



Potential, Inc.

170 Pheasant Run #100

Newtown, PA 18940

[potentialinc.org](http://potentialinc.org)

Non-Profit  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
West Chester PA  
Permit #66

### Follow Us!

[Facebook.com/potentialinc](https://www.facebook.com/potentialinc)

[PotentialInc](https://www.instagram.com/potentialinc)

[PotentialInc](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq1n1v1v1v1v1v1v1v1v1v1)



Benjaminyn Ballard, Potential's Operations Manager, is just one of the "People of Potential" featured to date.

## Meet the People of Potential

Anyone who follows Potential's Facebook or Instagram pages may have noticed the weekly staff profiles that started appearing in early February. This "People of Potential" feature was created to help our client families and followers get to know a little more about our team members who work in the foreground and behind the scenes at Potential. We hope that you enjoy learning about our staff!



## Save the Date

### March

3 Parent Training – Central Reach Training

21 Annual Spring Gala "Saturday Night Fever"

### April (Autism Awareness Month)

6 Staying Safe: Autism and First Responders

25 Potential Clean Up

### May

14 Bobby Newman Training - Ethics CEs

16 Playground Opens for the summer  
(playdate)

### June

13 5th Annual Car Show for Autism

### August

4 Parent Training – Building  
Communications

24–28 Potential Staff Training Week

### November

3 Parent Training – Surviving the Holidays

# Potential Perspectives

WINTER 2020



## BAT-Act Stalled – Join Us in Support of this Legislation

It's been more than three months since a group of 70 Potential representatives, including staff, parents, clients/students and donors, participated in a rally and press conference supporting the Better Access to Treatment Act (BAT-Act) at the State Capitol in Harrisburg. And while we wish we could say that progress has been made...we unfortunately cannot.

At present, the BAT-Act, which was put forth in Pennsylvania last year, is receiving overwhelming support in committee review with 21 of 25 members of the professional licensure committee not only supporting the act but signing on as co-sponsors as well.

Though the bill is expected to receive strong bi-partisan support in both the House of Representatives and Senate, the date to move the bill out of committee has been postponed due to opposition from Governor Tom Wolf. Despite meeting all the criteria he has set forth in his priorities, the governor opposes the bill because overall, he wants to streamline government. While this may be a good idea in some areas, neglecting to license professionals that work with such a vulnerable part of the population is not one of them.

The BAT-Act, which seeks to require licensure for Behavior Analysts in Pennsylvania, will develop an oversight board and set minimum training,

*Continued on next page.*

If one was to judge a year based on first impressions, then 2020 is going to be filled with excitement.

January got off to a great start with the state-wide roll-out of the new Intensive Behavioral Health Services model, which brings the promise of increased availability and access to services for the autism community.



Locally, at Potential, we saw our "Buy the Bus" campaign crest the \$7,500 mark at the start of February. With the support of our families, donors, staff and community, we're optimistic that we'll reach our fundraising goal by mid-year. We're also celebrating the launch of our newsletter *Potential Perspectives*. This has been a long-standing goal for us, and we're thrilled to have another means by which we can communicate with you.

Within this first issue, you'll read about our continuing work to advance the role of Applied Behavior Analysts in Pennsylvania through the BAT-Act bill, and what you can do to help move this legislation forward. You'll also learn about all the exciting things that have taken place at Potential over the past few months as well as the events and activities that are coming up. Be sure to mark your calendar!

It's my sincere hope that you'll enjoy reading *Potential Perspectives* and that it will serve as a valuable communication tool. Should you have any questions, thoughts or feedback that you'd like to share about this newsletter or our organization, please don't hesitate to contact me at [kquinby@potentialinc.org](mailto:kquinby@potentialinc.org). Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Potential.

Sincerely,

*Kristine Quinby*

Kristine Quinby, MEd, BCBA, LBS  
Founder, President and CEO  
Potential, Inc./Springtime School





Guided by Our Values

An organization’s values are the compass that guides the actions of every single person within a company—from the CEO to the front-line team. With that in mind, we have created a clearly defined, robust Values Statement for Potential.

This Values Statement was created with the help of staff members and mirrors the values that leadership has been working to instill within Potential:

**Values Statement:** At Potential, we have respect for people and show compassion through teamwork and integrity.

**Respect** – high regard for others’ feelings, rights, and cultural traditions

**Compassion** – demonstrating empathy and support for co-workers, clients and their families

**Teamwork** – supporting each other at all times in order to achieve a common goal

**Integrity** – acting in an honest and ethical manner

We are pleased to offer the highest level of commitment to these values in order to provide our clients with the best possible experience.

Continued from previous page.  
BAT-Act Stalled – Join Us in Support of this Legislation

- experience, and continuing education standards for licensed professionals. In doing so, the act will:
- » create jobs and increase the number of Behavior Analysts working in the state
  - » improve access to treatment for underserved areas
  - » protect consumers from fraudulent and underqualified providers
  - » improve access to qualified care

Over 30 states already license Behavior Analysts and others are rapidly moving in that direction. Potential is committed to supporting the BAT-Act by attending rallies in support of the act and by partnering with ABA in PA in both a financial and volunteer capacity.

We’re asking that you join us in supporting the BAT-Act by contacting Governor Wolf directly and telling him how important this licensure is in protecting those receiving services. A personalized handwritten letter, phone call or email is the best way to have our voices heard and get the BAT-Act moving again. For his contact information, please visit [www.governor.pa.gov/contact](http://www.governor.pa.gov/contact).

For more information about the BAT-Act, please visit [BAT-Act.com](http://BAT-Act.com).

BHRS Transitions to IBHS in 2020

Throughout 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services will transition from the current Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS) system to a new model called Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS). The new IBHS system represents a fresh start and a win for the autism community as it replaces an outdated system that was created more than 30 years ago.

Under the new IBHS system, **there will be no change in the services that your loved one currently receives from Potential.** In fact, this transition will increase availability and improve access to more services.

IBHS will also bring improvement in training and staffing. Potential is already ahead of the curve with all IBHS requirements in this area.

For more information about the new IBHS system visit <https://bit.ly/2vNC10E>.

Potential Hosts CentralReach Portal Training

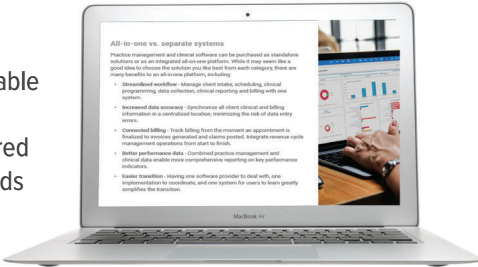
In an effort to provide consistent, open, reliable communication with our families and to meet compliance requirements, Potential will begin using CentralReach as the primary means for communicating client-related information as of mid-March.

To help all our families become comfortable with the CentralReach system, we are hosting a mandatory portal training session at Potential on March 3rd from 6:30 – 8 p.m.

The training session will teach users how to login to their portal, access, review, and sign session notes electronically, use the features in CentralReach to communicate with your student’s team, and set-up important notifications for your family.

Babysitting will be available during the session, and pre-registration is required so we can meet the needs of those attending. Refreshments will also be available. Please be sure to bring your portable device (smartphone, iPad, laptop, etc.) along so that you can participate in the training.

To register go to [www.potentialinc.org/CR](http://www.potentialinc.org/CR). If you have any questions regarding the training, please contact [bballard@potentialinc.org](mailto:bballard@potentialinc.org).



Santa Visit to Potential Brings Joy and Last-Minute Gift Requests

Santa made a special trip from the North Pole in mid-December to meet with children and adults at Potential. Delighted by the unexpected (and early) visit, many took the opportunity to get in some last-minute gift requests and high fives before Santa had to hurry back home.



New to Our Team!

Potential is thrilled to have added several new members to our team over the past six months. Please join us in welcoming the following individuals:

- » Katharine Bennett
- » Amanda Camp
- » Robert Cullen
- » Christine Desjardins
- » Haley Diener
- » Sarah Gleason
- » Lauren Goodwin
- » Emily Hammer
- » Stephanie Heppard
- » Kenyonna Jackson
- » Ryan Lepard
- » Janeen Levine
- » Sonia Maryam
- » Aksa Mathew
- » Carly Moore
- » Barbara Nelson
- » Merlin Philip
- » Katelyn Plunkett
- » Evan Ravkin
- » Dayna Scavo
- » Christina Semanchik
- » Heather Shiel

**INTERESTED IN JOINING POTENTIAL’S STAFF?**  
We offer a nurturing, fun environment that allows our team members to grow personally and professionally through training, supervision and support, while earning a respectable living. Learn more about the benefits and opportunities available at Potential by visiting: [www.potentialinc.org/careers](http://www.potentialinc.org/careers).

Potential Presents: Saturday Night Fever!

Join Potential on Saturday, March 21 from 6 – 11 p.m. as we groove on back to the days of disco during our annual spring gala. This year’s theme, “Saturday Night Fever” promises an evening of far out fun featuring food, drinks, auctions, games, and more. Break out the bell bottoms, platforms and feathered hair for our people’s choice “Best Dressed of the 70’s” contest. Dancing more your thing? Well get down with our dance instructors who will help you boogie the night away. We’ll also celebrate the 2020 recipient of the annual Autism Caring Excellence (ACE) award, given each year to a local hero in the autism community.

This year’s event will take place at Rafters (101 Friends Ln., Newtown, Pa) and proceeds will benefit Potential’s “Buy the Bus” fundraising campaign. To learn more or purchase tickets visit <https://tinyurl.com/snftickets>.



Buy the Bus Campaign Nearing Critical Milestone

It’s been just two months since Potential launched its ambitious Buy the Bus campaign and already, more than \$7,500 has been raised. This puts us within striking distance of \$10,000—one-fifth of our \$50K goal! To get there, however, we need your help.

At Potential, we dream of providing our children and adults with enriching, life-changing experiences. Unfortunately, because we don’t have a dedicated vehicle for transporting our clients, we are limited in what we can offer. By supporting this campaign you will be helping Potential purchase a bus that will expand opportunities for our clients which otherwise are not possible. Field trips, community events and other therapeutic skill-based outings will help our clients gain social skills, a sense of independence and exposure to opportunities and environments they might not otherwise encounter.

Please consider donating today at <https://tinyurl.com/buythebus>. Thank you for your generosity and for helping us expand our clients’ world.

