



www.dowerandassociates.com

Dower and Associates, Inc. Newsletter

November 2008: Volume 1, Issue 2

Dower and Associates, Inc. Walk Now for Autism Team Raises Over \$3000.00 For Autism Speaks!

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Workshops

We did it! We participated in the [Washington, DC Walk for Autism Now by Autism Speaks™](#) on November 8, 2008. It was our first major corporate event to help bring awareness to autism and raise funds desperately needed to find a cause for this life long disability.

Many current and former-staff members and their family members walked on what turned out to be a beautiful day. Donations are still being accepted—visit [our walk page](#) to donate.

Our fundraising ideas were a hit! Julie Grumley won 50% off her son’s October 2008 Dower Invoice! Anne Graham won \$310.00 in the 50/50 raffle! Heather Phillips and Steve Wolfson won 3 hours of respite care! Wine tasting at the [Ashburn Wineshop](#) was also a fun event with Heather Phillips winning the door prizes.

All in all, we collected over \$3000.00 for Autism Speaks. We thank each and every one who supported us and Autism Speaks by donating and helping spread awareness about autism.



Dower Walk Team 2008

Nikia, Thea, Alexa, Tina, Jarrett, Isaiah, Jensen, Jessica, Leslie, Krystle, Jeff, Cheri, Dan, Lauren, & TJ



Hope to have many more in 2009!

Latest Happenings

11/11/08: Nikia and Cheri attended “Asperger’s Syndrome” conference in Frederick, MD for ASHA CEUs. The conference speaker was Timothy P. Kowalski, MA, CCC-SLP, a licensed speech-language pathologist and nationally known expert on Asperger’s Syndrome and high-functioning Autism.

11/3/08–11/4/08: Tina, Lily, Amber and Ellyn attended “Managing Problem Behaviors in School and Home Settings” presented by Tom Caffrey, MEd, BCBA in Annandale, VA. This two-day workshop was sponsored by POAC-NOVA and illustrated applying the science of ABA to common problem behavior scenarios for children with autism.

10/25/08: Nikia, Ellyn and Leslie attended the 4th Annual Walk for Autism - Virginia

10/29/08: Cheri attended Practical Therapy Techniques For Challenging Articulation Cases: Frontal Lisp, Lateral Lisp and Disorted “R” in Harrisburg, PA presented by Char Boshart, MA, CCC-SLP.

“Walk Now For Autism” 2008 Pictures



Jensen & Isaiah



Jensen & Krystle



Isaiah & Jessica



Tina, Jarrett, Jensen & Isaiah



Dower Walk Team



Cindy & Nikia



Alexa & Thea



Dan, Cheri, TJ & Lauren



Van, Haley & Jessica



Jensen, Leslie & Isaiah



TJ & Lauren



Jensen



Employment Opportunities

Speech/Language Pathologists (CCC or CFY)

We are hiring SLPs who are VA licensed, behaviorally oriented and trained in several of the following: ABA/VB, DI, PROMPT, LiPS, PT (Precision Teaching) and PRT. Conduct speech and language screenings, evaluations and therapy, provide recommendations, and train parents in teaching techniques. Varied caseload: language-learning disabilities, autism and related developmental disabilities and phonological disorders. Evaluations, therapy and consultations in our offices or client's home/school setting. SLP with BCBA®/BCABA® highly desirable. Pursuit of BCBA®/BCABA® and training in ABA/VB a plus. Strong CFY-SLP candidates with a passion for working with children on the autism spectrum are encouraged to apply. Highly competitive and very negotiable fixed salary or hourly salary based on experience. Benefits for eligible employees in both full and part time positions. Please email your salary requirements, references and resume to: employment@dowerandassociates.com

ABA/VB Instructors (Tutors)

For our ABA/VB home programs located in Prince William, Loudoun and Western Fairfax Counties. Work one-on-one with the children in their homes. Some work occurs in public school settings or private preschool settings. **Training and experience in ABA/VB required.** Ongoing supervision and training by BCBA® provided. Starting hourly salary negotiable depending upon training and experience. Benefits for eligible employees in both full and part time positions. Please email your salary requirements, references, resume **and 15 minute VHS or DVD of you working in ITT and NET with a student to:** employment@dowerandassociates.com

Board Certified Behavior Analyst® (BCBA®) and Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst® (BCABA®)

To assist the Director of Dower and Associates, Inc. To perform functional assessment and analysis, data analysis and graphing, program development and monitoring, coordination of services, supervision of ABA Instructors and the implementation of ABA Programs. Varied caseload: language-learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, autism and related developmental disabilities. Precision Teaching and Direct Instruction experience a plus. **Training and experience in ABA with an emphasis in BF Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior required.** Evaluations and consultations in our offices or client's home/school setting. Competitive salary based on credentials and experience, paid holidays and vacation, CEU allowance, mileage compensation for personal vehicle use, and partial reimbursement for health insurance (if eligible as full-time employee). Benefits for full (salary) and part time (hourly) positions. Please email your salary requirements, references, resume **and 15 minute VHS or DVD of you working in ITT and NET with a student to:** employment@dowerandassociates.com

TIDBITS, INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

Social Skills Groups 2009

Many of you have inquired about our Social Skills Groups for 2008-2009 school year. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer them at this time due to other commitments within the practice. We hope to offer them in Leesburg starting in January 2009 and run the sessions through May 2009. For more information, please [email us!](#)

Staff Requested Days Off

Nikia

- Tuesday Dec 9: Commonwealth Autism Services Board of Directors Meeting, Richmond, VA;
- Wednesday Dec 17– Sunday Dec 28: Vacation to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

Lily

- Friday–Saturday Nov 28-29

Tina

- Wednesday Nov 26 (Afternoon/Evening)
- Friday Nov 28
- Monday Dec 15
- Friday Dec 26
- Friday Jan 2

Jessica

- Wednesday Nov 19
- Friday Nov 28
- Friday Dec 26
- Wednesday Dec 31

Amber:

- Thursday Nov 20
- Wednesday Dec 24
- Friday Dec 26

Ellyn:

- Tuesday Nov 25–Monday Dec 1
- Monday Dec 22–Friday Dec 26

New Email Addresses

Don't forget all Dower and Associates, Inc. staff members email addresses have changed to firstname.lastname@dowerandassociates.com !

Here are other email addresses you may need are:

- billing@dowerandassociates.com
- information@dowerandassociates.com
- behavioranalysisdepartment@dowerandassociates.com
- speechandlanguagedepartment@dowerandassociates.com
- tutoringdepartment@dowerandassociates.com
- respit@dowerandassociates.com
- scheduling@dowerandassociates.com
- workshops@dowerandassociates.com
- campcommunicatewithconfidence2009@dowerandassociates.com
- socialskillsgroups@dowerandassociates.com
- webmaster@dowerandassociates.com

HOLIDAY SCHEDULES

NO SERVICES:

NOVEMBER 2008: All Dower and Associates, Inc. staff members will be off on Thursday, November 27, 2008.

DECEMBER 2008: All Dower and Associates, Inc. staff members will be off on Thursday, December 25, 2008.

JANUARY 2009: All Dower and Associates, Inc. staff members will be off on Thursday, January 1, 2009.

Please email us at scheduling@dowerandassociates.com **by Friday November 21, 2008** to let us know:

- 1) If you want services on FRIDAY November 28, 2008
- 2) Days/times that you want services during the weeks of December 22 and December 29.

It is imperative that we know this sooner than later so that Nikia can work on schedules now, since she will be out of the country with limited access to email from Dec 17–Dec 27.

As always, we will try to cover your child's sessions with another staff member if possible!

UPCOMING ABA WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES IN VIRGINIA/MARYLAND

Pivotal Response Treatment for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

NOVEMBER 18, 2008: One Day Workshop at Virginia Tech Sponsored by the VT Autism Clinic and Autism Speaks . Contact [Angela Scarpa](#) or visit <http://www.psyc.vt.edu/centers/psc/clinics/autism/briefs.html>

Annual Meeting of Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis

DECEMBER 5, 2008: The 11th Annual Meeting of the Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis will be held at the Tremont Grand in Baltimore, Maryland on Friday, December 5, 2008. Visit <http://www.marylandaba.org/meeting.jsp> for more information.

Mini-VB-MAPP Class

FEBRUARY 7, 2009: PVBIA will be offering a “Mini VB-MAPP Class” for those interested. VB-MAPP is the Verbal Behavior Milestone Assessment and Placement Program used for assessing and tracking skills for kids on the autism spectrum. This assessment give you a direction for the intervention and a framework for curriculum planning. Instructors: Dr. Ted Hoch BCBA and Melissa Modarressi Time 10:00am-1:00pm Cost: \$35.00 Visit www.poac-nova.org for more information.

Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis Annual Conference

MARCH 28, 2009: The 5th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis will be held at James Madison University. For more information, visit: www.v-aba.org

Dower and
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*"Unlocking Your
Child's Journey to
Independence"*™

""Through a proper understanding of contingencies of reinforcement, we [educators] should be able to make students eager and diligent and be reasonably sure that they will continue to enjoy the things we teach them for the rest of their lives."

B.F. Skinner, 1968

Dower and Associates, Inc. is a multi - disciplinary private practice with a focus in speech/language, education and behavior analysis with an emphasis in Verbal Behavior.

We are dedicated to evidenced based practices in the education, communication and behavioral treatment of children diagnosed with speech/language delays, language -learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities.

The corporate office is located in Manassas, VA with services delivered throughout Prince William, Loudoun and select regions of Fairfax and Fauquier Counties in Virginia.

Check out our new and improved website!
www.dowerandassociates.com

Our Specialty Areas

- 1) The assessment and treatment of children, adolescents and adults diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and related developmental disabilities utilizing Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and the clinical application of procedures for language acquisition, based on B.F. Skinner's natural science approach to teaching verbal behavior.
- 2) The assessment and treatment of children and adolescents in the areas of receptive and expressive language delays and disorders, learning disabilities, ADD/ADHD, phonemic awareness difficulties, phonological/articulation delays, auditory and language processing disorders, semantic-pragmatic disorder, word finding deficits, reading, spelling and written language problems.