

The quality of life (QoL) for persons with intellectual disability has been and remains a concern of behavior analysis service providers (Gambrill 2012; Luiselli et al. 2026; Schwartz and Kelly 2021). Defined broadly, QoL is “an individual’s perception of their position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards, and concerns” (World Health Organization 1997, 1).

Research

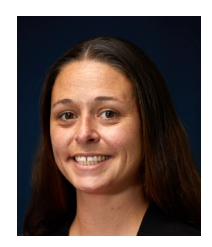
Authors



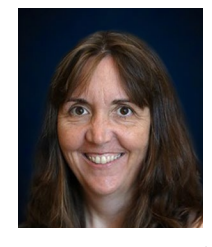
James K. Luiselli, Ed.D., ABPP, BCBA-D



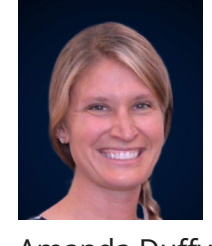
Frank L. Bird, M.Ed., LABA, BCBA, CDE®



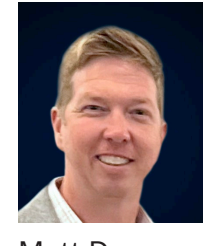
Jill M. Harper, Ph.D., LABA, BCBA, CDE®



Mary Jane Weiss, Ph.D., BCBA-D



Amanda Duffy, MEd, BCBA, LBS



Matt Dye

TABLE 2 | Percentage of participants endorsing QoL ratings.

Observation category	Rating				Unreliable: Could not determine presence or absence of category
	1	2	3	4	
Adult receives services in a safe and secure setting	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Adult is given as much independence as possible	3.3%	4.6%	60.0%	32.1%	
Adult participates in age appropriate and individual activities	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Adult participates in interactive activities with peers	3.3%	10.0%	20.0%	66.7%	
Adult is groomed and dressed appropriately	3.3%	10.0%	20.0%	66.7%	
Adult is able to access the physical environment	3.3%	3.3%	10.0%	83.3%	
Adult participation in age appropriate and individual activities	3.3%	10.0%	20.0%	66.7%	
Adult is groomed and dressed appropriately	3.3%	10.0%	20.0%	66.7%	
Adult is able to access the physical environment	3.3%	3.3%	10.0%	83.3%	
Adult participation in age appropriate and individual activities	3.3%	10.0%	20.0%	66.7%	
Adult is groomed and dressed appropriately	3.3%	10.0%	20.0%	66.7%	

We emphasize that QoL in this study was evaluated exclusively by proxy measures and did not include self-report from the adults and parents/guardians nor the perceptions of other organization staff. The measurement data and social validity assessment were limited to DSPs, a single target population, therefore more diverse and multi-method approach to QoL measurement is recommended whenever possible.