



Collaboration- Putting the Pieces Together



Stacey spoke with Judy, the [Omni's Information and Referral Assistant](#). Judy [referred](#) Stacy to the [Children's Developmental Services agency \(or CDSA\)](#)

Stacey is in the Air Force. She is married and has two daughters, eighteen months and four years old. Stacey's husband, Harley is in the military and deployed.

Stacey became concerned when she noticed that her youngest daughter Ashley wasn't as interactive as her daughter Lily had been at that age. When Ashley began biting herself in frustration, Stacey's concern led her to the Omni Family Resource Center for help.

Stacey spoke with Judy, the Omni's Information and Referral Assistant. Judy **referred** Stacey to the Children's Developmental Services agency (or CDSA) as they specialize in helping children birth to two.



Children's Developmental Services Agency (CDSA)



As part of the services available to Ashley and her family, the CDSA service coordinator **referred** Stacey to the Family Support Network of Cumberland County

Stacey visited the Omni with her children to meet Ashley's service coordinator at the Children's Developmental Services Agency. Ashley was evaluated and eventually diagnosed with Autism. As part of the services available to Ashley and her family, the CDSA service coordinator **referred** Stacey to the Family Support Network of Cumberland County for one-on-one mentoring with another parent of a child with autism.



Family Support Network



Stacey visited the Family Support Network. She also learned that the Autism Society of Cumberland County hosted a support group for parents with children with autism.

Stacey visited the Family Support Network and learned all of the valuable resources they had to offer. She also learned that the Autism Society of Cumberland County hosted a support group for parents with children with autism and went next door to get more information.



Autism Society of Cumberland County



She also **found out** that she could check out age-appropriate toys from the **Partnership for Children of Cumberland County's Lending Library**. Jackie **also told** Stacey about the Autism Society of North Carolina



Stacey met Jackie at the Autism Society of Cumberland County who discussed the various support groups. Stacey learned that she could check out age-appropriate toys from the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County's Lending Library down the hall. Jackie explained how Stacey could use the toys in Ashley's therapy. Jackie also told Stacey that the Autism Society of North Carolina hosted an advocacy workshop called "Families with Newly diagnosed Family Members" and suggested that she attend.



Autism Society of North Carolina



Stacey went down the hall to the Autism Society of North Carolina and got a workshop calendar outlining different support groups and activities.



Easter Seals/UCP of NC



Ashley's service coordinator **referred** Stacey to Easter Seals/UCP of NC. Ashley's service coordinator also **suggested** Stacey consider enrolling Lily in a preschool program. Stacey visited Easter Seals/UCP of NC



At the CDSA, Ashley's service coordinator **referred** Stacey to Easter Seals/UCP of NC so she could learn about respite opportunities; with Harley's deployment, Stacey sometimes felt overwhelmed. Ashley's service coordinator also **suggested** that Stacey consider enrolling Lily in a preschool program. Stacey visited Easter Seals/UCP of NC and got the information she needed.



Resource Lending Library



Laurenda **showed** Stacey an advertisement for a MotherRead workshop hosted by the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center.



Stacey decided to check out the Lending Library. She was thrilled to learn of all the age and developmentally appropriate toys available; Ashley and Lily were having so much fun, they didn't want to leave. Laurenda **showed** Stacey an advertisement for a MotherRead workshop hosted by the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center. Laurenda **encouraged** Stacey to take the kids down the hall to learn more.



Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center



Stacey received additional information on the library's programming.

Stacey and the kids went down to visit with Vicki at the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center. Stacey received more information on the library's programming and the kids loved the puppets!



Child Care Solutions



Michelle walked Stacey downstairs to meet Betty Hunnicutt, the owner and operator of Wonder Years Child Development Center, a More at Four site.



Stacey made an appointment with Child Care Solutions Parent Referral Specialist, Michelle Hearon, to learn more about child care options. Michelle talked to Stacey about choosing quality child care and explained that Lily might be eligible for North Carolina's public pre-k program, More at Four. Michelle walked Stacey downstairs to meet Betty Hunnicutt, the owner and operator of Wonder Years Child Development Center, a More at Four site.



Hunnicuttt Corporation/Wonder Years



Betty helped Stacey complete a registration form for Lily. Betty told Stacey that she had an opening in her More at Four class at Wonder Years and invited Stacey and the girls for a visit.



Collaboration is the **WHOLE** Picture- not just the pieces!



How parents/care givers move
through the early childhood system:

Stacy was referred and told about services.

She was recommended programs.

She found out through experiences.

She was walked/went to different sites. (*all of whom are co-located in the Omni Center*)

She received information.

Stacey and her daughters are doing well. They struggle, but the resources they accessed through the partner agencies in the Omni have helped tremendously. Stacey's husband, Harley, is due back in a month. He's been researching autism, but he's nervous to see Ashley knowing that she's behaving differently than when he left. Harley explained that he's excited to visit the Omni with Stacey and his girls to meet all of the wonderful people who helped his family. The family now refers to the Omni as their home away from home.

