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# VABA DEI SPECIAL EDITION

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## NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 | 11/2025



**VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION  
FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS**



**WELCOME TO THE  
SECOND EDITION OF THE  
VABA DIVERSITY, EQUITY,  
AND INCLUSION (DEI)  
COMMITTEE  
NEWSLETTER!**

We're thrilled to bring you the second edition of our DEI Committee newsletter. In this issue, you'll find a recap of recent DEI projects, highlights of ongoing initiatives, and upcoming opportunities to get involved. As always, we value your input and would love to hear what content you would like featured in future editions. Please send your suggestions to [dei@virginiaaba.org](mailto:dei@virginiaaba.org).

# ACTIVE DEI PROJECTS

We are excited to share the projects we're currently working on, each designed to enhance DEI efforts within VABA and the broader behavior analytic community in Virginia:



- **October CEU:** If you missed October's training on "Supporting LGBTQ+ Clients and Their Families for ABA Practitioners" (1 CEU), be sure to log in and catch up!
- **Committee Leadership:** Meet our Board Liaison, **Scott Larson-McGuire**, who supports the committee in advancing DEI initiatives across the association.
- **Collaboration with other VABA Committees:** Our committee is actively building collaborative relationships with other VABA committees to strengthen our collective impact. Stay tuned for upcoming joint initiatives, events, and sponsored programs designed to enhance member engagement and cross-committee connection.



# UPCOMING WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- **January Safe Spaces:** Join us for our next Safe Spaces open discussion on Self-Care. We will meet on January 7th at 2:30 pm. This is an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations and share experiences in a supportive environment.
- **Next Newsletter:** Look for our February 2026 issue, which will include full conference details, scholarship highlights, and more ways to get involved.

# CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AND WELLNESS

We'd like to give a shout out to Sarah DiGioia, BCBA, LBA and Roland Scheppske, LPC on their presentation "Supporting LGBTQ+ Clients and their Families for ABA Practitioners."

The presentation provided an overview of LGBTQ+ terminology, reviewed empirically based therapies, and how they might be incorporated into behavior analytic framework.



If you'd like to take a look at Sarah and Roland's presentation or any past webinars you can access all VABA webinars by visiting:  
<https://virginiaaba.org/past-webinars/>



# RESOURCES

### Featured Article

We recommend Conners et al. (2019): [Future Directions of Training and Fieldwork in Diversity Issues in Applied Behavior Analysis](#). This article explores future training recommendations that can be used to produce culturally competent professionals in the field of ABA.



## WANT TO JOIN?

If you'd like to know more about the VABA DEI committee or you're interested in joining please contact [dei@virginiaaba.org](mailto:dei@virginiaaba.org).  
All are welcome!



For additional information related to DEI, please refer to VABA's DEI website: [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at VABA VA ABA - Virginia Association For Behavior Analysis](#)



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