

## Compassion in Practice

- Dr. Aurelia Ribeiro, PhD, BCBA-D

### **Abstract:**

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) has attracted a growing number of people seeking a career as a practitioner, supervisor, or behavior analyst. Regardless of the level of training, the focus is generally on the concepts and technical skills of professionals, with little or no emphasis on the relationship with clients and their caregivers. This gap can have a negative impact on treatment and has led to discussions about the need to expand the skills of professionals in the field (Taylor et al, 2018). Compassion has been identified as a fundamental skill in this relationship with consumers of our services, and has even been suggested as the eighth dimension of ABA (Penny et al, 2023).

In this presentation, we will define compassion and discuss different ways to practice compassion, both in our clinical practice and in collaboration with other professionals.

### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Aurélia Ribeiro, certified BCBA-D, holds a master's and doctorate in Applied Behavior Analysis from the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT). With over 14 years of experience, she works in several areas, including direct work with children and adolescents with autism, research coordination, training and supervision of professionals, and consulting in clinics. Dr. Aurélia has presented her research at conferences in the United States and is a co-author of articles published in international journals. She currently works with children and adolescents with ASD in the US and Brazil, supervises professionals and is a co-instructor of TBW in the preparatory course for the QASP-S. 😊

