

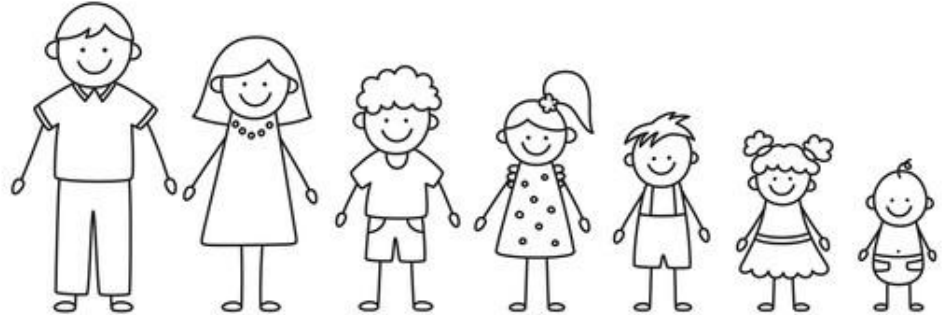
Child Neglect Case Study

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Demographics

- For this case study, we see two young boys approximately 7 & 9 years old. The two boys make up a family of seven with both parents.
- The parents both do not hold jobs and often times have people stay at their house.



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Intersecting Issue

These boys are victims of neglect and poverty.

- To be able to make money, their father taught them how to panhandle and beg for money from strangers
- When they were brought into the psychiatric hospital, they were thin and asked for food as soon as they were settled. Also, a strong odor was emitting from them when they came in, showing that they had not bathed in quite a while
- The boys were also in trouble with the law after stealing a car and breaking into a local store and vandalizing the property

Plan for the Family

- The first thing that I would want to do is an inspection of the living conditions of the children. This is to make sure that they had running water, access to food, and adequate shelter. If these conditions were not met, I would work with the family with resources in how to get these support programs.
- After evaluating the living conditions, I would sit down with the parents and see if we can set them up for a revenue source. Whether this be unemployment, disability or the start of a job hunt in the surrounding area.
- I would help set them up with transportation, whether that be a bus pass or something of the sort for easier transport.

Adequate Living Conditions

- When these children came in, the main priority is making sure that they are receiving adequate care and nourishment at home. From the evaluation, we can tell that they are being neglected. So, from this, we would working on potentially getting the family set up with food stamps to help get food on the table.
- Obviously, the boys were found dirty, and there are some resources within our community that have designated days for those who do not have running water to come in a shower twice a week. The Alfred-Washburn Center being one of the resources that also offers a laundromat service, clothes, and food.
- If the house itself was depleted, I would look to set up the family with housing / rental assistance whether that be to find a new home or to help renovate the house they are in now.

Revenue Sources

- With both parents not working, it is hard for the children to get adequate care.
- First, I would determine if the parents qualify for disability or unemployment benefits. This would only be a short-term solution.
- After, hopefully, getting them a short-term solution, we would work on longer term solutions, so a consistent paying job. They cannot depend on begging for money when it comes to providing for the family. We can also discuss the steps to a job, how they may have to stay in a job they do not like for a little while to gain experience. They will then be able to use that experience as a tool to get higher paying jobs. Jobs that they may like more.

Transportation

- Transportation can be tough, whether it be maintaining the vehicle or affording the gas, it can be another added expense that people cannot afford. So, I would see if we can get the family bus passes and see how relatively close they are to the surrounding areas. A bike might help alleviate some transportation issues depending on how close they are to the city.

Reflection

If these two boys, were given other opportunities, I do not think they would have gotten in trouble with the law. At home, if they had something to do to keep them engaged or were involved in extracurriculars instead of worrying of panhandling money from strangers or stealing to get money, I do not think they would have been taken into custody.

Their home situation does need to change, they need helping in receiving resources. The boy's parents need to seek out jobs to provide the family with running water and a stable source of food. With these interventions, the boys will do better in school and hopefully stop looking into way to get into trouble. They may want to stay home instead of committing multiple crimes. Being provided the safety of an adequate home, I feel, can drastically change, Mark and Will's life.

Sources

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