SUMMER 2005

IN-ABC

INDIANA ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIORAL CONSULTANTS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT AN INCREDIBLE ASSOCIATION PROVIDING AN INCREDIBLE SERVICE FOR CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF INDIANA

BDDS Remediation Process for BQIS

Findings of the BQIS survey process were the impetus for a committee to be developed as part of the remediation process. Ellen McClimans and Pat Dickerson, BQIS, chaired the Interpretive Guidelines Committee. Other committee members consisted of waiver case managers, behavioral consultants, and representatives from residential and vocational providers as well as IN-ARF. The interpretive guidelines will provide a tool to the surveyor as well as to the provider to further interpret 460 IAC throughout the survey process.

CJ Gallihugh, Behavioral Interventions, Inc. recently underwent her first BQIS survey. CJ felt the surveyor "was extremely thorough in her review" and identified the focus (recurrent themes) of the survey:

1) Results—wanted to see documentation efforts, regardless of the outcome. It did not matter if the methods tried were unsuccessful, as long as there is documentation that an effort was made to address the issue. This includes incident reports: how did the BC address the problem?

2) Follow-up—each quarterly should have a follow-up to the previous quarterly's recommendations. For example, if the BC recommends that Joe Client see the dentist for suspected tooth pain causing SIB in her first quarterly report, the second quarterly must show the status of that recommendation, even if the appointment hasn't been made, the client refused, etc.

3) Customer Satisfaction—there must be proof that service recipients have been informed of the provider's policies (even if they declined a copy of the manual). There must also be documentation that the results of the annual customer satisfaction surveys are being addressed. Specific methods must be listed to address the results. The BC must show in her/his case notes that the issue(s) have been addressed with the recipient. It is also helpful to tie the issues into the annual performance appraisal of each staff person.

4) Least Intrusive Methods—there must be documentation to prove that least intrusive methods were attempted first and that they were ineffective. There must also be proof that the benefits outweigh the risks. CJ writes, "I had a client, who was fairly new on my caseload, chosen for the survey. He was prescribed a psychotropic medication, but there was no additional information. The previous BC had nothing in place. I had no diagnosis, no target behavior, nothing. There was no psychiatrist involved in his treatment and the client refused to see one. The surveyor told me that all of this was fine, as long as I explain the situation in my BSP, and document efforts to get the client in to see a psychiatrist."

The Interpretive Guidelines for residential and vocational/habilitation surveys (of which BMAN services is a sub-section) will be distributed in August 2005.

Association Meetings for 2005:

- *January 21—Glendale Mall, Indianapolis*
- *March 18—Stone Belt, Bloomington*
- *May 20—Glendale Mall, Indianapolis*
- *July 15—Logansport*
- *September 16—Glendale Mall, Indianapolis*
- *November 18—Glendale Mall, Indianapolis (election of officers for 2006)*

2005 IN-ABC Executive Board

James Sanders
President

Gail Kahl
Vice President

Kelly Hartman
Treasurer

CJ Gallihugh
Secretary

Brian Thomason
Director

Registered Behavioral Consultants:

Kimberly Adkins, OPG, Inc.
Lisa Connolly, Stone Belt Arc, Inc.
Patricia Cook, New Dimensions Consulting, Inc.
CJ Gallihugh, Behavioral Interventions, Inc.
Laura Hinen, Your Friends and Neighbors
Jennifer Homan, OPG, Inc.
Gail Kahl, OPG, Inc.
Dana Klopfenstein, OPG, Inc.
Candice Render, Insights Consulting
Kendall Nelson, Alternative Counseling Associates
Jim Sanders, Behavior Consultation and Therapy Services, Inc.
Alice Sobotka, Behavior Solutions
Brian Thomason, Behavioral Support Services, LLC
Tina Tinbell-Hageman, New Dimensions Consulting, Inc.
Al Tomes, Alternative Counseling Associates
Rob Westcott, Autism Consulting Services of Indiana, Inc.

Check out this site for more CEU's:

Http://www.arcind.org/positive-behavior-supports-semin.htm

Annualization of Services

Several of you are beginning to hear information regarding annualization of contracts and daily rates for waiver services. Although very little information is known at this point and no bulletins have been issued by FSSA or BDDS, change is eminent. FSSA knows that on an average, a recipient of waiver services has up to 7 changes/updates in a twelve month period of time to his/her cost-comparison budget. The administrative burden, time, and expense of this needs to be addressed. The annualization model would ask each client/guardian and each provider of service to sign a annual contract that no changes would be made to that team unless abusive/harmful situations arise within that year's time.

Mitch Roob has not been secretive of his desires for privatization. He does not want to create a shortage of providers but does want fewer state contracts for FSSA to manage. Discussions to issue annual contracts to three entities have occurred. The three entities (not yet defined or described) may be (1) developmental (2) vocational (3) residential. FSSA/BDDS is planning a slow "phasing in" of the annual contracts to begin in September. A six month pilot would require feed back to recognize the "holes" of the system.

IN-ABC is excited to partner with FSSA, BDDS, ARC of Indiana, and IN-ARF within the next few weeks to discuss positive

IN-ABC Committees

IN-ABC has three committees. The Ethics Committee fields issues within our profession to ensure moral and legal standards are being upheld as found in the Code of Ethics for behavioral consultants.

The Provider Relations Committee is committed to promoting and enhancing behavior consultation as a profession

This committee has the responsibilities of planning each CEU presentation and the round-table discussion prior to each association meeting as well as increasing the awareness of IN-ABC through marketing approaches and networking with fellow professionals.

The Licensure Committee is accepting applications submitted by behavioral consultants to be involved in the certification process.

More information on each committee can be found on the association's website at www.INABC.org

Each committee meets at 10 AM prior to the association meeting every other month. You are encouraged to get involved in IN-ABC by joining a committee. Contact any of the officers to express your interest.

"Our beliefs can move us forward in life—or they can hold us back."
-Oprah Winfrey

Upcoming CEU Presentations

Peggy A. Farlow, MAE, MT-BC, will be presenting the CEU opportunity July 15 on the topic of "Music Therapy and Behavior Goals".

The September CEU topic will be the BQIS survey process and the implementation of the interpretive guidelines to 460 IAC. This topic of great relevance to each behavioral consultant across the state of Indiana will provide a first in-depth look at the guidelines that will be distributed by BQIS within the next few weeks.

The November topic is yet to be determined pending the roll-out of annualization and changes to distribution of wavier funding. November's IN-ABC meeting is most exciting to attend as this is the month nominations/election of the new officers for 2006 takes place and plans for the association begin to formulate for the upcoming year. Watch for announcement s for the CEU topic.

Remember, these presentations are free to IN-ABC members. 460IAC requires behavioral consultants to obtain at least 10 CEUs annually. A simple RSVP prior to each date will ensure you receive a certificate of attendance.