

HOMETOWN HERO:

Katie Baehl

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We’ve been lucky to have some very good therapists in our home program for our daughter Leah. Katie Baehl is a particular standout and a crucial member of Leah’s team.

Katie is dedicated, flexible, and completely unflappable. Her day job as a middle school teacher at Kennedy Krieger definitely has benefited us — Katie often has ideas for helping Leah with academic tasks that are tough for her. And after wrangling middle schoolers (mostly boys) all day, managing one 8-year-old girl seems to come pretty easily to Katie. She also has been outstanding at identifying weaknesses among Leah’s functional and life skills and coming up with plans to teach those skills. It is a pleasure to have someone working with us who is so clearly invested in Leah’s success.

Katie is also very tolerant and accommodating of Leah’s younger sisters, who tend to be very happy to see her. She incorporates them into quite a bit of Leah’s therapy time, which helps Leah with social and relationship skills, and also helps Lauren and Maddie feel important and included. She has bailed me out of child-care pinches a few times, and even stayed with the kids for a weekend so that Mike and I could attend my father’s out-of-town birthday celebration. We truly are fortunate to have her, and no, we are not giving out her phone number this evening.

Thank you, Katie, for all you do.