



# PROVIDER ALERT



Alert #15 – 7-24-2008 – HCAL, HCY/A, HCB, HCCH, HCNE, HCNC, HCMP

## FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT TRAINING FOR BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST CONSULTANTS

Effective July 1, 2008, the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) has implemented a new program requirement for HealthChoices Behavioral Health contractors to create a network of Behavior Specialist Consultants (BSC) who have completed training in Functional Behavioral Assessment. It is the expectation of OMHSAS that by January 1, 2009, all BSCs who serve children with developmental disorders, such as autistic disorder and other pervasive developmental disorders, will have completed this specialized training.

In order to qualify, BSCs must complete the Functional Behavioral Assessment training provided by the Bureau of Autism Services, or complete one of the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) certification programs offered by a university (University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, Lehigh University before 2006, Saint Joseph's University, Mercyhurst College, East Stroudsburg University and Penn State University).

Community Care will be requesting information related to BSCs who have completed the Functional Behavioral Assessment training on a quarterly basis from all BHRS contracted providers.

Please complete the attached form for all BSCs employed within your agency or practice who have completed the Functional Behavioral Assessment training or the Board Certified Behavior Analyst credential programs. **Please return the completed forms and a copy of each individual's FBA verification of certification on or before August 8, 2008 to the following address:**

**Community Care Behavioral Health Organization  
One Chatham Center  
Suite 700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Attn: Bertha Sager**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Provider Relations Representative at 1-888-251-2224.