

Real Stories

Scenario 1

Student A's mom died of a drug overdose when he was 4. Dad was incarcerated. Student A and his two siblings were placed with their aunt who had four children of her own. Within two months, DSS was contacted and Student A and his siblings were placed in foster care. His two siblings went to one home and he was placed on his own with another family. He has been in four different foster placements since his first placement with his aunt.

Scenario 2

When Student B was in second grade, he witnessed his mom and grandmother being arrested while they were shooting up heroin in a car. Student B was in the car. He experienced chronic homelessness, living in the car and various hotels. He regularly witnessed domestic abuse by his mother's boyfriends and there is a current protective order against his biological father who can not be around them. Student B has grown extremely protective of his mom and constantly worries about her health and safety.

Scenario 3

His mom was twelve when Student C was born. His mom and grandmother were awarded custody because of mom's age. Mom has been in and out of rehab and psychiatric facilities throughout Student C's life. He became his little sister's caretaker when he was six. There were multiple times he came home from school to find his mom unresponsive due to drugs and other health related issues. In fourth grade, Student C was placed in foster care because his mom was incarcerated. Student C moved in with grandma, who died. Student C had to go back to foster care. His younger sister went to live with her father. He went back to live with his mom when she was released from prison.