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ADVISORY BOARD ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Minutes

February 2, 2015

The Advisory Board on Behavior Analysis met on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Keri Bethune, Phd, BCBA-D
Kate Lewis, MS, CBA, LBA
Amanda Kusterer, BCABA
Asha Patton Smith, MD

MEMBERS ABSENT: Patricia Taylor, JD

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director
Alan Heaberlin, Deputy Director, Licensing
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
Bradley Verry, Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: Christy Evanko, VABA

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Bethune called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES

Mr. Heaberlin announced the Emergency Egress Procedures.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Lewis moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Evanko gave a brief presentation on the results of a survey conducted by the Virginia Association for Behavior Analysts (VABA). As a result of the data provided by the survey, Ms. Evanko suggested that the Board of Medicine create a licensure toolkit, provide a grace period for new certificants, and adjust

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continuing education requirements for renewal to match those of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB). Mr. Heaberlin informed the Advisory Board that there is currently a checklist for initial licensure that outlines the application process. Mr. Heaberlin also stated that an initial grace period was granted to behavior analysts when licensure first became mandatory and that typically, grace periods are not provided for new certificants.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of 2015 Legislation

Ms. Yeatts informed the Advisory Board of bills of interest from the 2015 session of the General Assembly. No action was required.

2. Board of Medicine and BACB Requirements for Continuing Education

Dr. Bethune discussed with the Advisory Board the upcoming change in continuing education requirements for the BACB and stated that the Board of Medicine should adjust renewal requirements to match the continuing education required by the BACB. Ms. Lewis motioned to change the continuing education requirements for renewal to 24 hours (4 of which will be ethics) for behavior analysts, and 20 hours (4 of which will be ethics) for assistant behavior analysts. The motion was seconded and carried. Ms. Yeatts will provide the Registrar of Regulations with a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action.

3. Training requirements and expectations for BCBA's to Provide to their Employees and Supervisees

Dr. Bethune led the Advisory Board in a discussion regarding training and supervision of unlicensed personnel. Dr. Bethune stated that, while no regulations currently require them to do so, all BCBA's utilizing unlicensed personnel should make sure that they are adequately trained. No action was necessary.

4. Licensure Application Issues

Mr. Heaberlin informed the Advisory Board of common licensure issues. Some applicants have worked as a behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst without first obtaining licensure, which delays the process and usually results in disciplinary action. Additionally, the BACB backdates certifications which may make an applicant appear to have been working without a license. Mr. Heaberlin advised that applicants should apply for licensure when they apply to take the BACB certification exam in order to shorten the period between certification and licensure. Dr. Bethune stated that she would contact behavior analysis course providers to encourage them to apply for licensure when they apply to take the BACB certification exam. Ms. Lewis stated that the VABA would contact the BACB to discuss licensure issues to determine if the BACB is willing to adjust its certification process.

Announcements

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There were no announcements.

Next Meeting Date

The Advisory Board's next meeting is June 1, 2015 at 10:00 am.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Keri Bethune, PhD, BCBA-D, Chair

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director

Bradley Verry, Licensing Specialist