

# CAREGIVER'S CORNER



OCTOBER 2023



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# BFS NEWSLETTER



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BFS HOPES YOU HAVE A



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!





BHCOE Accreditation has recognized Behavioral Family Solutions with a 2-Year Accreditation, acknowledging the organization as a behavioral service provider dedicated to continuous improvement in applied behavior analysis. BHCOE Accreditation recognizes behavioral health providers that excel in the areas of clinical quality, staff qualifications and consumer satisfaction and promote systems that enhance these areas. These areas are measured with a wide-ranging audit, including interviews with agency clinical leadership, in-depth on-site observation, a detailed staff qualification review, an anonymous staff satisfaction survey and an anonymous consumer satisfaction survey.

BHCOE Accreditation is the only applied behavior analysis (ABA)-specific accreditation. It provides feedback regarding clinical best practices, staff satisfaction and turnover, and consumer protection. Acting as a third-party, the organization systematically measures and reports on existing quality criteria in the behavior analysis community using standardized methods and practices, and accredits only those service agencies that meet these standards.

#### About BHCOE Accreditation

BHCOE Accreditation is a trusted source that recognizes behavioral health organizations committed to continuous quality improvement. BHCOE offers a third-party measurement system that differentiates and provides independent feedback on clinical quality indicators. The BHCOE criterion features standards that subject-matter experts developed to measure effective applied behavior analysis services. For more information, please visit [www.bhcoe.org/standards](http://www.bhcoe.org/standards).



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NEXT TIME YOU THINK OF BOO-TIFUL THINGS,  
DON'T FORGET TO COUNT YOURSELF IN  
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# JINKIES!

Halloween is an exciting night of fun for kids and adults alike, but we understand that it may not be the most fun for children susceptible to overstimulation and sensory sensitivity. We've got you covered with tips on how to make Halloween fun and safe for your kiddo as the festivities return physically this year!





Keep it comfy! Avoid scratchy costumes and stick to DIY costumes using fleece hoodies or pajamas

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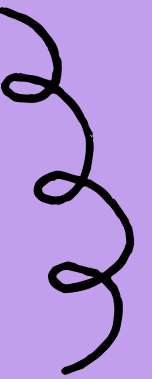
Try to avoid masks and face-painting

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Have your kiddo try on their costume in advance and practice wearing it at home

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Carry an extra change of clothes with you on Halloween night in case your kiddo becomes uncomfortable and wants to take off their costume



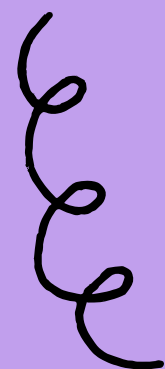


Create a visual story of what Halloween may be like, with pictures or drawings

If need be, limit the amount of time spent out or the number of places your kiddo will visit

If your kiddo has difficulty communicating, have them pass out little cards to the people giving out treats. Use this as an opportunity to spread awareness!

Bring along useful supplies like a flashlight for safety, earplugs to block out loud noises, or their favorite item for comfort







## TRICK OR TREATERS

If you're worried that trick-or-treaters might be overwhelming for your kiddo or that they might come too late, leave a basket of treats on your porch with a note letting them know not to ring your doorbell.

Practice greeting people at the door and giving out candy\*

It's okay to cut things off early! Turn off your porch light and lock your door once your kiddo's had enough!



\*REHEARSALS & ROLE-PLAYING WORK FOR RECEIVING CANDY, TOO!



When it's time to dig into all their hard-earned candy, make sure to monitor treats for dietary restrictions or allergens

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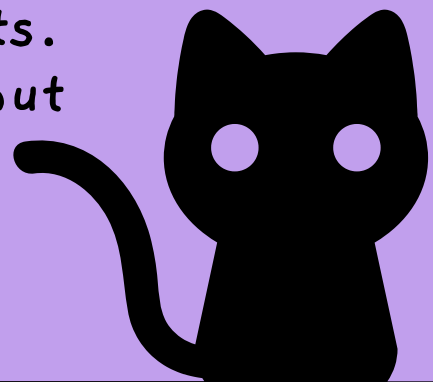
Avoid overindulgence by letting them pick out one treat a day to have as a snack or after a meal

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Let your kiddo keep their favorite candy and trade the rest for small gifts, extra play-time, or other small privileges

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Some of your neighbors might also be concerned about sweets. Plan with them to hand out pre-packaged snacks, stickers, small toys, or other non-food treats!





## The Teal Pumpkin Project

FARE (Food Allergy Research & Education) proposed this project as a simple way to make trick-or-treating safer and more inclusive for children with food allergies, intolerances, and other conditions. Placing a teal pumpkin basket on your front porch signals that you are offering non-food treats that are safe for your trick-or-treaters!

**READ MORE**



## TACA's Trick-or-Treating Cards

The Autism Community in Action (TACA) offers "I Have Autism" cards that your kiddo can hand out while trick-or-treating if they're nonverbal or have trouble with communication. You can buy them at the link below or use them as inspiration to make your own!

**READ MORE**



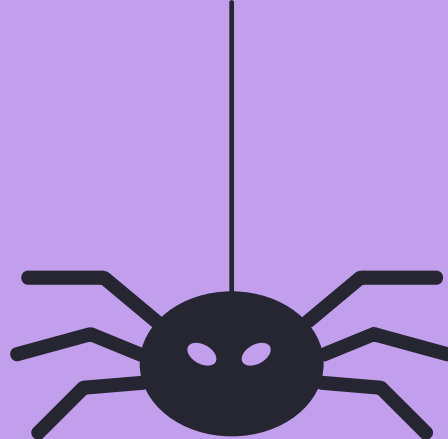


# **We're Hiring!**

- **Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs)**
- **Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)**

**Servicing the Miami-Dade, Broward, & Palm Beach Counties**

**Apply now at [www.behavioralfamilysolutions.com/careers!](http://www.behavioralfamilysolutions.com/careers!)**

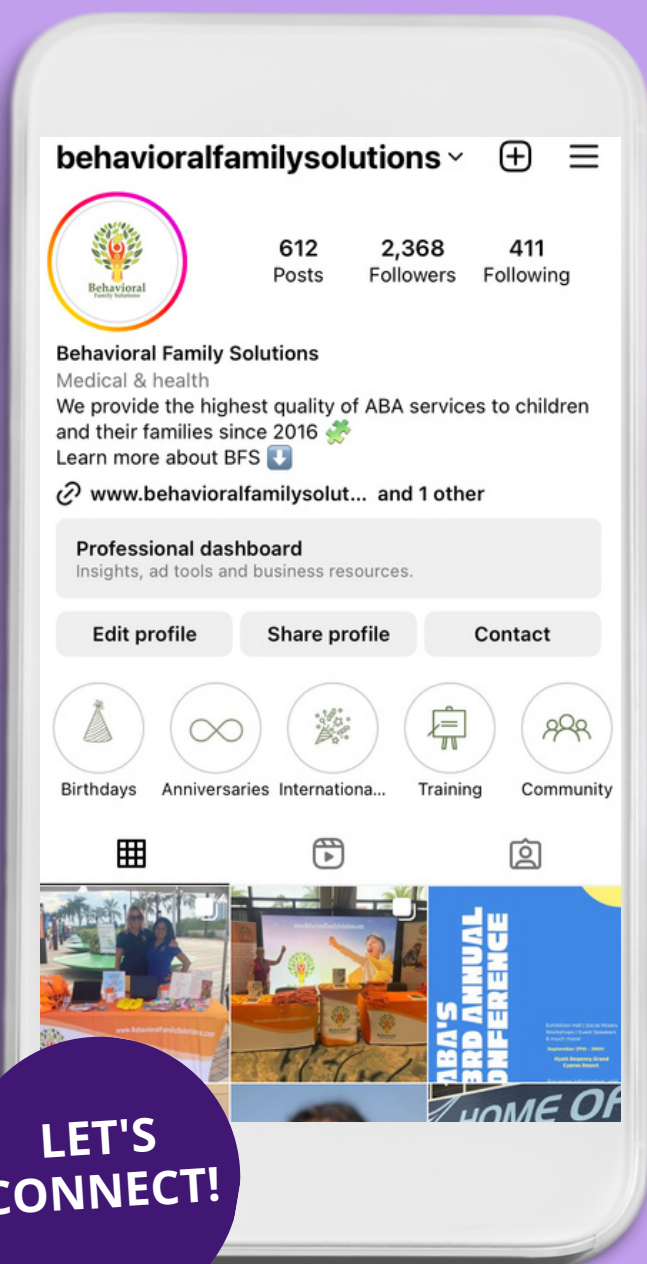


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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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