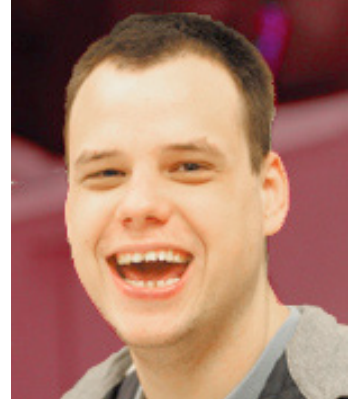


## Functional Behavior Assessments

Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) is a process for gathering information about the cause or function of challenging behavior. This information is used to develop efficient and effective behavioral interventions. Conducting sound Functional Behavioral Assessments not only represents an effective procedure for addressing challenging behavior, but is legally mandated by federal legislation (IDEA Amendments of 1997). The functional assessment process includes the use of questionnaires, rating scales, behavioral observation and functional analysis (systematic environmental manipulation) when appropriate to determine the underlying causes for maladaptive behavior.

Functional Behavioral Assessments are conducted by trained professionals who are experts in the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA,) and are experienced in working with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) as well as other at-risk populations. Depending on the referral concern(s), assessments may be conducted at the DDDC, in the individual's school based and/or home-based program. The outcome of the assessment includes:



- The identification and description of the target behavior
- The identification of antecedents that set the occasion for challenging behavior
- The identification of consequences that maintain challenging behavior
- Summary statements/hypotheses regarding the function of the target behavior
- A written report summarizing the results of the assessment and function-based recommendations for the development of behavior support plan
- A meeting to discuss results and recommendations

For further information on FBAs, please call 732-932-3902.

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