Parents of Children with Disabilities Research

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Mission:
To identify the needs of parents of children with disabilities in order to improve the ability of therapists and professionals to address parents’ needs.

General Description of Research:
The goal of my research is to support families of children with disabilities. Through examining the experiences and needs of parents of children with disabilities I hope to encourage family centered care that incorporates parents’ perspectives into all aspects of treatment. I am particularly interested in the experiences of fathers and how therapists and professionals can encourage fathers by recognizing and addressing their needs.

Focus Areas:
Family centered care, disabilities, fathers, feeding

Current Projects:
1. Principal Investigator, Co-parenting, Eating-related Challenges, and Parenting Stress in Families with Children Diagnosed with ASD
   a. Interdisciplinary study of the intersections of co-parenting, eating challenges and stress through surveys sent to parents of children with ASD.
2. Principal Investigator, Multiple Perspective Study on the Involvement of Fathers with their Children Diagnosed with ASD
   a. The purpose of this study was to examine the motivations, constraints, and affordances that influence father involvement through observations and qualitative interviews with couples.