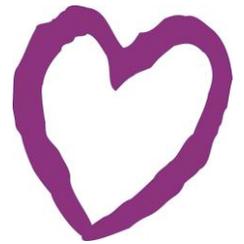




Children's Board
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

www.ChildrensBoard.org

FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTERS



Brandon Success Story: A Place to Learn & Play



Five Protective Factors: Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development

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



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In the fall of 2014, Jiyoung Stecher walked into the Children's Board Family Resource Centers in Brandon. It was her first pregnancy and she was excited to attend the prenatal class provided by Champions for Children's ABC Program. While attending she was able to learn about all the programs the Center had to offer and looked forward to bringing her son!

In 2016, she returned with her son, William, to register for the child development classes offered by Champions for Children's Baby Bungalow Program. She participated in Growing Together with the instructor Michelle.

Growing Together provided her with a learning experience that she desperately desired. Sharing her fears, she explained, "As first time parents, you don't know how to help your son learn... you don't have any ideas of how to help him learn better."

"The child development class gave me examples and ideas of what to do, how and what to play with him. We both used the songs to help him clean his room. We use sign language, and even use the shakers. We learned how to play with our baby so he can learn! He learned body parts, and now he points to his nose when we ask him!"

She had tried daycare for William but it did not help him, so she had to take him out. During that time, she continued participating in Growing Together as well as other Center activities such as free play and arts & crafts.

Recently, her husband became deployed and she found herself in need of time, so she decided to try daycare again. The Center experience has truly helped him adapt to his new learning environment! She was surprised to see how well he is doing now after having participated in the Center.

In a message to parents, she says, "You have to experience this Center. Either first time parents or not, the Centers help parents learn as they play!"