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## Joni and Friends

### **OUR VISION**

"A world where every person with a disability finds hope, dignity, and their place in the body of Christ."

New England Area Ministry 370 Merrimack Street, Suite 115 Lawrence, MA 01843 (978) 620-0606 www.joniandfriends.org/new-england



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## **FAMILY RETREAT**

Week 1: June 18-22 Week 2: August 13-17 Week 3: August 20-24

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## CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL NEEDS AND CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS ARE:

- · Created in the image of God.
- · First and foremost, children.
- In need of love, respect and guidance from the adults in their lives.
- · An intimidating group.
- · Made up of more boys than girls.
- · Worthy of love and attention.



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# CAUSES OF EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS

- Genetics
- · Childhood illness
- · Abnormalities in the brain
- · Inherited predispositions
- Early traumatic experiences
- · Chemical imbalances
- · Learned inappropriate behavior
- · Sensory problems
- · Comorbidity with a disability

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### **COMMON BEHAVIORAL CLASSIFICATIONS**

- · Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)
- Anxiety disorder (obsessive-compulsive disorder, phobias, panic disorder, post traumatic stress disorder, eating disorder, reactive attachment disorder)
- Anxiety
- · Bipolar disorder
- Depression
- · Oppositional-defiant disorder (ODD)
- · Conduct disorder



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## **BEHAVIOR**

"All Behavior is Communication"

2 Types of Behavior:

Expected or Unexpected (based on social expectations)



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# FOUR FUNCTIONSOF BEHAVIOR 1. ATTENTION



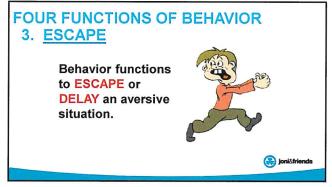
Negative or positive attention is still attention



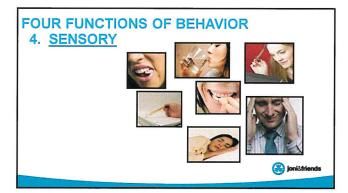




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### CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS

Challenging Behaviors occur for many reasons – but the majority of behaviors reflect:

- · Poor choices and decision making
- · Social misunderstanding
- · Communication frustrations
- · Discomfort in the physical environment
- Anxiety
- · Intense preoccupations and interests



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### POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

A behavior is followed immediately by the presentation of a stimulus and, as a result, occurs more often in the future. Examples:

- Turning the ignition key to the right to start the car is maintained because the engine has started in the past after this behavior.
- A child's independent play is said to be reinforced when it increases as a result of his parents' giving praise and attention when s/he plays.



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### **NEGATIVE REINFORCEMENT**

The termination of certain aversive stimuli immediately following a response, that results in an increase in the future probability of that behavior. Examples:

- When it is cold outside, the behavior of bundling up in warm clothing is reinforced by the termination of the too-cold stimulus.
- The child whose behavior increases as a result of being separated or isolated from the group.



# PRINCIPLES THAT PROMOTE EXPECTED BEHAVIOR

- · Model Expected Behaviors
- Provide reminders proactively
- · Make your rules realistic and clear
- · Use non-verbal communication
- · Refocus attention to another task
- · Redirect to the activity
- Reinforce cooperation, successes, expected behaviors, positive attitudes



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# PRINCIPLES THAT PROMOTE EXPECTED BEHAVIOR

- · Team effort between teacher and student
- · Requires DO'S and don'ts
- · Examine your purpose control vs. engagement
- Individualize
- · Avoid anger and remain calm
- · Reinforce expected behavior



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"Change the way you see things, and the things you see will change."

