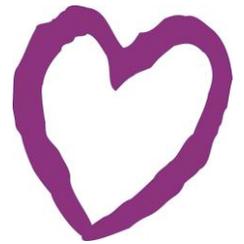




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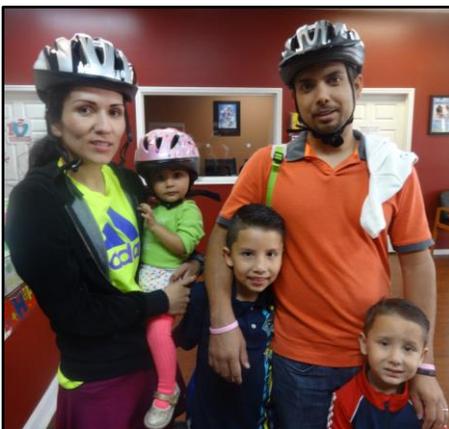
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FAMILY  
RESOURCE CENTERS



## Brandon Success Story

# Together Throughout the Years!



**Principles of Family Support #4:**  
Programs affirm and strengthen families' cultural, racial, and linguistic identities and enhance their ability to function in a multicultural society.

*Children's Board Family Resource Centers are funded by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County and administered by the Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County. Managing partners include: Champions for Children, Children's Home Network, Family Community Advisory Councils, REACHUP, Inc. and St. Joseph's Children's Wellness and Safety Center.*

**All programs and services are at no charge to families and individuals.**



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In 2010, Margarita's son, Tadeo, was one year old when a friend told her about the Children's Board Family Resource Centers in Brandon. After hearing about her friend's positive experience, Margarita decided to visit the Center. They registered for the child development classes provided by Baby Bungalow. In addition to attending the Growing Together class, they participated in various Center activities.

When Tadeo was four, Margarita became pregnant with her second son, Isaac. And in 2014, she returned to the Center again in search of activities for him. They participated in mostly all of the child development programs: Growing Together, Wonder Years, Little Amigos, Music & More, and Creative Learning. During one of Isaac's Ages & Stages Questionnaires, he scored low in communication so he was referred Early Steps to receive speech therapy. After a year, his speech improved tremendously not only because of therapy but also because of the Little Amigos and Wonder Years classes!

When Isaac was two and a half, Margarita gave birth to her daughter, Milena. Again, she came back with both Isaac and Milena because she wanted them to continue to grow so that they would be developmentally on track. Mom and Milena enjoyed Infant Massage, Music & More, and Growing Together.

The entire family has participated in numerous Center activities such as Vision and Hearing Screenings, Car Seat Safety Class, Story Time, Free Play, Arts & Crafts, Daddy & Me events, and Bike Safety. And just recently, as Isaac turned four, the Center helped Margarita register him for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten through the Early Learning Coalition.

Margarita shares, "The Center helped me learn how to play with my son Tadeo and work on his development -this helped me tremendously because he would not play with other children. It helped me to have contact and communication with other mothers like me, who hadn't been in this country long and did not understand English. When I first started going, I really enjoyed Little Amigos because it was the class that I could understand in my own language! At the Center, I made friends and I could share my experiences with other moms. The Center has been a great support for me because though all these years, I have found a wealth of information and community resources as well as numerous activities in which my family participated and learned together!"

[www.familysupporthc.org](http://www.familysupporthc.org)