



March 23, 2020

Transitioning ABC of NC Services

We have decided to transition the service delivery model for ALL ABC of NC services to in-home, telehealth, and distance learning. We hope that the more we do now to limit contact, the shorter the duration of these modified services.

1:1 ABA Therapy

Beginning Wednesday, March 25, ABC of NC will be transitioning center-based 1:1 ABA therapy services to a home-based model. NO center-based services will be offered until further notice. We continue to explore the possibility of telehealth for parent training and will keep you informed regarding this additional option.

The following guidelines will be in place for staff delivering home-based services:

- Staff must check their temperature 30 minutes before each session to ensure they do not have a fever. No staff member who is symptomatic — fever, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath — will be allowed to deliver services.
- Staff must follow all blood-borne pathogens training guidelines.
- Staff will call the family before driving to their home and ask the COVID-19 questions we have been asking at the start of each therapy day.

The following guidelines will be in place for families receiving home-based services:

- Families must notify staff as soon as possible if any member of the household is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 — fever, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath. If so, sessions will be canceled for at least 14 days (and then we will reassess).
- A parent or caregiver over the age of 18 must be present in the home during all service delivery.
- Ensure that the learning environment is safe and sanitary according to the CDC's guidelines: [General Recommendations for Routine Cleaning and Disinfection of Households](#)
Community members can practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks) with household cleaners and EPA-registered disinfectants that are appropriate for the surface, following label instructions. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

If you are interested in receiving in-home 1:1 ABA therapy services, please contact Leighellen.Spencer@abcofnc.org to request services and discuss scheduling.

Please note that if a staff member has to cancel a session, we will not be sending a substitute in his/her/their place. The session will be cancelled. However, if a staff member has to be out for an extended period due to symptom presentation, we will do our best to provide another staff member for the home-based services. We cannot guarantee services at any time due to the possibility of limited staff availability.

Counseling Services

We are working to transition our counseling services to a telehealth model. Please stay tuned for more information.

School Services

Governor Cooper has extended the K-12 school closure until May 15. In keeping with this guidance, ABC of NC will be transitioning our Pre-K and K-12 school services to a distance learning model beginning on March 30. Distance learning will continue through May 15. Families will be contacted about the specifics of distance learning later this week. Stay tuned!

Thank you once again for trusting us to safely and efficiently provide services during this crisis. We are working hard to manage this constantly changing situation and will do all that we can to get back to our regular schedule as soon as it's feasible.

As always, feel free to contact [me](#) or [Leigh Ellen Spencer](#) directly if we can provide any additional information. Hoping that you and your families continue to be well.

Selene

Selene Johnson, M.Ed., BCBA
Executive Director