



Meet the Touchstone Team

This month's BCBA is...
Al Tuminello, BCBA, LBA



Al is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and a Licensed Behavior Analyst. He has been with Touchstone for one year, travelling between Baton Rouge and Hammond providing treatment and parent education services. He also works with families to address insurance related issues. Prior to joining Touchstone, Al provided ABA in a variety of capacities across most regions of the state. . He also currently serves on the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board.

After completing graduate school at McNeese State University, Al returned to serve as the director of the McNeese Autism Program for 3 years. Al enjoys spending free time with his wife, as the family experience is very important to him. Helping every member of the family with increased opportunities to have more typical and/or traditional family experiences is very rewarding for Al and one of the aspects he most enjoys about his work with Touchstone.

His personal hobbies are often music related – he is a talented musician – having performed in bands and also hosted a radio show on KBYS in Lake Charles.

Congratulations to Team New Orleans Parents for terrific attendance at the January Monthly Parent Training!



Janice jhuber@tc-aba.com

THIS MONTH'S FAMILY MEETINGS

Houma 2/20 Group Meeting at **8:45am**
New Orleans 2/20 Group Meeting at **5:30pm**
Hammond 2/21 Group Meeting at **5:30pm**
Thibodaux 2/21 Group Meeting at **6:00pm**
Baton Rouge 2/21 Group Meeting at **1:00pm**
Hammond 2/22 **8:00-11:00 am Individual Meetings**
Lafayette 2/26 Group Meeting at **6:00pm**

Group sessions are open to any Touchstone parent or other legal guardian. Other caregivers may attend *with* parents/guardians. Please refrain from bringing children to the group meetings. Individual sessions can be conducted at the centers, in the home, or in the community, and address your child's specific needs.

Join Us! If you are unable to attend the monthly meetings, please contact Angie Lanoux at: alanoux@tc-aba.com to set up individual meetings.

Ask a Behavior Analyst

Question:

Why do I (parent) have goals in my child's treatment plan?

Answer: The effectiveness of changing a child's behaviors across environments (school, home, community...) can be increased by active caregiver participation in training and coaching sessions. Caregiver goals in your treatment plan are related to understanding behavioral principles and strategies, like how to use positive reinforcement. Goals may also include those that are specific to your child. Research indicates that participation in caregiver training can lead to decreased stress, increased optimism, and more effective caregiver strategies in caring for a child with autism. Your BCBA, Angie, Mandi, Carmen, and myself are here to support and provide opportunities to help caregivers reach those goals!
THANK YOU to everyone that completed the Parent Satisfaction Survey! Your input will help us continue to improve our services to our clients.