



Dear Friends,

Exactly nine years have passed since I walked through the front door of Senders Pediatrics. When I walked into the friendly lobby on Warrensville Center Road and saw the playhouse and little slide, I said to myself "This is the place I need to be." Now, amidst the grand tree house and dreamy painted clouds, I hear the voice in my head telling me it is time to move on.

Like many of you, I constantly struggle with trying to achieve the balance of a career, family, and self. As many have noticed, I have tried over the past several months to alter my schedule at Senders so that I might stay on in some capacity while working toward other goals. However, it is just not happening. So with a very heavy heart but a renewed sense of excitement, I have chosen to resign from Senders Pediatrics. I appreciate the understanding of my coworkers, especially Dr. Senders, who has been most supportive in this decision. (It is always difficult when a member of the team leaves as responsibilities are absorbed by others and families get frustrated.) Now I ask for your understanding and support as well. I would much rather have told you in person rather than a form letter, but after nine years, this would have been extremely arduous task!

Over the years I have been intrigued by, and fielded many questions on, alternative therapies, herbal medicine, massage therapy, and other complimentary health practices. I am bothered that I have not known the answers to these questions or had the time to fully investigate them. As health care costs increase and the focus of health care continues to shift toward health promotion and disease prevention there is no better time to explore these interests. I believe there is so much more to offer outside of, and in combination with, traditional Western recommendations.

I have resisted leaving Senders because I didn't want to "give up" interacting with you and your children. It is their energizing and unique personalities that kept me coming in day after day. The relationships we have developed will be missed more than I can put into words. It is my hope that as I continue to see you in the community, at Giant Eagle, Gesu, Lifetime Fitness, or Legacy Village, you will stop and say "Hello" and fill me in on the latest and greatest happenings in your family!

I can tell you this was, without a doubt, one of the most difficult decisions I have ever made, as Senders Pediatrics has become much more than a place or job; it has become my extended family. I have gained so much from my experience here. I appreciate your willingness to welcome me into your families and share the details of your personal lives with me. You and your children have taught me about different cultures, traditions, books, interests, and the marvels of the human body and spirit. Parents have shared "pearls" of wisdom with me that I have been passed on to countless other families. You and your children have given me so much more than I could ever learn from a book or class. Thank You. I will take all of it with me to the next chapter in my life.

I firmly believe that Senders Pediatrics is the best practice around. I know firsthand that you will never find a more dedicated group of individuals to care for your children. The receptionists, medical assistants, researchers, administrators, and providers all have you and your children's best interest in mind. In short, they really do care. I will continue to see you in the lobby with my own son but hopefully only once a year ☺.

My last day will be March 31, 2010. My personal e-mail is madombro@gmail.com if you would like to keep in touch.

Thanks again, I will miss you. Be Happy and Well,

Mary Alice