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From: Kelli Owens <k_owens02@yahoo.com>
Subject: Parents as Teachers.

To whom it may concern,

I want to share with you the gratitude that I have for the Parents as Teachers program and what it has done for my family. With 5 kids having all been in the program I can reassure you the amazement I have for the abilities for the personnel of Parents as Teachers to continue to provide ongoing curriculum. These teachers continue day in and day out to provide in a fun activities in an interactive manner. Not only have my children enjoyed the different games and learned from many different teachings but I myself as a parent have improved with all of my children not just in what things can be done to entertain and teach children but how to interact and teach them specifically as the child themselves.

Many of these teachings were items that I would've only barely came across to online at some point of which my understanding would not have been near a specific or effective as what the parents his teacher program allowed for. Each of my children look forward to each of the parents as teachers meetings. They enjoyed having someone from outside of the immediate family that came to teach in a fun way. With my older children this is evident that this helped them develop a earlier respect for teaching authorities.

Outside of direct developmental benefits that the parents as teachers program provides it also provides parents with access to information on programs and benefits for those in need, coaching in taking the steps for programs, and always welcomed support. This was the icing on the cake for my 4th child, my daughter Tymber. Tymber struggled early with her speech and development of words. Tymber was falling behind developmental standards for her age. She was still a very bright young girl although the progression she was making compared to other children of her age seemed to be slowing.

At the same time Tymber had developed a tendency to go cross-eyed. This was typically in conjunction with a short few seconds (3-10) roughly that her attention was hard to get. Tymber was seen by a physician who diagnosed her with having absent seizures and stated would likely grow out of them, and, if not, then medication would be needed. Unsure what to do in seeking a second opinion a parents as teachers teacher suggested that I take advantage of the free children's screening that a majority of Optometrists participate in to see if there is any further details of her sight from the more specific testing. The older three children had not participated in. Timber then visited the optometrist which told her that she was actually legally blind and had been since birth. Tymber had actually tested out with decent sight earlier with generic required test to be done at check ups by physicians. Most specific eye test wouldn't start until school age was reached. The optometrist was very clear that this was the key reason behind her slow development to speak as she was able to see enough detail to make out more than borders and outlines of other people's lips moving in concession with the sound of the word super being said.

Tymber now very excitedly and eagerly wears glasses every day all day that help improve her every day site. This is something that she very well may have ended up taking prescription drugs as a mis-diagnosis for something that was not the case and if it weren't for parents as teachers to help suggest items that I had not or may not have thought about as such as these three-year-old free eye screenings. I can only imagine the effects that Tymber would have felt from taking drugs that were unneeded for a long period of time in her life. And above and beyond that, Timber has now made leaps and bounds progress with the glasses. She caught up nearly 8 years worth of progress in four months and has been the most excited little kid to be able to see everything a sensually for the first time all over again. This is specific progress would have never happened had she not been enrolled in parents as teachers where I became informed of this vision program.

No matter the parent no matter the child every parent child relationship could benefit from having connection with parents as teachers. Parents as teachers is a fun and learning environment as well as informative coaching supportive relationship that develops between both the parent and child and the parents as teacher person. This is beneficial for all. The hardest part of it all is when the child turns three.

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