

CSH Support Corner – Parent & Caregiver Blog

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In 2017 I was in labor with my youngest son when I got the call that my two year old was officially diagnosed with autism. My brain went on a spiral in that hospital bed, I had no idea what to think of first. I had a fresh teenager, I was about to have a newborn, and my middle baby now needed me even more than before. It was a constant struggle in my head thinking, “How do I give myself equally to all three of my kids?”

In full transparency, it was hard for me. I felt like I wasn’t being a good enough mom, when I tended too much to my younger kids I felt like I was letting down my oldest, when I tended to my newborn I felt like my middle felt I wasn’t there, and when I gave me attention to my middle I felt like my other two kids felt left out. As all my kids got older it was hard finding what I could and couldn’t do with all of them. I thought I was failing them, taking them out to the store was sometimes a battle and it was like I was always in over my head. Although I could sit here and rant about how difficult this transition was for me personally, at all the same time my middle, Fausto, taught me so much. He was the light in my house I didn’t know I needed. He taught me patience, he helped me understand the world in the way he sees it, and he helped shape me into the best mom I could be for all three of my kids.

Fausto is now seven, my oldest is nineteen, and my youngest is five. It took a while but I found our balance through many trials and many errors and no matter how hard the journey may have felt it's been a beautiful one. Children's Specialized played a large part in my family's life and I thank them still to this day. Fausto is one of the smartest little boys I know, he loves teaching his siblings all there is to know about every animal in the world. He’s become affectionate and loving, he’s learning to manage his emotions and understand others have feelings too. Fausto’s siblings have played the biggest role in helping him become the best version of him. If I could go back to that day in the hospital in 2017 I would tell myself everything is going to be okay. We’re still learning and every day is always a new adventure but we get through it together. I love my little boy with autism, he’s unique and keeps me on my toes; I wouldn’t want it any other way.

