

# Press Release: Columbus Educator Recognized Nationally for Rethinking How Children Focus

**Columbus, IN** — After teaching students from 22 different countries in international school systems around the world, Tina Kramer, a Columbus-based educator and researcher, began asking a question that would shape the next chapter of her life's work: *Why are so many intelligent children struggling to succeed in traditional classrooms?*

Throughout her career, Kramer observed the same pattern across cultures and continents. Students were bright, curious, and capable — yet easily distracted, falling behind academically, and losing confidence. Parents and teachers often expressed confusion and concern, wondering what was being missed.

Through years of research, travel, and work in alternative learning environments, Kramer came to understand that many of these children process the world differently. Their heightened awareness and sensitivity — often a strength — can make sustained focus difficult in conventional classroom settings.

Kramer's mission became deeply personal later in life. Diagnosed with ADHD at age 50, she reflected on her own lifelong challenges with reading, math, and sustained attention. One thing consistently helped her regulate focus: sound. Music and rhythm provided structure, calm, and clarity — an experience echoed repeatedly by families she spoke with.

Those insights led to the development of **Focus Wave**, a gentle, non-invasive, sound-based support tool designed to meet children where they are. Rather than demanding more effort or compliance, the approach aims to provide a subtle external cue that helps support focus naturally.

Early feedback from families was encouraging. In one early trial, a child showed noticeable improvements in awareness and engagement. Her parents described the experience as meaningful, with one mother saying, *"I don't know what this is, but it's definitely helping."*

Kramer's work has since gained national recognition. She recently presented Focus Wave at a competitive pitch event hosted by Silicon Couloir in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where she received the **Bob Arndt Community Caretaker Award**, honoring innovations that positively impact families and communities.

From the beginning, children were invited to help shape the project — offering feedback on comfort, appearance, and design — ensuring the tool felt approachable and confidence-building rather than clinical. Today, Focus Wave reflects not only research and lived experience, but also the voices of the children it is meant to support.

"My mission is to change how we understand ADHD," Kramer said. "These children are not broken. They are intelligent, capable, and full of potential. When we support their ability to focus, we allow those strengths to come through."

Kramer hopes her work helps reduce fear for families and broadens the conversation around focus support to include thoughtful, non-invasive approaches alongside existing options. Her message to children who struggle with attention is simple and hopeful: **You are different, not broken — and your way of learning belongs in the future of education.**

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## **About Focus Wave**

Focus Wave is a sound-based, non-invasive support tool developed by educator Tina Kramer to help children and adults with focus challenges engage more comfortably in learning and everyday environments.