to provide or ensure the provision of services and supports that are as high quality, efficient, and cost effective as possible such that persons with mental disabilities may live with dignity as fully functioning participating, and contributing members of our community, regardless of their ability to pay or third party coverage.

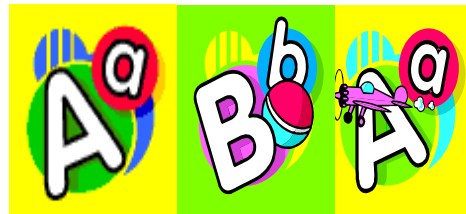
Rights Protection Office

*If you feel that you have been unfairly treated, have been denied services or have been denied accommodation by **MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY**, or if you are unable to resolve a complaint regarding your services with MHMRA staff person, or their supervisor, you may contact the following Rights Protection Offices.*

**MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL
RETARDATION OF HARRIS COUNTY**
Rights Protection Officer,
P.O. Box 25381
Houston, TX 77265-5381
(713) 970-7742 (24 hours)

**DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND
DISABILITY SERVICES (DADS)**
Office of Consumer Services and Rights
Protection
P.O. Box 12668
Austin, TX 78711-2668
1-800-252-1854

Advocacy, Incorporated
7757 Harwin, Suite 100
(713)974-7691
Voice or TDD 1-800-880-0821



**All complaints are handled confidentially.*

ABA

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Services

***Providing services to individuals diagnosed with
Autism Spectrum Disorder/Pervasive
Developmental Disorders (PDD), and/or Mental
Retardation with or without a
co-occurring Mental Illness and who
demonstrate challenging behavior.***



**MENTAL HEALTH • MENTAL RETARDATION
AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY**

**Mental Health Mental Retardation
Authority of Harris County**
7011 Southwest Freeway
Houston, TX 77074
Phone: (713) 970-7657
Fax: (713) 970-3920

www.mhmraharris.org/MRSD/abaservices.htm