Functional Analysis and Assessment: First Steps in Treatment of Problem Behavior

VtABA is excited to present 2 tracks this year:

For ABA professionals:
"Recent Developments in the Functional Analysis of Behavior"
Presented by Michael F. Dorsey, Ph.D., BCBA-D
Professor of Education
Director - The Institute for Behavioral Studies
Van Loan School of Graduate and Professional Studies
Endicott College

For Families and other Professionals:
"Functional Behavior Assessment: A guide for families and other professionals."
Presented by Emily White, M.S.Ed., BCBA
CABA-Tech Program Director
Endicott College

October 10th, 2013 8:00-4:00
ECHO Center, Burlington, VT

VTABA Members $85.00 per person
Non–VtABA Members $135.00 per person
Parent tuition reduction grants available for "Functional Behavior Assessment: A Guide for Families and Other Professionals"
Continental Breakfast and Lunch (for those who register before 10/3) Included
Limited Free Parking
For ABA Professionals (BACB approved CEUs available):

"Recent Developments in the Functional Analysis of Behavior", presented
by Michael F. Dorsey, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Functional analysis is the application of the laws of operant conditioning to establish the relationships between stimuli and responses. First conceived by Skinner (1957), functional analysis employs principles derived from the natural science of human behavior to determine the "reason", purpose or motivation for a behavior. Empirical research on the application of this technology, beginning with Iwata, Dorsey, Slifer, Bauman, and Richman (1982), has resulted in literally thousands of replications and extensions of the seminal work over the past 30 years – resulting in improvements that reduce the time involved, costs of conducting the evaluations, and improvements in client safety. This rich literature continues today, with the most recent special issue of the Journal of Applied behavior Analysis (2013), in which even more innovative practices are described. The purpose of this presentation is to review the technology, tracing its roots and history of innovations, and to help practicing Behavior Analysts better understand how to utilize an FBA diagnostic approach in their day-to-day professional practice.

Michael F. Dorsey (Mike) is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA-D) and a Licensed Psychologist. Mike is a Professor of Education and Director of the Institute for Behavioral Studies at Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts. Mike earned his Ph.D. from Western Michigan University in 1979. During his career, Mike has served on the faculty of several prestigious universities and colleges including The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, The Jordanian Institute of Science and Technology and Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. He has authored/co-authored a number of professional publications, including assisting in the initial development of the Functional Behavior Analysis methodology. Mike has served as a member of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) Accreditation Committee of the Education Board, and was appointed as one of the original members of the (ABAI) Practice Board, where he served as Chair from 2009 to 2012. Mike’s first experience in consumer advocacy came in 1978, when he assisted in drafting an Amicus Curiae Brief submitted to the United States Supreme Court in the Connecticut--ARC Case. Mike has been a Gubernatorial appointee of the Developmental Disabilities Councils of both Florida and Massachusetts, and chaired the Massachusetts MDDC Governmental Affairs Committee for over six years. In 1992 he served as a US representatives to the First Papal Congress on Developmental Disabilities. Mike has co-authored several bills related to the protection of ABA consumers and the practice of Applied Behavior Analysis, including the newly passed ABA Licensing Bill in Massachusetts. He has testified on numerous occasions at both the federal and state level concerning proposed legislation, policies and budgets, and as an expert witness in Bureau of Special Education Appeals (BSEA) cases, as well as in various Probate, Superior, and Federal Court cases involving the education and treatment of individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities. Mike has been happily married to wife
For Parents and other Professionals:

"Functional Behavior Assessment: A Guide for Families and Other Professionals" presented by Emily White, M.S.Ed., BCBA

Functional behavior assessment (FBA) is a critical tool for identifying underlying causes of problem behavior and developing effective treatments to reduce problem behavior and teach appropriate alternative behaviors. Families who attend this workshop will learn 1) the components of an effective FBA, 2) when an FBA may be warranted, and 3) how to interpret basic FBA findings.

Emily White, M.S.Ed., BCBA, has more than 10 years experience working with individuals with disabilities in home, school, and center-based programs. She received her master's degree in Behavioral Education from Simmons College and became a Board Certified Behavior Analyst in 2006. She is currently an Adjunct Professor of Education at Endicott College where she directs the Certified Applied Behavior Analysis Technician (CABA-Tech) Program. Her clinical and research interests include effective training and instruction for practitioners of ABA, disseminating the science of Behavior Analysis to consumers, and evaluating consumer and practitioner preferences for behavior-analytic methodologies. She has presented her work at regional, national, and international conferences. Emily is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Behavior Analysis and serves as the Student Representative for the Massachusetts Association for Applied Behavior Analysis.

Important information for parents:

VtABA is pleased to be able to offer a limited number of parent grants. If you are a parent of a child with a developmental disability or a behavioral challenge and would like to access a conference fee reduction, please contact us at vtabaorg@gmail.com if interested or mail Michelle Fretta at 458 Wildflower Circle Williston, VT 05495

Conference Schedule

8:00 Registration, coffee and breakfast available  
8:30 Opening Remarks on BCBA licensure by Dr. Dorsey and Joanna Hull  
9:30 Part 1 of conference presentations  
12:00 lunch, poster sessions, and bookstore  
1:00 Part 2 of conference presentations  
3:30 Q&A and closing remarks
## 2012 VtABA Conference: Functional Analysis and Assessment

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*Continuing Education Credits for additional Education and Human Service professions are pending. Fees can not be determined until final approval of discipline specific CEUs. Please check [www.vtaba.com](http://www.vtaba.com) for updates.

*Registration fees the day of the conference are VtABA Member $105.00, VtABA Non-Member $155.00

Make check/PO payable to: VT Association for Behavior Analysis
Mail to: Michelle Fretta 458 Wildflower Circle Williston, VT 05495

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