

Piece of Our Puzzle



IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF OUR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

Piece of Our Puzzle LLC
81 Big Oak Rd, Suite 110
Morrisville, PA 19067
(484) 569-0377
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<http://www.pieceofourpuzzle.com>

HIPAA – YOUR PRIVACY RIGHTS

As a client for services of Piece of Our Puzzle LLC, we may use or disclose personal related information about you in the following ways: Your protected health information, including your clinical records, may be disclosed to another health care provider or hospital if it is necessary to refer you for further diagnosis, assessment or treatment and written consent is given by you directly.

- Your health care records as well as your billing records may be disclosed to another party, such as an insurance carrier, an HMO, a PPO, or your employer, if they are or may be responsible for the payment of services provided to you.
- Your name, address, phone number, and your health care records may be used to contact you regarding treatment, appointments, or any other program related information that may be of interest to you.
- If you are not home to receive a phone call, a message may be left on your answering machine or with a person in your household.
- You have a right to confidential communications and to request restrictions relative to such contacts. You also have the right to be contacted by alternative means or at alternative locations.
- You have a right to request restrictions on our use of your protected health information for treatment, payment and operations purpose. Such requests are not automatic and require the agreement of this office.
- We are permitted and may be required to use or disclose your personal information without your authorization in these following circumstances:
 - If we are ordered by our courts or another appropriate agency.
 - Any use or disclosure of your protected personal information, other than as outlined above, will only be made upon your written authorization. If you provide an authorized for release of information you have the right to revoke that authorization at a later date.
 - Information that we use or disclose based on this privacy notice may be subject to re-disclosure by the person to whom we provide the information and may no longer be protected by the federal privacy rules.
 - We are required by state and federal law to maintain the privacy of your client file and the protected confidential information therein. We are also required to provide you with



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this notice of our privacy practices with respect to your personal information. We are further required by law to abide by the terms of this of this notice while it is in effect.

- We reserve the right to alter or amend the terms of this privacy notice. If changes are made to our privacy notice we will notify you in writing as soon as possible following the changes. Any change in our privacy notice will apply for all of your health information in our files.

INFORMED CONSENT FOR BEHAVIORAL SERVICES

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) is the study and analysis of behavior as it related to things in the environment. Utilizing the principles of behaviorism and learning (e.g. reinforcement, punishment, and extinction), ABA programs aim to decrease challenging and inappropriate behaviors while simultaneously increasing socially significant behaviors. ABA is an evidenced based, best practice that individualizes each program. A unique plan will be created that results in long-lasting positive outcomes and an enhanced quality of life. Behavioral treatments are clinical processes that involve a professional arrangement. Therapy is regulated by laws, ethics, your rights as a client, and by standard business practices.

Within an ABA program a number of procedures and interventions may be used. Some of these procedures include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Discrete Trial Teaching (DTT) – teaching small units of behavior in a structured setting
- Natural Environment Training (NET) and Incidental Teaching (IT) – teaching behavior in structured learning opportunities within the natural environment
- Reinforcement – the procedure of providing or removing preferred items, edibles, and social praise following the occurrence of a behavior to increase the future frequency of that behavior
- Differential reinforcement – providing higher levels of reinforcement for desired behaviors and little to no reinforcement for undesired behaviors
- Extinction – Removing reinforcement to decrease the occurrence of a behavior
- Punishment – the procedure of providing or removing undesired stimuli into the environment to decrease the future frequency of a behavior. While not common, and not a first line of defense, punishment procedures may be used to decrease certain target behaviors. Whenever a punishment procedure is used, an alternative and functionally equivalent behavior will also be taught. Your consent, separate from this form, to use a

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punishment procedure will be required before it is implemented. Please initial:

Treatment Termination - If at any time during the course of your treatment it is determined services cannot continue, a Transition to Termination notice can be provided to you explaining the justification for this decision. Ideally, services end when treatment plan goals have been achieved. Additional conditions of termination can include:

- You have the right to stop treatment at any time. If you make this choice, referrals to other therapists may be provided (if available).
- Professional ethics mandate that treatment continues only if it is reasonably clear you are receiving benefit. If it is determined that the services are not proving to be clinically beneficial, ethical conduct requires a termination of treatment.
- Other legal or ethical circumstances may arise and lead to termination of treatment, such as the clinical expertise of the Consultant being inappropriate or insufficient for the client/individual receiving treatment. Please note: the Consultant will not diagnose, treat, or advise on problems outside the recognized boundaries of her competencies.
- Other situations that warrant termination may include: drug abuse, disclosing illegal intentions or actions, inappropriate behavior during services, or failure meet parent participation expectations.

Possible Risks Associated with Treatment - Like many things in life, therapy/behavioral treatment has inherent risks. Some of these risks are:

- Disruptions in your daily life that can occur because of therapeutic changes
- No promises can be made regarding learner progress. Some individuals progress and learn skills quickly, while other learns take longer to learn skills or experience difficulty retaining skills once learned
- Initial increases in the duration, frequency, or intensity of problem behaviors due to the "Extinction Burst"
- Although treatment begins with the hope of behavioral improvement and positive outcomes in the overall family functioning, there is no guarantee that this will occur. There is, however, a better chance of improvement occurring if all caregivers in the household participate in the therapy.

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IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE
LEARNING AND ESTABLISHING OF OUR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

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Possible Benefits Associated with Treatment - Multiple studies across decades of time have contributed to the current understanding of the benefits of Applied Behavior Analysis (research articles can be presented upon request):

- Improvements in communication, social relationships, play, self-care, school, and employment
- Increased participation in family and community activities
- Improvements in "school readiness"
- Significant improvements (socially valid improvements) in learning, reasoning, and adaptability to change.

FINANCIAL POLICY

New Patients approved for ABA therapy services are responsible for any and all charges not paid for by healthcare insurance payers (private or public). By signing this client agreement, you are acknowledging you understand this condition of service and commit to promptly paying Piece of Our Puzzle LLC for the services we provide to you. Following the receipt of your patient statement, please contact us to make payment arrangements. We accept cash, personal checks, money orders and Pay Pal.

If your child is seen in the community (ie, school), please notify Piece of Our Puzzle staff if your child will be absent so the therapist does not unnecessarily travel to the scheduled therapy location. Additionally, if more than 20% of appointments are cancelled (per quarter), we will need to discuss either reducing therapy time or ending services.

Each healthcare insurance payer has different guidelines for ABA therapy coverage. It is helpful if you let us know your healthcare payer when starting services so we may find out if prior authorizations are needed. If your healthcare insurance payer is an insurance we do not contract with, you are required to make self pay arrangements for the usual and customary pricing of our services. We will provide you with a detailed invoice of services rendered on a weekly basis, so you may submit to your insurance.

Your signature below signifies you have read and understand this client agreement for Piece of Our Puzzles' ABA therapy services. You agree to the terms in this agreement and intend to comply with them to the best of your ability. You also understand that if you fail to follow the terms of this agreement, you or your child could be discharged from service.

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IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE
COURTESY AND UNDERSTANDING OF OUR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

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1. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Privacy Rights: This acknowledges that I have received, read and understand the HIPAA and Privacy Rights in its entirety.

Signature of Client or Legal Guardian and Date:

2. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Informed Consent for Behavioral Services: This acknowledges that I have received, read and understand the consent for behavioral services in its entirety.

Signature of Client or Legal Guardian and Date:

3. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Policy: This acknowledges that I have received, read and understand the financial policy in its entirety.

Signature of Client or Legal Guardian and Date:
