

By: Kasi Flatt Thursby

Resource Center for Developmental Delay's (RCDD) Project Case

RCDD is a not for profit organization designed to inform the parents and caregivers of children who have either concerns of developmental delays in their child or have a child who has been recently diagnosed with a developmental delay. The critical resources offered, provide a way to inform, direct and guide parents who might otherwise be neglected by the healthcare industry. The parents/caregivers will have free unlimited access to the information provided on the RCDD website. Additionally, they will have the option to create an account on the site, free of course. A parent or caregiver would want to do this if he/she was interested in having one place to navigate and retrieve useful information that is important to them. The RCDD site will provide tools to help the parents determine what their concerns are regarding their child. For instance, I am concerned that my child is unable to roll over; this would be in a questionnaire that allows me to check the box "unable to roll over". After all the concerns have been selected, the questionnaire would then generate a report for parents to print out and take to their pediatrician, neurologist, etc. This is just one of the many tools that will be available.

Kasi Thursby, the founder and owner of RCDD, feels that the information currently being offered to the parents/caregivers, via the World Wide Web, is in a manor that is unorganized and therefore making the information insignificant. The Information that is on the RCDD website will be collected from other sites that are legitimate and relevant to the information needs of the parents/caregivers. The goal is to pull all in all the information into one place and make it as easy as possible for parents to navigate and utilize.

Site Setup

Target audience:

- Parents
 - Parents who have concerns about the possibility of their child having a developmental delay.
 - Parents who have a child who has been diagnosed with a developmental delay.

Information that will be provided:

- First I will need to separate these parents into two categories using a select options box once they enter the site.
 - Undiagnosed
 - Never Reached Milestones
 - Reached Milestones and are Regressing
 - Diagnosed
 - Never Reached Milestones
 - Reached Milestones and are Regressing
- Undiagnosed
 - If a parent suspects a problem with their child, they are often right.
 - About developmental delay's.
 - Provide literature on what the milestones are at each age during infancy and childhood.
 - Provide an ages and stages questionnaire they can fill out themselves.

- Provide a grading system that can assess the answers of the parents and use a binary system of 1's and 0's to give them the corresponding age of their child based on their answers. Use a formula that calculates how many points they have and the number will match the number of points representing corresponding ages.
- The system will then generate a report that gives them their questionnaire with the answers they provided and a report on the questionnaire that they can take with them to talk to their child's pediatrician about their concerns.
- It's better to have something to back up the parents concerns and therefore try to help the parents concerns be addressed by the pediatrician earlier.
- Provide them with information on different ways to stimulate their child who might just be behind due to lack of parent/child interaction.
- Provide them with a list of good toys to buy to help with stimulating their child.
- Provide helpful links to their local department of health for more information and a list of pediatricians in their area.
 - Due this by creating a box that they can choose their current state they live in.
 - This will then generate a list of contact information to the local department of health office, as well as, local pediatricians.
- Diagnosed
 - Provide Information on:
 - About Developmental Delays
 - Specialists
 - What Type of Specialists Exist
 - Neuro-developmental Specialist
 - Neuro-Endocrinologist
 - Who treats what in the World of Specialist
 - Example
 - If you're worried about two things such as Vision and what the brain is able to do with vision, you would want to see a Neuro-Ophthalmologist.
 - Provide them with a way to create a profile of their child.
 - Explain in detail what each of these mean.
 - For Example:
 - What are Dysmorphic Features?
 - Definition
 - There will be four sections
 - Dysmorphic Features
 - Simian crease = one line in hand
 - Microcephaly = small head
 - Flat occiput = back of the head is flat
 - hair loss on back of scalp
 - Abnormal hair placement
 - Incomplete folding of ears
 - Protruding Ears

- Chubby Cheeks
 - Long fingers
 - Small palm
 - Long Toes
 - Tapered Fingers
 - Teeth Grinding
- Mental Concerns
 - Does not respond to stimulation
 - Does not care about interacting
- Physical Concerns
 - [Hypotonia](#) = Low muscle tone
 - Poor trunk control = Unable to control the back and neck
 - Abnormal Posture = Sit's slumped over
- Recurrent Illnesses
 - Chronic [Otitis media](#) = Ear infections
 - Enlarged Spleen
 - Constipation
 - Chronic Respiratory Illnesses
 - Pink Eye
- Once the questionnaire is filled out, it will generate a report for people to download and save or to just print for their records.
- Provide account users the option to save this data so they can keep track of it through the website.
- Provide an interactive Growth Chart
 - Do this by providing a fill in the blank questionnaire with three questions:
 - Weight
 - Length
 - Head Circumference
 - This will then generate a growth chart showing them where their child is right now.
 - Provide information on what this means.
 - Provide account users the option to save this data so they can keep track of it through the website.
- Information on the latest research
- Links
 - For Example
 - To check out what clinical trials are being offered and to see if you would be qualified for any, visit:
 - www.clinicaltrials.gov
 - To see America's Best Hospitals in 2007, visit:
 - <http://health.usnews.com/sections/health/best-hospitals/index.html>
- This will be a section that the physical, occupational and speech therapists will provide information on how to do stuff.
 - Buy the right toy for children based on age, sex and disability.
 - Advice for parents and caregivers on how to get the family involved.

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- What therapies are currently out there and who offers them.