

KATE

“I am sure that the early intervention helped her to reach her full potential...”



For Kate, it was so heartening to watch her reach her goals with Sandra and it gave us much hope for her future. Kate now lives independently with Robbie, with support, and works full time at Chatswood Industries. I am sure that the early intervention helped her to reach her full potential, and I am so proud of her. She is without doubt the happiest person I have ever met.

For me, the time spent with mothers who understood the challenges, who walked in my



shoes, was invaluable. I am quite sure that the support of other mothers in the early years was crucial to my own journey of understanding. Plus we had a lot of laughs!

For the EarlyEd clinics, I will remember the old premises at Parramatta, which were so inappropriate and depressing for families. When I was President and Beth was head of the clinics, we sought Commonwealth Government funding for a purpose built premises at Rosehill - we were so disappointed when they would only provide half of the money. We decided to set about raising what felt like a huge sum for a small organisation. I asked my brother, a true philanthropist, to start us off with maybe \$10,000. He looked over the plans and to my amazement, offered to fund the balance.

Beth found land where we could co-locate with a school, and we

convinced the NSW Department of Education to lease it to us. We were in the early stages of planning when my son was admitted to hospital for treatment for acute myeloid leukaemia, and I knew I would have to hand over the project. As I was doing the legal work, I prevailed on my other brother to take on the legal project. So as you can see this became a family commitment to EarlyEd and the families it would support.

It was a great pleasure to attend the opening of the beautiful Rosehill building, and I still cherish the painting from the children which hangs on my office wall.

As an epilogue, a little while later I was talking to a mum with her young baby with Down syndrome, and she told me how lovely it was to take her child to this terrific new facility - warmed my heart! - *Patricia*



Rosehill building. Lease terminated by NSW Department of Education.

Celebrating
40
Years
1979-2019

EarlyEd
Early Intervention for
Children with disability