



March 19, 2022

My dear families,

I have some sad news and some happy news.

The sad news is that I will be retiring from my clinical practice after 40 years of taking care of families and children as a pediatrician and developmental/behavioral pediatrician. My retirement will be official as of September 30th, 2022.

The happy news. . . About a year ago the thought crossed my mind to retire from my clinical practice. I didn't tell anyone. I didn't put an ad in a medical journal. Within two weeks of having had just the thought, two doctors called me to ask me if I was interested to sell my practice! I took this as a sign from above.

One of those doctors, Nicole Hamp MD, is a developmental behavioral pediatrician who wants to take care of children with autism and their families. She has created *The Arbor Autism Center* (<https://arborautismcenters.com/>) that will offer speech and language and occupational therapy services and parent training programs. The Clinical Director is Phil Menard SLP who has been working with children on the spectrum for decades. The center is located at 850 S. Hewitt Rd, Ypsilanti, MI 48917 just off 94 on the border of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. Please call 734-544-5561 for appointments.

Of course, the center will offer developmental and behavioral pediatric services as well. Dr. Hamp is a wonderful person, warm, kind, nice, and well trained. She did her fellowship in developmental and behavioral pediatric at the University of Michigan. She, and a wonderful pediatric nurse practitioner, Jill Matson, who was the director of the Autism Navigator program at the Autism Alliance of Michigan will be taking care of you if and when you transfer to the center for care which I encourage you to do.

You know that my heart will always be with you, that it has been an honor and a blessing to be with you through all of your joys and sorrows with your children. I have had so much fun with the children and so much joy working with you to help your children reach their full potential.

I have a deep affection for you all and the prospect of retiring and not seeing you is very difficult for me emotionally. But you, my dear families, will have wonderful professionals to care for you. You will have 'continuity of care'. I am leaving you in good hands which makes my heart happy. I will miss you all very much but hope to see you at least one more time before I retire.

With deep affection,

Rick Solomon MD