# COVID-19: What this means for you



Presented by:

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## **About Us**

#### Shira:

- Early childhood classroom teacher turned BCBA
- Director of Behavioral Services in School setting

#### Shayna:

- 20+ years of ABA teaching/training/ programming
- 12 years with BCBA





## **About Us**

- Kid Mechanix:
  - Kid Mechanix Academy
  - Home-Based services
  - School consultations
  - Training and Webinars
- The Bx Resource







## Why We Are Here



Our Goal: To make high-quality ABA programming accessible to as many people as possible.

## Our job is to make yours easier!

~Shayna & Shira



#### What We'll Cover

- How Covid-19 is affecting your business
- Ways to serve your client
- Communication with families



#### **Business as Usual?**

Meanwhile medically necessary ABA direct care staff be like:



## **Updates from BACB**

 https://www.bacb.com/bacb-covid-19updates/?
 utm\_source=eblast&utm\_medium=mailchimp
 &utm\_campaign=COVID19\_ethics\_3.19.20



### **Guidance for Small Businesses**

- In-person events are suspended, but online support is available
  - Parent coaching
  - Direct therapy sessions for those capable
    - IAS
    - Worksheets
    - Check-ins



### **Information for Small Businesses**

- US Small Business Administration
   https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
   <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html</a>
- Create your own health and safety flyer
   <a href="https://www.uschamber.com/sites/default/files/coronavirus customizable flyer-final.pdf">https://www.uschamber.com/sites/default/files/coronavirus customizable flyer-final.pdf</a>

## How Small Businesses Can Prepare for COVID-19

- Source:
  - https://www.score.org/blog/how-small-businesses-can-prepare-for-coronavirus
- The following slides are info from this website



## Stay on Top of the News

- It seems to be changing hour by hour these days!!
- World Health Organization
- Center for Disease Control



## **Identify Key Functions and Risks**

- If you already have a disaster plan, use it
  - We didn't!!!!!
- How will you stay open if:
  - Staff are scared
  - Half the staff are out because they are caring for family members
  - Can you outsource? Train someone quickly?
  - Which employees have the critical skills that can't be replaced?

https://www.score.org/blog/how-small-businesses-can-prepare-for-coronavirus

#### Plan for Absenteeism

- Cross train employees, supervisors, managers to cover others' jobs
- Any staffing service available to bring on temporary workers?
- Identify positions that could work from home or be outsourced

## **Keep Your Workplace Safe**

- Practice basic hygiene
- Provide plenty of tissues and hand sanitizer
- Disposable gloves, disinfectant wipes
- Clean surfaces regularly
- Rearrange work spaces for social distancing
  - Is this even possible in your line of work?
- Daily temperature tests of staff and parents/ clients?

https://www.score.org/blog/how-small-businesses-can-prepare-for-coronavirus

## **Watch for Symptoms**

- Symptoms: Fever, cough, shortness of breath
- If workers have mild cold or flu symptoms, send them home
- If an employee is sick at work, sanitize their work area after they go home

## **Work Remotely**

- Is it even possible?
- HIPAA compliant video conferencing





- Online parent coaching
- Online therapy can it be done?

## **Check Your Coverage**

- Business interruption insurance
- Covers income lost when due to natural disaster
- However, typically there needs to be physical damage to the business
- Talk to your insurance representative re: coverage if COVID-19 forces temporary closure

## **Communicate Continually**

- Communication is key to preventing panic
- Ensure that employees and clients clearly understand the reasons for any policies you implement
- Consider the type of communication
  - Sometimes phone calls are better than email
  - "in-person" (i.e., online conferencing) better than old school phone call?
  - 1:1 or group calls?
  - Website communication? Social media?

- www.psychnet.apa.org/fulltext/ 2017-51612-001.html
- Virtual-Care Delivery of Applied Behavior Analysis to Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Related Conditions

- https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/ special-topics/emergency-preparedness/notificationenforcement-discretion-telehealth/index.html
- Skype for business
- Updox
- Vsee
- Zoom for healthcare
- Doxy.me
- Google G suite hangouts meet

- The Daily BA with Tina Patterson
- https://www.thedailyba.com/episodes/ 2020/0317/telehealth-aba-services-w/-tinapatterson-med-bcba-lba?
   fbclid=lwAR0hd879Xh9ARoCUAqwAvd\_Ax\_LK
   Cp5R-bV2Zpjq HOlfFm6AfaU-ieuhvk

- Don't save video files
- Turn off the cloud
- Back up files on hard drive (once a week)
- Consider VPN



### The Bx Resource



https://www.bxresource.howtoaba.com



## **Questions/Comments**



