Indiana Association for Behavioral Consultants

IN-ABC

Volume 1, Issue 3 December 2005

From your President

As the Indiana Association of Behavior Consultants completes its fourth year, I would like to reflect on what we have accomplished in the past year. First, I have enjoyed serving as president of the organization during 2005. When I accepted the position last winter, I had no idea of the changes that we would face later in the year, - no doubt, you did not, either. I was humbled by the responsibility of this position.

Our membership has grown over the past twelve months, which is a very positive development. Continuing education opportunities have continued. Participation by members other than board members has increased. Based on the number of state committees in which we have been invited to participate, our visibility seems to have increased in the right places. We have had significant input into the 460 interpretive guidelines and BQIS surveys. We have taken the lead in developing a state wide training curriculum for behavior consulting and have proposed a mentoring program. The number of registered behavior consultants has increased, training has been provided to the community, and recently, had an audience with David Gootee to discuss changes in the annual budget process.

As Gail Kahl becomes president for 2006, I believe you can anticipate continued progress and advocacy for our profession. We need to continue to nurture our partnership with the state and be sought out for problem solving. Continued improvement in provided services should be sought through training and education. We also need consultants to devote time to our discipline though participating in committees and projects. I would encourage you to take an active role in the INABC and help further behavior consulting as a highly sought service.

2006 IN ABC meeting dates

January 20—St. Vincent's New Hope– Indy

March 17—TBA

May 19—TBA

July 21—TBA

September 15—TBA

November 17—TBA

* meeting times 1—2:30 PM

Thanks to the 2005 Board

- **Jim Sanders, President**
- **Gail Kahl, Vice President**
- **CJ Gallihugh, Secretary**
- **Kelly Hartman, Treasurer**
- **Brian Thomason, Director**

Annual Plan Process

The official notification of billing, policy and administrative procedures was received on September 15, 2005. As the deadline for appealing a given monthly rate for behavior management services ended on November 30, 2005, NOAs have been issued with rate adjustments. BDDS hopes to have all issues resolved by December 31, 2005. David Gootee, Deputy Director, DDRS, acknowledges the swiftness in which the annual plan process was implemented. In his memo on October 28, 2005 he wrote: "We understand that the approach we are initiating is a major change in philosophy and methodology to serving individuals on the DD, Autism and Support Services waivers. The intent of these changes is to respond to 3 years of mounting complaints that the current system was broken, suffocating any hope of true choice by a consumer to live other than a "budgeted" life. Change is always tough and a major change generates anxious moments for all. I know that if we can stay focused on how to use what is available in creative ways, we can assure the outcomes that matter for those we serve."

"You can't be successful if you aren't happy with what you are doing."
-Curtis Carlson

2006 IN-ABC Board:
Gail Kahl, President
Kelly Hartman, Vice President
Jane Ford, Secretary
Dr. Bridgette Harrison, Treasurer
Jim Sanders, Director

A very special thank you to Brian Thomason and CJ Gallihugh for their on-going support and participation with IN-ABC.

Registered Behavioral Consultants

You are encouraged to download an application for consideration as a registered behavioral consultant at www.inabc.org. This is one of the initial steps as we work with the Health Profession's Bureau and DDRS toward statewide certification.

We congratulate the following professionals as they are recognized as a registered behavioral consultant:

- Kim Adkins
- Lisa Connolly
- Patricia Cook
- CJ Gallihugh
- Laura Hinen
- Jennifer Homan
- Gail Kahl
- Dana Klopfenstein
- Kendall Nelson
- Candice Render
- Jim Sanders
- Alice Sobotka
- Jill Tate
- Brian Thomason
- Tina Tinbell-Hageman
- Al Tomes
- Rob Westcott

2006 Membership Drive

Membership packets will be mailed in early January for 2006 IN-ABC membership. A motion was made and the by-laws were amended to define "agency" status for employees only. Independent contractors will need to submit independent memberships. The 2006 dues are as follows:

$100 per year for individual membership

$200 per year for agency memberships (9 or fewer behavioral consultants)

$300 per year for agency memberships with 10 or more behavioral consultants

IN-ABC will be celebrating its fifth year as a state-wide association. We have experienced substantial growth in memberships each year and look forward to meeting new members at upcoming association meetings.

You are encouraged to browse through the IN-ABC website at www.inabc.org to familiarize yourself with this professional organization.

If you do not receive a membership packet by January 15, please send an e-mail to IndianaABC@aol.com. Include your mailing address with your request for a packet.

IN-ABC Committees

Prior to each IN-ABC association meeting, the IN-ABC committees meet from 10-11AM.

The Licensure Committee's mission is to enhance the profession of Behavior Consultant through state licensing, to ensure consistently high standards, while working toward becoming the state organization representing behavior consultants with consistent standards of licensing, education, training, practice, advocacy and ethics.

The Ethics Committee ensures rules of professional conduct are recognized by each behavioral consultant and best practice is delivered by those in this profession.

The Provider Relations Committee has multiple responsibilities to the association to include coordinating CEU opportunities, ensuring communication with state agencies is occurring, creating and distributing the newsletter.

New members for each committee are needed in 2006. To join, meet us at 10 AM on January 20.