

Autism Spectrum Disorder is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by dysfunction in social emotional development. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, in 2020 1 in 59 children have been diagnosed with autism in the United States. There are no pharmacological treatments for autism spectrum disorder and individuals are recommended to receive various therapeutic and rehabilitative medical services such as applied behavioral analysis, speech therapy, occupational therapy, developmental, educational, social social-relational, cognitive behavioral therapy, and complementary/alternative therapy services. The American Pediatric Association recommends that children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder receive ABA therapy 40 hours weekly, which has been deemed the “gold standard” for recommended medical services. The objective of the community engagement experience was to research, collect, and summarize literature regarding the use of ABA therapy as a treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder, to become Certified as a Behavioral Technician, and to gain firsthand experience in the field of ABA therapy.