



# Commitment Caring

to

by Lori Meyers

Being married to a physician and having two children of her own has changed Judith Aronson Ramos' approach to medicine. For years, Ramos practiced general pediatrics. In her practice Judith was caught between a rock and a hard place, as she was allotted a limited time for each patient, many of the parents had questions regarding neurological issues including Autism, ADHD and behavioral problems that required more time and may not be seen as medical in nature.

A new trend is taking place among pediatric physicians which allows them to synthesize the medical, psychological and behavioral issues of these children. Although her experience and interest has always been in this area, Dr. Aronson-Ramos is working toward a certification in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics. "This is an emerging field" says Ramos "it is truly filling a niche for so many parents in the medical field." Only a few physicians are currently certified in this field in Broward County. Many more physicians will have this designation over the next decade.

Dr. Ramos' practice is only one aspect of her commitment to improving the communication flow among physicians, psychologists, teachers and parents.

"I have always been fond of the library system here," says Dr. Ramos. As Vice-President of Friends of the Library in Parkland for 3 years, Dr.

Ramos has worked to improve resources available to parents. So much so, that she has created a special section of the City of Parkland library which encompasses close to 2,100 books targeted to parents of children with various developmental issues. The East Hill Family Foundation and the Friends of the Library funded a grant which provided funds to purchase the books and provide workshops for psychologists, physical therapists, social workers and educators in the City of Parkland.

"I speak to groups when I can" says Ramos "on behalf of CARD (The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities), CHADD, (Children with Attention Deficit Disorder) and other groups. Dr. Ramos continues to be an advocate for parents who are struggling with educational, behavioral and emotional issues of their children all at once. "It is so overwhelming for parents, hopefully I am making a difference." Says Ramos.

"There is no question" according to Director of Parkland's Library, Suzi Hayes, "Judith has worked behind the scenes for years bringing needed information to parents who live in her own community!"

For the last 11 years, the Ramos family has taken great pride in their identity as Parkland residents. Dr. Aronson-Ramos and her husband Alfredo, have two daughters, Sarah and Emily. **PL**