**Beaufort County Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (BCDSN)**

**Media Kit: Testimonials**

**Rachel, mother of Parker and Carson**

“Early invention has made such an impact, not only on the development of our two boys, Parker and Carson, but to our family. Our boys are learning through play and are getting one-on-one care. As parents, we are not always aware of all the opportunities we are eligible for that could help our sons succeed. Our boys, especially our oldest who is autistic, would be nowhere close to where they are today without BCDSN’s early intervention.”

**Tameika, mother**

“I enrolled my daughter in early intervention services with BCDSN in 2021. Since then, we have been working with Mary Beth, the physical therapist, and Jenny, the early interventionist, to try and improve her issues with walking. I love how Jenny interacts with my daughter and how Mary Beth sets goals for her each week. The therapy has really helped, and the overall support that we have been given while working with the early intervention program has been tremendous.”

**Roeshelle, human services specialist at BCDSN**

“I have been a proud employee at BCDSN since September of 2018. I started this journey as a training specialist and quickly loved every aspect of my position. This position was more than just a job for me -- it was a chance to give back, train, educate, inspire, and encourage individuals living with different disabilities.

Within a year, I was promoted to human services specialist / training coordinator. Despite my position changing, my love and passion for this line of work did not. Each day I look forward to training and teaching the individuals enrolled at BCDSN, while also learning from them. Working in human services is such a rewarding occupation, and I am grateful that I was given the opportunity to be a part of such a wonderful organization.”

 **Theresa, grandmother of Jayden**

“It has been a pleasure working with Twyla Smalls, an early intervention specialist at BCDSN. My grandson, Jayden, looks forward to her weekly visits. She develops creative ways to help him learn and has significantly improved his understanding of the alphabet, numbers, shapes, and colors. Twyla is very patient with Jayden, and he expresses love and affection when working with her. I do not think Jayden would be where he is today without Twyla’s help. I really appreciate everything she has done for us and look forward to continuing to work with her.”

**Greg and Jill, brother and sister-in-law of a BCDSN day program individual**

“My brother has been successfully employed for the last 30 years because of the BCDSN placement services. When he left his previous position in 2019, the BCDSN stepped in and provided a spot for him in their day program, where they continued his training and preparation to re-enter the work force. He is now employed as a cafeteria worker, where he has daily support and training through BCDSN. He loves his job and the people he works with. We can’t say enough good things about the support we have received, both in his job training and the care that has gone into addressing our questions and concerns over the years.”

**Alyssa, mother of Leo**
“Twyla Smalls, our early intervention specialist (EIS) from the Bright Beginnings program at BCDSN, has been working with my son Leo for the past year and a half. We have been blown away by her special gift of engaging young children and meeting them at their level, while guiding them to develop new skills. Leo tends to take a long time to warm up to people, and it took no time at all with Twyla. He looks forward to her coming each week with great anticipation.

Twyla supported us as new parents, during the height of COVID, when Leo was just six months old. When Leo’s younger brother was born, Twyla was a constant positive figure for him, and we believe it helped Leo tremendously during that transition. Twyla has taught me many new ways to play with my son to help with his development outside of their sessions and has been an asset to our entire family. I’ve been able to share these techniques with my husband, so we can interact with Leo in a more intentional and effective way.

Twyla’s extensive knowledge as an EIS is evident through her coordination of services, communication, and interactions with my son. I truly cannot overstate how wonderful Twyla is. She is professional, kind, calm, hardworking, dependable, and encouraging. She is also an excellent communicator with a heart of gold. We feel so blessed that Twyla was assigned to our family and appreciate her hard work and dedication to Leo’s development!”

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