



"Unlocking Your Child's Journey to Independence"™

SLPBCBA@aol.com

www.dowerandassociates.com

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(703) 330 – 0554

237 Fairview Street, NW
Leesburg, Virginia 20176
(703) 257 - 4841 (fax)

(703) 618-2272 or 703-618-6180 (business cellulars)

24538 Lenah Road
Aldie, VA 20105
(540) 687 – 5412 (Voicemail)

Thank you for contacting Dower and Associates, Inc. regarding ABA services for your child. If you have not already done so, please look at our website www.dowerandassociates.com. Our resource page has helpful information and should help with navigating to find other information.

Currently, we have a 3-6 month wait list for new ABA clients who require weekly services and currently only serve Loudoun, Prince William Counties, Fauquier and Western Fairfax (Centreville, Clifton, Chantilly) Counties in VA. Although this is the current wait time, there is the potential to have an appointment open up sooner. Should you want to be on the waiting list, we will need your contact information (including address), child's date of birth, child's availability for services and the following intake process completed. *(Unfortunately, many times, even if we do have instructors available, the child's schedule prohibits service delivery.)*

If you decide to be placed on the wait list, the new referral/intake process is as follows:

You will be contacted that there is an opening and will be scheduled for an initial one to one-half hour appointment with myself, Nikia Dower, MS, CCC-SLP/L, BCBA® or one of our associates in our Manassas or Leesburg office or in your home. This intake consultation will be "parent only" and involves gathering any previous evaluations, demographics, etc. After the intake consultation, a home and/or school visit, if applicable, will be scheduled to evaluate the child, staff, and parents in the various settings. The visits are followed up with extensive written feedback and recommendations for your family/child. The overall process may take up to six weeks.



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* Autism Home/School Programs- Specialty: Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) with Verbal Behavior Emphasis *

NEW ABA CLIENT INFORMATION

If you would like to be placed on the wait list, please fill out the questions below and send via email at your earliest convenience. **NOTE:** If the child's parents are divorced, we are required to know the legal guardian(s). Please specify joint custody, sole custody, etc. We will require a copy of the legal custody documents to begin services and contact the other parent in joint custody cases for joint participation.

Client Name:

Client Date of Birth:

Parent Name:

Address (include City & Zip):

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

Cell Phone:

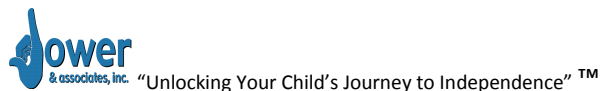
Email address:

Referred By:

Reason for seeking services:

Child's availability for services:

- 1) Is your child in school? If so, list type of program (noncategorical special education, mainstream, autism classroom, etc.)?
- 2) Are you seeking a home based ABA program or more home/school coordination or evaluation of learning needs/placement?
- 3) Are there any specific behavioral concerns (tantrums, self-injury, toileting difficulties, feeding issues, transitions, outings, social skills, etc.)?
- 4) If problem behaviors exist, what is being done now to address them?
- 5) Do you require any special accommodations for services?
- 6) With whom does your child reside with (e.g., parents, mother only, father only, etc.)?



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If you are interested in starting an ABA Home Program, please complete the intake process as well.

ABA/VB Program Intake Process

Prior to Scheduling an Initial Consultation

The following must be completed and sent to:

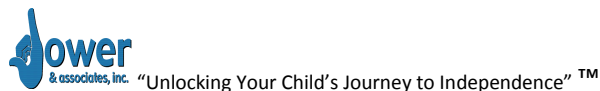
Dower and Associates, Inc.

ATTENTION: Nikia Dower, MS, CCC-SLP/L, BCBA®

25438 Lenah Road

Aldie, VA 20105

- 1. Completed ABA Intake Form** (please email us for the form)
- 2. Completed Confidential Release of Information Form** (please email us for the form)
- 3. Signed Notice of Privacy Policies for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)**
(please email us for the form or download directly from our website)
- 4. Copy of your child's most recent IEP or IFSP**
- 5. Copy of your child's most recent comprehensive evaluations, as well as progress reports**
 - Speech/Language
 - Educational
 - Psychological
 - Occupational
 - Developmental
 - Social-Emotional
- 6. 25-30 minute (VHS) or DVD of your child in a teaching situation**
 - If your child is presently in a home-based ABA program, the tape/DVD should include at least 20 minutes of instruction focusing on different targeted skills in both intensive teaching situations and natural environment teaching
 - If your child not presently in a home-based ABA program, the tape/DVD should include structured and unstructured time with you, teacher, your child's speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist and/or developmental therapist
- 7. Completed Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills™-Revised (ABLLS™-R) or Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (VB-MAPP)** *{Note: Dower & Associates, Inc. can complete these assessments as part of the intake process. Please let us know if you would like our assessment team to conduct the assessment.}*
 - **ABLLS™-R**
 - This can be purchased at www.behavioranalysts.com or www.difflearn.com
 - Send the completed ABLLS™-R grid/chart to the aforementioned address (an Excel document for this will be sent to you by us when you are ready to complete it.)
 - **VB-MAPP**
 - This is scheduled for a publication release date in the summer of 2008. More information about it can be found at <http://www.marksundberg.com/vb-mapp.htm>
 - Send the completed VB-MAPP to the aforementioned address (an Excel document for this will be sent to you by us when you are ready to complete it.)



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8. Attend a workshop entitled “Introduction to Verbal Behavior” by one of the following Board Certified Behavior Analysts™ and send the certificate of completion to Dower and Associates, Inc.

- **Dr. Vincent Carbone, BCBA®** (or one of his associates)
 - For a schedule of workshops, see www.carboneclinic.com
 - **Attendance at Workshop 1 “Introduction to Verbal Behavior”** This workshop focuses on the behavioral approach to teaching communication skills to children with autism and other developmental disabilities. This approach is based on B.F. Skinner’s analysis of verbal behavior and the research of Michael, Sundberg, Partington, and others. Participants in this workshop learn (1) to conduct a Behavioral Language Assessment, (2) to select the most appropriate form of communication for a child (vocal, signing, pointing to or exchanging pictures, or activating an augmentative device), and (3) to select the communication responses and supporting skills that should be taught first. The workshop includes the recommended teaching procedures for those children who have no formal communication skills to those that are near conversational speakers. The presenter also describes and demonstrates errorless teaching, specific quick-transfer (prompting and fading) procedures, and the use of both discrete trial training in the natural environment and during intensive teaching session. Many video tape demonstrations are provided to illustrate the methods to increase spontaneous language and to develop conversational skills. **OR**
 - **Attendance at Workshop 2 “Parent Workshop”** This two-day, hands-on workshop is designed for families who have a child with autism or other related disability and who do not have access to a consultant with skills and experience in the behavioral approach to language and the teaching of basic learner skills. Each family may send a two-person team—typically one parent and the lead therapist. Teams learn to assess their specific child’s needs and develop, implement, monitor, and trouble-shoot an intensive behavioral language and basic learner skill program for their child. The family leaves the workshop with an individualized plan of the language and learner skills to begin teaching immediately, the methods of teaching the skills, data recording procedures, and a list of the progression of specific skills to be taught over several months and even a year’s period of time. Dr. Carbone and usually three (3) Certified Behavior Analyst Associates works continuously with the participants over the two (2) days to develop the final individualized plan. One member of the team must have attended the introductory Workshop #1: Introduction to Verbal Behavior—Teaching Language Skills to Children and Adults With Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities or possess verifiable equivalent skills. Each team needs to bring a completed ABLLS assessment to the workshop along with a five-minute introductory video of their child in learning environments. The number of workshop participants is limited to 15-two person teams or a total of 30 people. This ensures the maximum individual attention and consultation.
 - You may also want to consider purchasing Dr. Carbone’s comprehensive CD seminar set which describes the behavioral approach to teaching communication skills to children with autism and other developmental disabilities as a resource for yourself and your child’s team. The set can be purchased at www.abatoolchest.com



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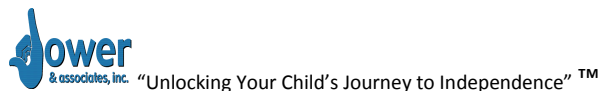
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- In lieu of attending any *Introduction to Verbal Behavior Workshop*, you may also schedule an assessment, initial ABA training and ABA program development from the Carbone Clinic www.carboneclinic.com in Valley Cottage, NY
- **Dr. Mark Sundberg, BCBA®** (or one of his associates)
 - For a schedule of workshops, see www.marksundberg.com
- **Dr. James Partington, BCBA®** (or one of his associates)
 - For a schedule of workshops, see www.behavioranalysts.com
- **Dr. Patrick McGreevy, BCBA®** (or one of his associates)
 - For a schedule of workshops, see www.behaviorchange.com
- **Tom Caffrey, MS, BCBA®**
 - For a schedule of workshops, see www.vbntraining.com, www.thefate.org or email tcaffrey@comcast.net
- **Holly Kibbe, MS, BCBA® and/or Cherish Twigg, MS, BCBA®** (or one of their associates)
 - For a schedule of workshops, see www.establishingoperationsinc.com
 - *You may also want to consider purchasing Establishing Operations, Inc.'s four (4) DVD series on Getting Started, Teaching the Tact, Teaching in the Natural Environment – Manding (verbally), Teaching in the Natural Environment – Manding (with sign language) which are available at www.establishingoperationsinc.com/shop.html*

PLEASE NOTE:

- Completion of all above items ***does not guarantee a start date*** of consultation or treatment from Dower and Associates, Inc.; however, completion of the aforementioned items does move your child's name closer to the top of the waiting list.
- One Dower and Associates, Inc. employee must be on your child's team. This employee must be scheduled to and work directly with your child(ren) at least once weekly for a 1.5 -2.0 hour session.
- We do not provide instructors for other ABA consultants with exception of consultants from The Carbone Clinic, LLC, Establishing Operations, Inc., ICAN of Washington, Inc. and Kids Communicating, LLC.



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BOOKS TO CONSIDER PURCHASING:

- Educating Children With Autism
<http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?isbn=0309072697&page=R1>
- Educate Toward Recovery: Turning the Tables on Autism by Robert Schramm, MA, BCBA®
<http://www.lulu.com/content/425955>
- The Verbal Behavior Approach: How to Teach Children with Autism and Related Disorders by Mary Barbera, BCBA® <http://verbalbehaviorapproach.com/>
- Verbal Behavior Analysis: Inducing and Expanding New Verbal Capabilities in Children with Language Delays by R. Douglas Greer, BCBA® and Denise E. Ross
<http://www.amazon.com/Verbal-Behavior-Analysis-Expanding-Capabilities/dp/0205458378>
- Teaching Language to Children with Autism or Other Developmental Disabilities By Mark L. Sundberg and James W. Partington

LIST SERVS TO CONSIDER JOINING:

- **Verbal Behavior** <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/VerbalBehavior>
- **DTT-NET** <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DTT-NET>
- **P2P (Loudoun County)** <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/P2P-Autism>
- **ASA-NV (Northern Virginia)** <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/ASA-NV>
- **PWCParents (Prince William County)** <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PWCParents>
- **PWCEducation (Prince William County – parent only group)**
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PWCEducation>
- **Fauquier Autism Support Group (Fauquier County – parent only)**
<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/FauquierAutism>

Should you require referrals to other ABA Consultants to assist you, we are happy to provide you a list of resources. Please email us and a document will be sent to you.

Kindest Regards,

Nikia Dower, MS, CCC-SLP/L, BCBA®

President/Director of Dower and Associates, Inc.

Speech and Language Pathologist - Specialty: Language-Learning Disabilities; Autism Spectrum Disorder

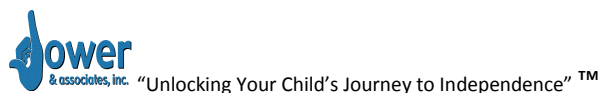
Board Certified Behavior Analyst® - Specialty: Applied Behavior Analysis with an Emphasis in Verbal Behavior; Autism Spectrum Disorder

www.dowerandassociates.com

Loudoun Voicemail: 540-687-5412

Prince William County Office: 703-330-0554

Business Cellulars: 703-618-2272 or 703-618-6180



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