



First Day of School – MAX ride ☺

Every child needs supports to learn. Some children with disabilities may need different supports to catch up to their peers, family and friends. EI/ECSE gives children with disabilities and their families the support they need to enter kindergarten ready to learn.

Our Family Story

Prior to working with the EI/ECSE team Tucker was withdrawn, unaware of his surroundings, unable to communicate and struggled with sensory overload. He spent many of his days lining up cars, playing with the iPad, rocking, biting his hand and all in silence or screaming to be heard. My husband and I felt lost and hopeless.

We were introduced to EI/ECSE services when Tucker was just around 3 yrs old. Quickly after evaluating Tucker's needs the IE/ECSE team took swift action to determined the best fit for Tucker to make progress.

We started to see change in his behavior almost immediately. As part of the program our family also received services including classes, home visits and one on one instruction. We began to communicate with Tucker like we never had before.

Tucker has made tremendous progress from where he was before entering the program. He's engaging in ways we didn't even know were possible. We found out recently that he knows the alphabet, numbers and he's also starting to experiment with sounds and vocalization. We still have a journey ahead of us but the EI/ECSE program has given us the tools to continue grow and learn as Tucker does.

The Reason We're Here Today...The Statistics

We've see a 30%* increase in Autism from 2012-2014

1 in 68 Kids (1 in 88 kids in 2012)

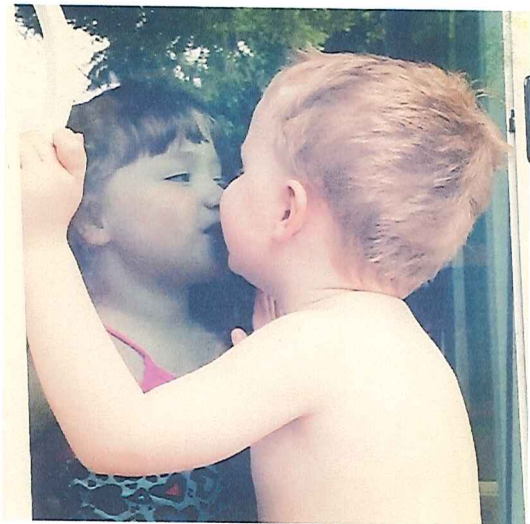
1 in 42 boys (1 in 54 in 2012)

The number of children needing and using EI/ECSE services has increased, but the funding has not kept pace.

How Can You Help...

Increase funding for EI/ECSE programs associated with the House Bill 5016.

These funds will ensure that families and children with disabilities have the skills and supports they need to succeed at life.



Tucker kissing his twin sister Ava through the glass door

*<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/p0327-autism-spectrum-disorder.html>