

Room to Grow

Parent Training and Support

It's Easy for Others to Talk

- It's easy for people who don't have children with severe developmental disabilities or severe behavioral issues to talk.
- Talk is cheap and easy.
- People may mean well, but without really understanding what is involved in parenting a child with severe needs, it can all be hollow and unrealistic.

The Stressors are Real

- Many people just don't get it.
- They may blame you, or may deliberately or accidentally do things to make you or your child feel not welcome.
- That's not OK.

You May Need a Little Help

- Raising a child with severe behavioral disabilities doesn't come with a manual, and a little help may be needed.
- We're all raised to have expectations about what it will be like to be a parent, and what will be important and what you will all do together. Sometimes life has dealt a different hand.
- There's no shame in needing some support with that.

Sometimes that Help is Just Listening

- Sometimes you need to talk to someone who understands what it is like to have the 24 hour a day pressures of raising a child with a severe disability, someone who knows what the pressures you face in current education and future life planning are.

Sometimes You Need “How to” Training

- If life has become more stressful because you simply can't go the store with your child due to behavioral concerns, you need someone who will help you to teach your child to successfully go shopping, or to the movies, or out to eat, or to a family function...
- Then the key may be some behavioral teaching.

“We’re in This for All Day!”

- That’s a line I use with my staff trainings. It means that there is literally no area in the child’s life where skill training and support may not be necessary.
- The same goes for Parent Support and Training.

If You Need Help, Get It!

- You're the lynchpin to this operation. If you're not functioning at your best, neither will your child or the rest of your family.
- The investment in you is an investment in your family.