

HOMETOWN HERO:

Jessica Jones

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I would like to nominate Jessica Jones as a hometown hero for our family. Jessica has worked for us for almost three years as a therapist in our home program. She came to us as a sophomore in college as we were just getting started with our home program. She was attending Anne Arundel Community College with a major in special ed, but had no actual experience with autism.

However, due to her extreme dedication, organization, and desire to improve the lives of my children, she became our lead therapist rather quickly. She organized our program but, more importantly, she has a wonderful relationship with our children. She is able to be creative, fun, energetic, knowledgeable, responsible, and a true asset to this program and our children's lives. She has now graduated from Towson with a degree in special ed and is now a teacher with her own classroom.

I expected her to quit working with our children once she had a ‘real job’ but she, in her usually dedicated fashion, decided to stay on with us once a week, and still babysits for us whenever we need her. I remember telling her once that if she needed any extra money she could work for other families. She replied that she could not give another family the kind of dedication that she gives us and it would not be fair to that family. She truly gives all that she has to us and we so greatly appreciate that.

Jessica is a true gem, and we are so blessed to have her be a part of our children's lives and our lives.