

THE CENTER FOR AUTISM & NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS

Patient Testimonial, January 2018

It was August 2015 and one week before moving to a different country when Jody's oldest son, Henry, was diagnosed with autism. Jody found herself overwhelmed by the move to California from Canada, while simultaneously looking for the best resources for her son in their new hometown.

Through Help Me Grow Orange County, Jody was introduced to The Center for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Disorders. The Center has been instrumental in helping Jody navigate the world of autism. She talks about how helpful the parent support groups and workshops have been in making sure she is educated and prepared for what the future may hold.

Jody is just one of many parents who have attended The Center's quarterly Special Education Workshops. She recalls attending her first workshop as her youngest son Charlie, also diagnosed with autism, was beginning the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process.

"The timing was perfect and could not have come at a better time. The information I learned



during the workshop was invaluable as we prepared for Charlie's IEP journey," she recalls.

The Center's support was critical in making sure Charlie received the best services to be successful in school.

As she continues on this journey with both of her boys, Jody has the following advice to parents, "I think it's most important to ensure your child is receiving the right services and getting the most support possible. If I hadn't found The Center, I would not be where I am now."



She values The Center's support for her kids, their knowledge, and responsiveness. "I can email them any time of the day and receive a response in a couple of hours – it's just amazing," Jody concludes.

Henry was enrolled in a social skills workshop and he has made significant progress interacting and connecting with his peers. He is also passionate about martial arts and improving his skills, which Jody credits to his newfound confidence.



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