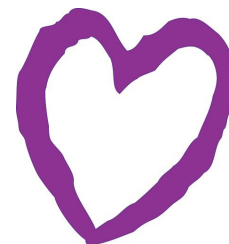




Children's Board
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

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FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTERS



Center Name Success Story

Coming Home



Five Protective Factors: Concrete Support in Times of Need

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 2015, Marisela Gonzalez came to the Children's Board Family Resource Center in South County seeking activities to do with her young daughter, Sophie. During that time, Sophie benefitted from a developmental screening after which she attended many developmental playgroups for children her age. She enjoyed a happy and healthy childhood while attending CBFRC's playgroups and events.

As Sophie grew older, Marisela said she always thought fondly of the CBFRC and all the joys she experienced, the caring staff, and the support her family received. In 2019, the family experienced a major tragedy which took the life of her cousin and changed her brother's life forever. Following the tragic event, her brother was in a coma for two weeks. He was medically stabilized but the damage he sustained was so severe that he was confined to a rehab facility, where he is slowly re-gaining his ability to walk, talk, and even eat on his own. Because the accident occurred out of state, the family wanted to bring him back to Florida, where they could be close to him and help with his recovery. However, the family was told that he could not be transferred out of state until he had health insurance coverage that would cover his treatment plan.

This is when Marisela remembered all of the help and support she had received from CBFRC in South County and she reached out to us. Our Service Coordinator, Elsa, listened as she told her about her brother's accident and their inability to bring him home, Elsa quickly made a few calls and referrals and within a short time, the family member was approved and insured and able to be transported to a rehab facility closer to home.

Marisela is very grateful and also excited since she has a new baby who will receive the same support and assistance her older child did by attending our next playgroup registration.

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