

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
December 8, 2011

There is a sizeable body of research evidence that the intensive form of applied behaviour analysis (intensive behavioural intervention, IBI) can be effective in improving the developmental trajectory of young children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), if delivered by trained and supervised staff. Unfortunately, the wait for publically-funded IBI tends to be years.

Recently, we have developed an intervention for families who are waiting for IBI or for children discharged from IBI, but continue to need help. We have called it the *Volunteer Program* because it is staffed by university or college students who are trained and supervised to implement ABA programs for a child with ASD under the direction one of Behaviour Institute's Board Certified Behaviour Analysts. The students volunteer their time. As part of this program, parents and other family members are shown how to implement ABA procedures in the course of everyday situations to improve children's: a) following instructions; b) communication for desired objects or activities; c) simple learning tasks; and, d) self-care skills. We also train parents how to run and supervise their child's programs so that after six months, they would be managed by the parents and Behaviour Institute would no longer be involved.

The purpose of the *Volunteer Program* is to provide both the child with ASD and his/her parents with foundations of ABA during the wait for IBI or if IBI has been terminated. The *Volunteer Program* is not intended as an alternative to IBI. Behaviour Institute has received positive feedback about this program and television coverage of the program can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5jm32pFs9Q>.

The cost of this program is \$9,000.00 for the six-month service to cover the costs of the training and supervision. The *Bursary of Hope For Autism*, based in Hamilton, has kindly donated that sum to allow one family to receive the *Volunteer Program* at no cost to the family. The following are the criteria for a family to receive the funding:

- The child has been diagnosed with ASD
- The child is between one and nine years old
- The child is not currently receiving IBI
- The child lives in Hamilton / Wentworth area

Families interested in applying for the funding should complete the information at the end of this notice and send it by December 20, 2012 to:

Donna Chaney, M.A., BCBA
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Behaviour Institute
57 Young St.
Hamilton, Ontario
L8N 1V1
FAX – (905) 570-0778
chaney@vaxxine.com

I am interested in applying for the funds for the *Volunteer Program*.

Parents Names _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ email _____

Child's Name _____

Child's Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Is your child currently receiving IBI? (yes no) _____

What services is your child receiving currently?

Service	By Whom	How Often
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Why are you interested in access the *Volunteer Program*?
