

Staff training

There are a number of inexpensive, off-the-shelf trainings available, which are appropriate for different levels of employees, from new hires to house managers. Here is a listing of those Autism Housing Pathways feels would be appropriate for each level:

- New hires:
 - AHP’s introductory videos, “Learning about reinforcement”, “Learning about visual supports”, and “Learning about sensory regulation” are available for free on line at <http://autismhousingpathways.org/services/training-and-outreach/#Support>. Each has a multiple choice pre- and post-test. We will be developing another video, on characteristics of autism.
- Direct staff, within 3 months of starting work:
 - Autism Certification Center, a program of the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence, offers a two part program (“Many Faces of Autism” and “Transition Age”) that collectively provide 12 hours of online instruction. The cost is \$90 for 6 months of access. Go to: <http://autismcertificationcenter.org/>.
 - Quality Behavioral Competencies, basic series, is a set of 10 self-paced modules on Applied Behavioral Analysis. It is designed to teach individuals who have only a GED to implement basic behavioral strategies under the supervision of a behaviorist. (There is also a 9 module Positive Behavioral Supports edition.) The cost is \$25 per person for materials. QBC is taught by a coach, who has received a two-day training. The cost to train the coach is \$525. QBC is available through Quality Behavioral Solutions in North Attleboro, <http://www.qbscompanies.com/site/training/quality-behavioral-competencies>.
- Assistant house managers:
 - Quality Behavioral Competencies, advanced series’.
 - AGI Residential / Daily Living Support Course: This is a comprehensive training, including sensory issues, visual supports, etc. It was developed by the Autistic Global Initiative (AGI), a project of the Autism Research Institute, in consultation with a number of specialists in the field, and with funding from Autism Speaks. AGI is a group of individuals with autism, who have developed a range of training materials. (Disclosure – AHP

president Catherine Boyle participated in the development of the AGI materials, but does not receive any ongoing compensation for using the course.) Information is available at:

<http://www.autism.com/adults/agi-curriculum>

- House managers:
 - QBC coach training, in both the basic and advanced series’.
 - Relias Learning offers a 40 hour online training to help agencies qualify staff for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board’s Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) credential. Autism Housing Pathways highly recommends the RBT credential for house managers. This course comprises online, interactive, video-based training. The cost is variable, depending upon your training needs. <https://www.reliaslearning.com/registered-behavior-technician-rbt-training>

Staff who have received the above trainings, and are working under a clinician who is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, would be well-qualified to implement positive behavioral supports, and have a basic understanding of sensory regulation and the use of visual supports. AHP has reviewed a number of other trainings, but feels these are the trainings best suited to staff who may speak English as a second language, and are working with adults in a residential setting.

To find a BCBA in Massachusetts, go to <http://info.bacb.com/o.php?page=100155>

For those interested in Higashi’s Daily Life Therapy, NuPath and the Charles River Center are vendors that work with Higashi on training.