



Rebeca Fernandez from Brazil

Nominated by the Murphy family in Florida



Within five days of welcoming our fourth child into the family, we were doubly blessed to have Rebeca “Becky” Fernandez join our family as well. From the first day, she was hands on with the children, getting to know my older kids interests and letting the 18-month-old lead her around the house and explore. She has been exceptional with integrating to our family. She joins in our family dinners and events and always with a smile. She celebrated her first Halloween at Disney World with us and joined our family costume of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves (she joyfully played Happy).

When we signed up for the Au Pair program, we figured we would get an extra set of hands to help with the kids. We are thrilled to have matched with Becky who has the kindest heart and a genuine spirit. Our oldest daughter is in gymnastics and Becky will spend her Sundays off practicing cartwheels in the backyard. Our oldest son has

speech apraxia and Becky researched the disorder on her own and works hard with him to help with pronunciation of words. She makes it fun for him, so he is so proud that he “helps” Becky with her English.

She has worked diligently for our youngest son to be comfortable transitioning from





diapers to a big boy potty and she helped accomplish this while taking care of a very curious baby girl. She shares songs from Argentina with the children and helps them with their Spanish homework. Becky spreads her enthusiasm every day; we regularly come home from work to find a dance party in the playroom. The best thing is she gets all the children from ages 1 to 7 years old to play

together and share. When we sat down at the beginning of this journey, we stressed how important it was for our family for the children to develop good relationships with each other despite the age differences. Becky took the message to heart and is an excellent facilitator in our place when we are not home.

My children love her as one of the family and insisted she be part of our annual

family picture; she even got a matching outfit so we could all coordinate. We love her for all the compassion she has shown to our family and the genuine feeling of caring. For our one-year anniversary



of her joining the Murphy family, she made us a beautiful piece of artwork to commemorate this past year. We know that when this au pair adventure ends, she will always be part of this family and we have made a lifelong connection.

