

## TESTIMONY for BETHEL COMMITTEE 4/21/23 @945 am

### Outline:

1. Who is **Kansas Behavior Supports** - home-based services agency providing ABA therapy throughout the state of Kansas. Most of our services are serving clients in rural areas.  
([www.kansasbehavior.com](http://www.kansasbehavior.com))
  
2. **The 2021 Autism Task Team January 28, 2022**– Report to the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services – confirms the challenges and some of the recommendations needed for services.  
**\*2022-2023 Immediate Action:** Incentivize Providers and Increase Rates
  
3. Challenges faced in providing these services –
  - a. travel and mileage associated for technicians to travel to and between clients
  - b. ongoing resources and training for technicians and supervisory staff
  - c. ability to hire higher education staff that are between technician and supervisory educational level
  - d. the efforts and work involved behind the scenes (i.e. case management/scheduling/follow up) that is not billable due to not being present with the client
  
4. Challenges faced by families –
  - a. Wait lists for the Autism Waiver and the I/DD Waiver (Intellectual /Developmental Disability)
  - b. Wait lists to have ABA across Kansas
  
5. Reimbursement Rates for ABA Codes - How Kansas ranks compared to Midwest states:
  - a. **Kansas Medicaid pays 97153 \$11.75/unit (\$47.00/hour)**
  - b. **Nebraska Medicaid 97153 pays \$35.06/unit (\$140.24/hour)**
  - c. **Iowa Medicaid 97153 pays \$16.34/unit (\$65.36/hour)**
  - d. **Oklahoma Medicaid 97153 pays \$17.35 (\$69.40/hour)**
  - e. **Missouri Medicaid 97153 pays \$16.12/unit (\$64.48/hour)**