

HOMETOWN HERO:

Faye Kim

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When we needed to teach my daughter, Leah, to swallow pills, we sought help from Kennedy Krieger and were matched with a doctoral candidate named Faye Kim. Faye greeted us with a big smile and a sweet disposition and I have to admit, I thought, "Oh, boy, we're going to make this woman earn her doctorate the hard way."

I underestimated the Magic of Faye.

She worked effectively with Leah from the beginning. Her nature is sweet, but she also demonstrated great skill at getting compliance from Leah. She quickly created an environment in which Leah could succeed, and I was amazed at how quickly Leah worked through her difficulties with pills. We then shifted our focus to trying new foods (I thought for sure the honeymoon would end with that), and we have once again had a lot of success with expanding Leah's diet. Faye has been thorough and helpful, making visits to our home and to Leah's school to help with generalization. She has been flexible with us, willing to adapt treatment plans to help us address issues as they arise. Recently I asked for her input on a problem Leah has been having during lunch at her school. She was extremely responsive to our needs and made arrangements to consult with Leah's school team the following day. Leah’s teachers have asked me if they can make Miss Faye masks to wear at school.

Fortunately, Kennedy Krieger has selected Faye for a post-doctoral fellowship, so she will be working with Leah and others for another year at least. We were very glad to hear it.