



The Family Hope Center

“Where Hope Comes Home™”



The Strawbridge Family

Case Study

www.familyhopecenter.com

Copyright the Family Hope Center © 2002



The Strawbridge Family's Story

Liz Strawbridge, MD

Maine Integrative Healing

After suffering a stroke and severe meningitis, my 4-year-old son was left with right sided motor impairment, difficulty with short and long-term memory, spatial disorientation and sensory processing issues. As many parents who suffer the trauma of having a brain-injured child, we could see his heart and soul were still bursting with abundant life and beauty.

As a physician, I was very familiar with the conventional treatment plan of PT and OT laid forth by his brilliant team of doctors at Boston Children's Hospital. I was struck by how these therapies addressed the symptoms (muscle weakness) rather than the root of the problem (a hurt brain). It made much more sense to me that we should be working on creating new neurological pathways rather than trying to fix the manifestation of the broken ones to work.

The 3-day seminar led by the Newells and their team was a crash course in neurodevelopment which dovetailed beautifully with recent data around the science of neuroplasticity. They use detailed anatomical and developmental neural network maps in the brain to evaluate where along the timeline of brain development your child suffered injury, causing a dysfunctional pathway for that particular network resulting in downstream consequences. They design a personalized plan for each child based on the particular sequence of neural dysfunctions and help strengthen the network from the origin of the dysfunction rather than fixing the symptom that is revealing itself.

It is a complete multi-modal brain health approach: optimizing nutrition and fuel for neuro-regeneration, using physiology of breathwork to enhance oxygenation of brain tissue, incorporating body and energy work to repattern pathways, creating a unique sensory stimulation program, and returning to basic motor and reflex pathways such as crawling to develop a strong foundation for the most effective brain development. As parents, we are not just shown an action plan which is extremely empowering, but we are given hope, support, and community.

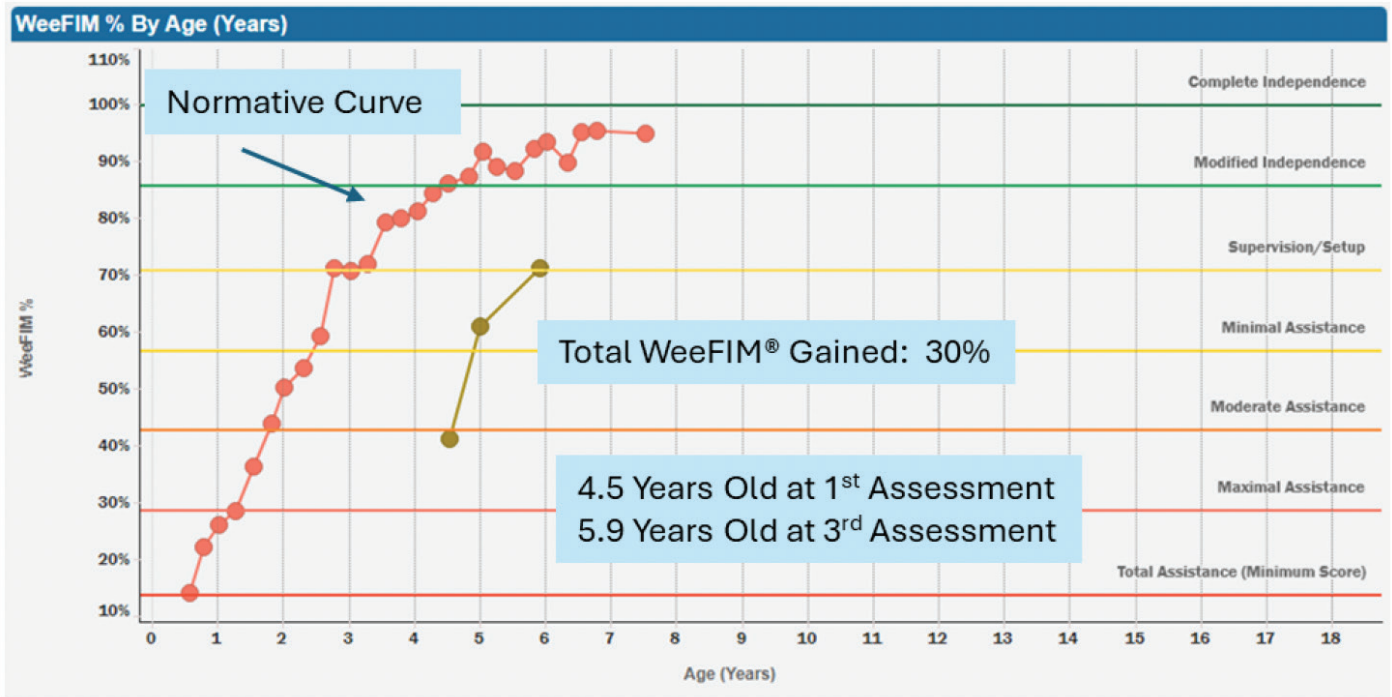
We saw significant gains after working on the program with our son for 6 months. Both his neurologist and neurosurgeon have been blown away by his progress.

The program helps your child adapt and become more resilient, not just get "band aid solutions" that don't promote his or her potentiality and evolution. Now I have applied aspects that I've learned from the program with my other children, myself, and even my patients.



The Strawbridge Family WeeFIM® Results:

Progress as a function of age compared to children without developmental delays or disabilities.



| Helper / No Helper | Category | Rating Descriptor | Rating | Level of Function | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|----------------|
| No Helper | Independence | Complete Independence | 7 | Child safely performs all the tasks without assistance from a helper, within a reasonable amount of time, and without modifications, assistive devices or aids | |
| | | Modified Independence | 6 | Child performs all tasks without assistance from a helper but requires either an assistive device/aid/prosthesis/orthosis, takes more than a reasonable amount of time, or there is a concern for the child's safety | |
| Helper | Modified Dependence | Supervision / Setup | 5 | Child performs all the tasks but requires either supervision without physical contact or setup assistance | 3rd Assessment |
| | | Minimal Assistance | 4 | Child performs > 75% or more of the tasks, requiring no more help than touching | |
| | | Moderate Assistance | 3 | Child performs 50% to 74% of the tasks, requiring physical assistance beyond touching | |
| | Complete Dependence | Maximal Assistance | 2 | Child performs 25% to 49%, requiring maximal assistance from a helper | 1st Assessment |
| | | Total Assistance | 1 | Child performs <25% of the tasks, requiring total assistance from a helper | |