

Private session with

- Occupational Therapist, Holly Hansen
- Child Development Specialist, Gwenn
  DeCicco

We are accredited by ICDL (International Council on Development and Learning)



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# What We Believe

Holly and Gwenn became involved with BraveBeginnings while working as Early Intervention (Birth-3) providers and quickly recognized how unique the program was in addressing behavior and skill development in a playful, caring environment that was also supportive of parents. Gwenn and Holly believe using a strengths and play based approach to support sensory differences and to facilitate the development of social emotional and motor skills in children during their daily routines is critical. They believe that families should be included in treatment programming and that the relationship a child forms with their caregivers is foundational to learning, communicating and growing.







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# What is DIR?

DIR is the Developmental, Individualdifferences, & Relationship-based model developed by Dr. Stanley Greenspan to provide a foundational framework for understanding human development. It explains the critical role of social emotional development starting at birth and continuing throughout the lifespan. It also provides a framework for understanding how each person individually perceives and interacts with the world differently. The model highlights the power of relationships and emotional connections to fuel development. Through a deep understanding of the "D" and the "I" we can use the "R" to promote healthy development and to help every child reach their fullest potential.



## D-I-R

The objectives of the **DIR** model are to build foundations for social, emotional, and intellectual capacities rather than focusing exclusively on skills and isolated behaviors.

The "D" describes **DEVELOPMENT** from the perspective of the individual, where they are and where they are headed.

The "I" describes the unique ways each person takes in, regulates, responds to and comprehends the world around them, **INDIVIDUAL** differences.

The "R" describes how **RELATIONSHIPS** fuel our development.

**DIR** harnesses the key affective (emotional) aspect of these relationships to promote development.



## Who We Are

#### Gwenn DeCicco

Gwenn is a Child Development Specialist & DIRFloortime Provider. Gwenn has been working in Early Intervention for over 26 years. This journey led her to Brave Beginnings and ultimately DIRFloortime.

Gwenn brings a robust background to us with her broad knowledge of child development and srong foundation in DIRFloortime practice.



#### Holly Hansen

Holly is a pediatric Occupational Therapist who has worked in a variety of settings including pediatric inpatient rehabilitation, pediatric outpatient clinics, public and private schools, pediatric home care and

Early Intervention. Holly is a member of the American Occupational Therapy Association AOTA) and the NJ



Association for Infant Mental Health (NJ-AIMH).