

### PARENT NEWSLETTER

May 2019

# Meet the Touchstone Team This month's BCBA is... Lori Scott, BCBA, LBA, CABAS T1



Lori is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and a Licensed Behavior Analyst. Lori earned her Bachelor's degree in elementary education and her Master's degree in high incidence disabilities from Nicholls State University. After graduating with her degree in elementary education, she began teaching in the public school system and was committed to learning more about how to best teach her students. Lori entered the Master's program and soon learned that ABA was the "way to go" to best help her students. She has been with Touchstone for nearly three years and currently practices in the Thibodaux location.

Lori loves that ABA is research and data driven; using objective data to know how a client is progressing or if a client has particular skills and using research based tactics to help children acquire new skills.

In her free time she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, and painting. She is also an admitted chocoholic so if you are in the Thibodaux center and need something sweet - she's got a stash!



#### THIS MONTH'S FAMILY MEETINGS

Houma 5/22 Group Meeting at 8:45am Thibodaux 5/22 Group Meeting at 6:00pm Baton Rouge 5/30 Group Meeting at 1:00pm Hammond 5/16 Group Meeting at 5:30pm Hammond 5/17 8:00-11:00 am Individual Meetings Lafayette 5/19 Group Meeting at 2:00pm New Orleans 5/31 Group Meeting at 2:30pm

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:

We want to plan a vacation with our child this summer, what should we consider?

**Answer:** Preparation is the key! Preparing our children with special needs and preparing ourselves. Find out if your destination options are "autism friendly" – What accommodations do they offer? What pre-planning services do they provide? Are staff trained in autism awareness? Are they willing to meet your families' specific needs? We can also help prepare our children for travel by showing them what to expect and when use calendars, pictures, write stories, use daily or event schedules to talk about what's coming next. Written or picture schedules can help children see what's next and gives parents an opportunity to talk about expectations. Most importantly, while travelling, notice and be lavish with your praise and attention when your child is **doing well** – positive reinforcement increases the likelihood your child will do those good things again and it also focuses our attention on the small joys and successes which can contribute to a memorable vacation.

Janice jhuber@tc-aba.com