

Dear Parents,

For me, becoming a pediatric dentist was simple: I wanted to be someone's dentist. Meaning, I wanted the opportunity to foster and develop a relationship with a patient and their family that progressed and grew through time. I value the opportunity and role a pediatric dentist fulfills in a child's life.

At the time of realization, I already had a career in dentistry as a dental hygienist. I began in dentistry when I was seventeen years old and had reached a point in my career, 12 years later, where I desired to have a larger role. Meanwhile, I had a pediatric dentist who was a wonderful mentor who I had worked with over the past seven years. His encouragement led to me applying to dental school. Then, at 32 years old I wondered what I had gotten myself into. Soon after dental school, I was accepted into the Pediatric Dentistry Residency program. I knew that working with children reinforced my strengths and talents, and the pediatric dental specialty was the right path for me.

I welcome the responsibility that comes with "being someone's dentist" and would not change any part of the path that I walked over the past 34 years. I wanted to be the doctor that my patients could count on, who would give them her honest best, and who would develop the relationship and trust that my patients and their parents have come to respect and appreciate.

Thank you for helping me fulfill my dreams and for entrusting my team of pediatric dental specialists and me to the compassionate care of your child.

Sincerely,

Rita M. Cammarata