

Presented for LeadingAge March 7-8, 2023

Using BCBAs in Dementia Care: Our Most Difficult Cases

1. Identify the general job duties of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)

2. Recognize how BCBAs use behavioral assessments to determine environmental influences of behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia

3. Describe behavior analytic interventions to decrease challenging behaviors and increase desirable behaviors

Board Certified Behavior Analyst: Practice the science of behavior, whereby behavior is the primary focus of an investigation.

- Study behavior patterns, create individualized plans, improve human conditions using nonpharmacological interventions that are focused on environmental changes in order to enhance quality of life and care services. We decrease challenging behaviors, maintain daily life skills, implement memory and language programs, and prolong independence.
- BCBAs conduct in-home assessments, set family/care team goals, develop and implement plans, and train others (family members, paid caregivers).



Abilities Instructors: Dr. Maranda A. Trahan, PhD, BCBA-D & Amanda Ripley, MS, BCBA www.abilities.today



Presented for LeadingAge March 7-8, 2023

Using BCBAs in Dementia Care: Our Most Difficult Cases

Examples in Practice

Assessment identified lack of access to desirable events (outings, boyfriends) and avoidance of people



Interventions: Access to preferred events, small group activities, access to wine, Prompt hierarchies, Frequent check-ins

Assessment identified lack of access to desirable events independence and escape of memory care v. Meeting iv. GPS. & Move calenda rs. data **Behavior** ii. Ext. sheet Contract friends i. Visit & fam house on plan

Interventions: Access to preferred events, graduated plans for more independence, Visuals, Selfmanagement

