



## Consent for Assessment and Treatment

Dear Parent,

Thank you for choosing Jacob's Promise. Your child will participate in one or more of the following assessments. Please read the description of the assessments and be prepared to give consent at your first appointment.

### **I. Assessment**

A **Functional Behavior Assessment** is a systematic attempt to identify sources of reinforcement for problem behavior. This is accomplished through:

- Anecdotal Methods (FAST)
- Descriptive Analysis (ABC analysis/Interval recording)
- Functional Analysis-Experimental model to identify relations of cause and effect

The purpose of a functional analysis is to identify: (a) situations in which problem behavior is most likely to occur, and (b) strategies that might be effective as treatment. During the assessment, we will observe the individual for brief periods of time (usually 10-15 minutes) in several situations that have been known to produce problem behavior: (a) When attention is unavailable unless problem behavior occurs, (b) when tasks are presented but breaks are given following the problem behavior, and (c) when leisure activities and attention are unavailable (Note Include d, e, etc. and describe additional conditions as necessary). We also will observe the individual when attention and leisure activities are freely available because we have found that this situation is unlikely to produce problem behavior.

We expect that problem behavior will occur during one of the above conditions. This information will be helpful in developing an individualized treatment plan. The primary risk of the assessment may be self-inflicted injuries (only for individuals who have self-injury as a behavior problem), which may be as serious as those caused previously by the individual and may require medical treatment. To prevent serious injuries, it may be necessary to have the individual wear protective devices (e.g., gloves, hats) during sessions. Also, sessions may be stopped, and emergency procedures such as manually holding the individual briefly, may be required to prevent injuries.

The **VB-MAPP** is a criterion-referenced assessment tool, curriculum guide and skills tracking system designed for individuals with language delays. This assessment will determine an individual's current level of communication, barriers that prevent language acquisition, progress throughout treatment, activities that promote communication skills, and guidelines for establishing appropriate IEP goals and individual program design.

**ABLIS-R** is an assessment, curriculum guide, and skills tracking system for children with language delays. The ABLIS-R contains a task analysis of communication and basic skills necessary to function in everyday situations.

## **II. Treatment**

The extent of the services will be determined following an initial assessment. The goal of the assessment is to determine the best course of treatment for your child and family. The supervisor will address targeted goals in a treatment plan.

The potential risks of treatment can include a brief increase in maladaptive behaviors. Though the benefits far outweigh the risks, all parties involved must be consistent in following the treatment plan over a period of time. It will be important to keep all appointments and receive the recommended number of hours. The length of therapy depends on the complexity and severity of behaviors. We strongly encourage parent participation in the treatment plan.

All information obtained during treatment is confidential and will not be released without my consent.

During the course of treatment, it may be necessary for the therapist to communicate with others working with your child. Consent will be obtained from you to do so. There are specific exceptions to maintaining confidentiality and information must be reported to the proper authorities. They are:

1. When information indicates there is risk of imminent danger/harm to you or the child, or to others.
2. When there is suspicion of physical/sexual abuse or neglect of a child or adult, or there is at risk of such abuse or neglect, and
3. When a valid court order is issued for record(s).

I understand that a range of professionals, including those in training may provide behavioral services.