

## Valeria's Young Children are Thriving with Support from Child and Family Connections

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**Valeria, Mom to Julio, Ebrahim, Ebe, and Enzo, partnered with CFC #8 to help her youngest children thrive. Read more in her own words.**

*Early Intervention Child and Family Connections (CFC) is a point of entry for children with possible developmental delays from birth to age 3. Valeria, Mom to Julio, Ebrahim, and Enzo, partnered with CFC #8 to help her oldest sons, Julio and Ebrahim, thrive. Read more in her own words below.*

"My team of therapists at Child & Family Connections #8 helped my children thrive in ways I didn't think was possible. My 6-year-old son Julio has limb defects and is hearing impaired. I doubted my son could crawl, talk, problem solve ... but those amazing people paved the way for him to do all those things in his own unique ways. During our sessions, Julio can do the simplest things like completing a puzzle on his own and his team will jump in excitement, which gives him the courage to keep doing more. They gave my son the independence he needed.

They not only helped my son, but also taught me that anything was possible with time and patience.

My son, Ebrahim (Ebe), who just turned three years old, was recently diagnosed with autism. It wasn't easy this time around. I saw multiple signs that something wasn't quite right for your typical toddler. I was told by many people, 'He's still young, he'll grow out of it,', 'give it time,' or even, 'you're just looking for something,' but I trusted my gut, and I emailed my previous service coordinator, Mary. She hopped on it and started on his case, and not one time did she hesitate or question me.

It took some time for Ebe to get adjusted to his therapy sessions. Being autistic comes with not so happy days, but over time he enjoyed them too much and would ask for them daily!

**CFC# taught me something very valuable: Parenthood is about raising and celebrating the children you have, not the children you thought you'd have.**

Child & Family Connections #8 not only helped my children, but they opened my eyes and taught me something very valuable: Parenthood is about raising and celebrating the children you have, not the children you thought you'd have. It's about understanding your child is exactly the person they are supposed to be.

Thank you to this whole organization for the amount of help we've received. Without them, I don't know how I ever would have done it. We will forever be grateful for everyone involved."