

UNIQUE JOB OPPORTUNITY AS A DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST WITH A FORMER MICRO-PREEMIE IN JACKSONVILLE, FL

Tyce is a happy, bright little boy with a great sense of humor, who attends VPK five days a week, works on a weekly basis with multiple therapists, and is getting ready to enter Kindergarten. A Bachelor's Degree in an educational related field & specialization or experience in child development is preferred. Therapy or educational experience is a plus.

Tyce was born at only 24 weeks gestational age (weighing 1 pound, 8 ounces), spent four months in the NICU, and is one of God's true miracles. He has spent the last year in VPK preparing to enter Kindergarten, & we are looking for someone who will be able to help facilitate Tyce around the classroom and assist him in his academic work during the school day. Elizabeth has been Tyce's Development Specialist for 4.5 years. Very sadly, she has to move on from the position as she is in a Masters Program to become a speech therapist and has required internship hours. Below is her description of the job.

“This is not a typical job but rather an opportunity to be a part of a team consisting of Tyce, his family, teachers, and therapists inside and outside of the school setting. During the day we ask that you find strategies and give insight to Tyce's team to help him be successful in a mainstream classroom.

This is where you would need to be able to not only learn the strategies from teachers and therapists, but also offer wisdom and insight to Tyce's day-to-day struggles and come up with creative ways to incorporate these strategies in an optimal way for Tyce. You do not need to know all these respective therapies inside and out or have experience in every domain, but a passion to learn and a desire to implement and brainstorm on a weekly basis is crucial.

In addition to assisting Tyce at school, we would also like for someone to take him to and from personal therapies during after school hours throughout the week, which will include OT, Speech, & PT.

This job is exciting and ever changing. It is never boring and as Tyce develops and changes so do the strategies and how we implement techniques. You are a sounding board for the consulting teachers and therapists. Having confidence and the ability to communicate to the teacher the struggles you are having with their suggestions is key. Again this is a team mentality so you need to feel comfortable jumping in!

Everyone works together well and there is cohesiveness amongst this large family of teachers, therapists, parents and Tyce. It's something unique and the experience is one you will not find anywhere else. Tyce is an intelligent & silly boy who has a loving heart and is a hard worker. He is such an inspiration to be around and touches every person he meets with his strong and gentle spirit. I have learned so much from this experience. I have refined my skills, made amazing networks of people, and most of all have formed a lifelong bond Tyce & his parents. We need someone who will jump right in and become part of this great team of people!”

In closing, we are looking for a true professional who will be passionate and invested in our son and who we will welcome into our family. The position is a salaried position with a range of \$33,000 - \$36,000 annually, Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00 pm. (benefits include annual & sick leave). We are looking for a two year commitment and for someone to start as soon as possible, so that we can have a smooth transition prior to Elizabeth leaving. If you are interested please send your cover letter & resume to both Elizabeth & me: kristynleedekerken@yahoo.com or e.bond18@yahoo.com.