



### **A Vignette by Esplanade House Child Development Center**

Brent is a 38 year old single father who has been living at the Esplanade House for 6 months. His son, Jason, is 4 years old and Brent recently gained full custody. Brent has no other children.

Brent was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and anxiety at age 11. He was placed on meds that time but began self medicating with stimulants as a teenager. He has been in many different programs and rehabs and has never lasted more than a month or so. The birth of his son a turning point for Brent. Upon entering the Esplanade House program Brent became willing attempt new behaviors. He is involved with his son ' s progress in child care and volunteers in facility. Brent attends parenting classes coordinated by Esplanade House with Parent Education Network. He attends a weekly Family Enrichment class provided by an Esplanade House volunteer on site. Jason and Brent are participants in the Early Head Start program which includes in-home parenting and case management. Brent serves on the Parent Policy Council for Head Start.

Jason attends daycare at the Esplanade House Child Development Center. When he first enrolled he had limited vocabulary and was fussy and unresponsive. He had difficulty getting along with the other toddlers and his first response to stimuli was to scream or lash out. In the months that Jason and Brent have been a part of the Esplanade program, there has been steady progress. Jason is learning to get along with other children. His whole demeanor has changed from an angry pout to a smiling continence. Jason's vocabulary has steadily increased as well as his ability to attach. He willing accepts and gives hugs and smiles with delight when he sees his father or one of his teachers. Funding from BCCFC makes it possible for Esplanade House to provide stable and progressive childcare to help ensure the continuation of future success stories like these.