

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON  
FOR THE COUNTY OF HAMILTON

In the Matter of  
LINDSAY HART

Case No: 16JU06578

a child

CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD (CRB)  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Citizen Review Board Hamilton 1  
Date of Review: 11/07/2016  
Permanency Plan: Reunification  
Concurrent Plan: Adoption

Date Entered Care: 5/25/16  
Date of Jurisdiction: 7/25/16  
DHS Number: DHS123456  
Date of Birth: 10/23/2000

Board Members Present: Board Member #1, Board Member #2, Board Member #3, Board Member #4

Others Present: Peter Smith, DHS; Ashley Hart, Mother; Barbara Blanche, Mother's Attorney; Dan Fowler, Child's Attorney; Caroline Williams, CASA; John Nichols, CRB Field Manager

Information Considered by the Board: Child Specific Case Plan, 10/15/16; Child Welfare Case Plan, 10/15/16; Assessment Summary; Action Agreement for Mother, 10/7/16; Shelter Order, 5/25/16; Petition, 5/27/16; Judgment of Jurisdiction, 7/25/16; Protective Custody Report, 5/24/16; Verification of ICWA Eligibility; Placement History.

Basis for Jurisdiction: The child is under the jurisdiction of the court for the following reasons:

2A: The Mother's substance abuse interferes with her ability to safely parent.

2B: The Mother's untreated mental health poses a safety risk to the child.

2C: The Mother's engagement in a domestically violent relationship poses a safety risk to the child.

Ashley Hart is the mother. There is no legal father.

ICWA Status: The mother indicated no Native American or Alaskan Native heritage on the ICWA Verification form.

Summary of Situation: This is Lindsay's second time in foster care. She was previously in care from 2/2009-4/2010 due to her mother's drug use and mental health issues. She was returned to her mother's care in 4/2010 after Ms. Hart successfully completed outpatient drug treatment and was engaged in individual therapy.

Lindsay re-entered care due to the mother's drug use and domestic violence between Ms. Hart and her current husband, Derek Stevens. Lindsay had been staying with friends in unsafe situations to escape the home environment.

The Board Made the Following Findings and Recommendations at the Review:

FINDINGS		Yes	No
1.	<p><b>DHS made reasonable efforts to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child(ren) from the home.</b></p> <p>DHS received a report from Lindsay's school that she had missed an excessive number of days and when confronted by the school counselor, Lindsay disclosed a chaotic home environment that included drug abuse by her mother and step-father and domestic violence. Lindsay disclosed that her mother had a prior period of sobriety but had relapsed approximately one year ago and was actively using methamphetamine and opiates. Lindsay was refusing to remain in the</p>	X	

FINDINGS		Yes	No
	<p>home and was staying with older friends in unsafe living situations.</p> <p>DHS met with Ms. Hart, and she admitted to relapsing on drugs. She expressed a willingness to take a UA and engage in drug and alcohol treatment. She denied any domestic violence in the home. DHS attempted to make a safety plan for Lindsay- there were no local relatives or friends willing or able to be a safety service provider for the family, and Lindsay was unwilling to remain with her mother and stepfather in the home. Because DHS was unable to ensure the safety of the home and Lindsay was unwilling to remain in the home, DHS took custody of Lindsay.</p>		
2.	<p><b>DHS has made diligent efforts to place the child(ren) with a relative or a person who has a caregiver relationship.</b></p> <p>Lindsay is placed in non-relative foster care and has had three placements since entry. Her maternal relatives all live in California, including a maternal aunt with whom she is close. The maternal aunt maintains contact with Lindsay but due to her location is not a placement resource at this time. The ongoing relative search is beng conducted.</p>	X	
3A.	<p><b>DHS has ensured that appropriate services are in place to safeguard the child(ren)'s safety, health and well-being.</b></p> <p>PLACEMENT: Lindsay, age 16, is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> foster placement. She was in her first foster home for only 6 days before the foster parent asked that she be moved due to Lindsay sneaking a boy into the home during the night. Lindsay was in her second foster home for almost a month but ran from this home due to feeling like the rules were too oppressive. Lindsay was on the run from 6/29/16-7/11/16 and was staying with older friends. Lindsay entered her current foster home on 7/11/16. According to the CASA, Lindsay is struggling in this foster placement and the foster parent is not sure how much longer they can safely manage Lindsay's behaviors. The CASA reports that while Lindsay can be mature and wise beyond her years, she struggles with emotional regulation and controlling her temper- Lindsay will yell and throw things in the home when she is upset, and will also withdraw and refuse to speak to the foster parent or engage with anyone who tries to talk to her.</p> <p>THERAPEUTIC SUPPORT SERVICES: Lindsay had a mental health assessment on 10/4/16. The assessment indicated that Lindsay has a diagnosis of PTSD, depression, and anxiety. The caseworker reported at the review that the mental health assessment was delayed when Lindsay moved to a foster home out of county- her initial referral was made in Hamilton County, and when she moved to Jefferson County on 7/11/16 a new referral was necessary. Lindsay was referred to individual mental health counseling and had her first appointment on 11/1/16. Lindsay's attorney reported that Lindsay expressed apathy about engaging in counseling. Lindsay was referred to Jefferson County ILP services on her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday- she is currently on the waitlist to meet with an ILP counselor. A comprehensive transition plan has not been developed.</p> <p>EDUCATION: Lindsay is in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade and is on an IEP. She is behind in all academic subjects and struggles to remain in school for the entire school day. Her IEP was last updated at the end of 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Lindsay is entitled to additional support in the resource classroom for math and reading, but it was unclear from the review participants how often she attends the resource room classes.</p> <p>HEALTH/MEDICASL: Lindsay had a medical checkup in September 2016 and is healthy and not on any medications. The CASA reported that the foster parent is</p>	X	

FINDINGS		Yes	No
	going to contact Lindsay's doctor and ask for a referral to a psychiatrist to evaluate whether medication might help Lindsay. Lindsay had a dental appointment in October 2016.		
3B.	<p><b>DHS has taken appropriate steps to ensure that 1) the substitute care provider is following the reasonable and prudent parent standard, and 2) the child(ren) has/have regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in age appropriate or developmentally appropriate activities.</b></p> <p>This finding does not apply.</p>	N/A	N/A
4.	<p><b>DHS made reasonable efforts to provide services to make it possible for the child(ren) to safely return home.</b></p> <p>DHS has provided the following referrals to MOTHER: drug and alcohol assessment and treatment, UAs, psychological evaluation, individual and group counseling at Women Center for domestic violence.</p> <p>DHS has provided mother with bus passes and phone cards. DHS held a Child Safety Meeting in May 2016 and provided an Action Agreement on 10/7/16.</p>	X	
5.	<p><b>DHS made reasonable efforts in accordance with the case plan to place the child(ren) in a timely manner, and complete the steps necessary to finalize the permanent placement, including an interstate placement if appropriate.</b></p> <p>This finding does not apply.</p>	N/A	N/A
6.	<p><b>The parents have made sufficient progress to make it possible for the child(ren) to safely return home.</b></p> <p>MOTHER: Ms. Hart has been minimally involved in services. She is currently 9 months pregnant. Her husband, Derek Stevens, was arrested for assaulting her in August 2016- he is currently on probation and there is a No Contact order between them. The caseworker reported at the review that community reports indicate that Ms. Hart and Mr. Stevens have been seen together several times since August 2016. Ms. Hart denied this at the review.</p> <p>Ms. Hart attended her drug and alcohol assessment at Promises on 9/14/16- she was referred to the outpatient treatment program. Ms. Hart has not attended any of her sessions and Promises closed her file in early November. The caseworker reported at the review that Ms. Hart was a no-show for scheduled UAs and she was taken off the UA hotline. Ms. Hart has not scheduled an appointment for a psychological evaluation.</p> <p>At the review, Ms. Hart indicated that she is having complications with her pregnancy and she was unable to attend all of the drug treatment sessions. She indicated that she was willing to re-enroll at Promises after the baby was born. Ms. Hart reported that she was evicted from her home once her husband moved out and she could no longer afford the rent, and she has been staying with various friends since then.</p> <p>Ms. Hart has attended approximately two-thirds of her visits with Lindsay. She is scheduled for weekly visits at the DHS office.</p> <p>FATHER: There is no legal father.</p>		Mother

<b>FINDINGS</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
7.	<b>DHS has made sufficient efforts in developing the concurrent permanency plan.</b>  A relative search is ongoing. A maternal aunt was contacted at the beginning of the case and indicated a willingness to be a long-term resource for Lindsay.	X	
8.	<b>DHS is in compliance with the case plan and court orders.</b>  Face to face contact between the caseworker and Lindsay has been conducted per policy and was documented in the case plan every month. See findings #3 and #4 – DHS has provided appropriate services in accordance with the permanency plan of return to parent.	X	
9.	<b>The permanency plan is the most appropriate plan for the child(ren).</b>  The permanency plan of return to parent remains the most appropriate plan at the this time in order to provide the mother additional opportunity to engage in services.	X	
10.	<b>There is a continuing need for placement.</b>  Lindsay will require substitute care until the conditions for return have been met and she is safely able to return home.	X	

Additional Finding(s):

- a. The next CRB will be scheduled in May 2017.
- b. A permanency hearing is scheduled for June 9, 2017 at 3:30pm.
- c. Ms. Hart is 9 months pregnant; an assessment will be conducted at birth.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. DHS ensure that a referral is made for a medication evaluation for Lindsay.
2. DHS contact Lindsay's therapist for family counseling with the foster parent to preserve the placement.
3. DHS contact Lindsay's school to request and obtain a copy of her IEP and ensure that Lindsay receives appropriate academic support.
4. DHS complete the Youth Transition Plan with Lindsay within the next 30 days pending enrollment in ILP services.
5. DHS contact the maternal aunt about her interest in being a placement resource for Lindsay.

Board Member #1  
Board Member

11/15/16  
Date

John Nichols  
Field Manager

\*\*\*\*\*

Pursuant to state law, DHS must notify the Citizen Review Board within 17 days of receipt of this report when the Agency does not intend to implement the above recommendations. DHS may notify the CRB by completion of the forms provided for that purpose. Mail the form to: Citizen Review Board, 1163 State St., Salem, OR 97301.

**Parents may request the court to conduct a review hearing**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON  
FOR HAMILTON COUNTY**

In the Matter of: ) Case Number: 16JU135437  
 )  
Colton Stevens ) **JUDGMENT OF JURISDICTION**  
 A Child. ) **AND DISPOSITION**

**This matter came before the Court on: January 10, 2017.**

**Persons appearing:**

Legal Father ( <i>name</i> ): Derek Stevens	Attorney: Dan Gallan
Putative Father ( <i>name</i> ):	Attorney:
Mother: Ashley Hart	Attorney: Barbara Blanche
Child:	Attorney: Dan Fowler
Tribe:	Tribal Atty/Rep:

CASA: Caroline Williams	Deputy D.A:
Guardian:	Assist. Atty Gen'l:
DHS Caseworker: Peter Smith	Other:
Guardian Ad Litem:	Other:

**Relevant Dates/Current Placement:**

Date juvenile court jurisdiction was established: January 10, 2017.

Date the child was last placed in substitute care: November 10, 2016.

Date the child was placed in current placement: November 10, 2016.

Current Placement:  home with parent or guardian, or  substitute care with  relative  current caretaker  
 non-relative/non-current caretaker  residential  other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DHS Documentation:** The Department of Human Services (DHS)  **has**  **has not** prepared a written case plan that complies with the requirements of ORS 419B.343

**Evidence Considered**

<b><u>JURISDICTION</u></b>	<b><u>DISPOSITION</u></b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stipulations by the parties <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The admissions described below <input type="checkbox"/> The exhibits admitted at the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> The testimony of the witnesses at the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> The following facts/law, of which the court has taken judicial notice: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stipulations by the parties <input type="checkbox"/> The exhibits admitted at the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> The testimony of the witnesses at the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> The following facts/law, of which the court has taken judicial notice: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

The findings in this judgment are found by:

preponderance of the evidence.

clear and convincing evidence because the child is an "Indian child" under the ICWA (25 USC §§ 1901-63).

**1. SUMMONS, NOTICE AND PARTICIPATION**

**▶ Parties Summoned:**

**Mother** was summoned to the hearing and appeared.

Mother was summoned to the hearing and failed to appear, and she  is  is not a person in the military service who is entitled to the protections of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Father** was summoned to the hearing and appeared.

Father was summoned to the hearing and failed to appear, and he  is  is not a person in the military service and who is entitled to the protections of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Mother  Father  Guardian(s) was/were provided the notice of obligations and rights required by ORS 419B.117.

**▶ Foster Parent(s)/Care Provider(s):**

The child is in substitute care, and DHS  did  did not give the foster parent(s)/current care provider(s) notice of the hearing.

The foster parent(s)/current care provider(s) did not attend the hearing.

The foster parent(s)/current care provider(s) attended the hearing and had an opportunity to be heard.

**▶ Grandparent(s):**

DHS  **made**  **did not make** diligent efforts to identify, obtain contact information for, and notify all grandparents of the hearing.

No grandparents attended the hearing, *or*

The following grandparents attended the hearing and had an opportunity to be heard:

Maternal:

grandmother  grandfather

Paternal:

grandmother  grandfather

The grandparents who attended the hearing were informed of the date of a future hearing.

DHS **did not** give the grandparents notice of the hearing because: \_\_\_\_\_.

For good cause shown, the court relieves DHS of the responsibility to provide notice of this hearing.

**2. INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT (ICWA)**

At this time, the Court does not have reason to believe that the ICWA applies.

The ICWA applies to this case, because the Court  has determined  has reason to know that the child is an "Indian child" under the ICWA, and is an enrolled member of, or is eligible for membership in, the following tribe(s): \_\_\_\_\_, 25 USC § 1903(4). The tribe(s)  has  has not been notified of this proceeding, as required by 25 USC § 1912(a). This Court  has  does not have jurisdiction under 25 USC § 1911 to proceed with the case. Additional findings: \_\_\_\_\_.

**3. JURISDICTION**

▶  The child is under 18 years of age, and venue is proper in this court.

▶  This court has jurisdiction under the UCCJEA to make a child custody determination.

	Father	Mother	Guardian
<b>Admitted or Proved</b>			
Allegations from petition filed on: <u>November 21, 2016</u>	2D: The father's substance abuse interferes with his ability to safely parent.  2E: The father engages in domestic violence that represents a threat of harm and trauma to the child.	2A: The mother's substance abuse interferes with her ability to safely parent.  2B: The mother fails to recognize the father as a safety threat to the child and fails to act protectively.  2C: The mother's untreated mental health poses a safety risk to the child.	
Amended allegations from petition filed on: _____			
<b>Continued</b>			
Allegations from petition/amended petition filed on: _____			
<b>Dismissed</b>			
Allegations from petition/amended petition filed on: _____			

► **Jurisdiction Finding:**

- The child **is within** the jurisdiction of the court under ORS 419B.100.  
 The child **is not within** the jurisdiction of the court under ORS 419B.100.

**4. DISPOSITIONAL FINDINGS**

► **PLACEMENT AND CUSTODY FINDINGS:**

**In-Home Placement:**

- Placement in the **home** is in the child's best interest and for the child's welfare.  
 Placement in the legal custody of **DHS** for in-home placement is in the child's best interest and for the child's welfare.

**Out-of-Home Placement:**

- Placement or continuation in substitute care is in the child's best interest and for the child's welfare, based on the jurisdictional findings under ORS 419B.100 and because:

Non-ICWA case:  The child cannot be safely returned home/maintained in the home without further danger of suffering physical injury or emotional harm or endangering or harming others. Additional findings: \_\_\_\_\_. ORS 419B.337(1).

ICWA case:  Clear and convincing evidence, including qualified expert witness testimony, has established that continued custody of the child by the parent(s), or Indian custodian(s), is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage/injury to the child. Additional findings: \_\_\_\_\_. 25 USC §1912(e); ORS 419B.340(7).

The court further finds that it is in the child's best interest and welfare to be placed:

- in the legal custody of DHS for substitute care  
 under protective supervision and in substitute care per  ORS 419B.331  ORS 419B.334

► **Diligent Efforts:**

Relative Placement:

The child is in substitute care, and DHS  has made  has not made diligent efforts to place the child with a relative/person who has a caregiver relationship with the child, as required by ORS 419B.192.

DHS has decided to place the child with a relative or person who has a caregiver relationship with the child, but that placement is not in the child's best interest, because: \_\_\_\_\_.

Sibling Placement:

The child is in substitute care and has one or more siblings in substitute care. DHS  has made  has not made diligent efforts to place the child with a sibling, as required by ORS 419B.192.  Placement together is not in the best interest of the child or sibling.

► **Placement Preferences:**

The selected placement  is  is not the least restrictive, most family-like setting that meets the health and safety needs of the child and in reasonable proximity to the child's home. 42 USC § 675(5)(A).  
Additional findings: \_\_\_\_\_.

ICWA case:  The selected placement:  complies  does not comply with the placement preference(s) established by 25 USC § 1915. Additional findings: \_\_\_\_\_.

► **Reasonable/Active Efforts:**

❖ **Findings Not Required**

This judgment does not authorize the removal of the child from the home, and the child is currently in the home and was not removed from the home prior to entry of this judgment.

This is not an ICWA case, and, pursuant to ORS 419B.340(5) and (6) (special circumstances), DHS is not required to make reasonable efforts to reunify the child with  Mother  Father. Additional findings: \_\_\_\_\_.

❖ **Findings Required**

This judgment commits the child to the **legal custody** of DHS. The court has considered the circumstances of the child and parent(s) and the child's health and safety. The court finds:

**Efforts Prior to Removal**

DHS has  made  not made  reasonable  active efforts to prevent or eliminate the need for removal, as described below.

DHS has made  reasonable  active efforts because the agency's first contact with the family occurred during an emergency and the child could not remain without jeopardy in the home.

Although DHS did not make the required reasonable, or active, efforts to prevent or eliminate the need for removal, additional preventive/ reunification efforts would not permit the child to remain safely in the home.

**Efforts Since Removal**

DHS has  made  not made  reasonable  active efforts to make it possible for the ward to safely return home, as described below.

**Description** of preventive and reunification efforts and why those efforts were or were not sufficient and whether additional efforts would have been successful: Parents' active drug use and no contact order from the court prevented an in-home safety plan from being successful.



Description of reasonable/active efforts is attached as Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_, and is adopted as the Court's written findings.

The court considered whether placement of the child and referral to the Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families Program is in the child's best interest as required by ORS 418.595.

► **Case Plan:**

**The Current Case Plan Is:**

Reunification with  Mother  Father  Other:  
 Other plan: \_\_\_\_\_

To be achieved by: July 2017 (date)

**The Concurrent Plan Is:** Adoption.

---

---

**THE COURT ORDERS:**

**Wardship**

Based on the finding of jurisdiction, the child is made a ward of the court under ORS 419B.328.

**Dismissal**

Based on the court's finding there is no jurisdiction, the petition/amended petition is dismissed.

**Placement, Legal Custody and Guardianship**

► **In-Home**

The court grants legal custody and guardianship (ORS 419B.372) of the child to DHS for care, placement and supervision, and directs the child be placed at home subject to the following conditions:  
\_\_\_\_\_.

(OR)

The child is placed under the protective supervision of the court and in the legal custody of:  
 Mother  Father  Guardian subject to the following conditions: \_\_\_\_\_.

► **Out-of-Home**

The court grants legal custody and guardianship (ORS 419B.372) of the child to DHS for care, placement and supervision.

The child is placed under the protective supervision of the court and in the legal custody of \_\_\_\_\_ pursuant to:  ORS 419B.331  ORS 419B.334

**Parent/Guardians**

Mother  Father  Other: \_\_\_\_\_ to comply with the terms of the  Action Agreement/ Letter of Expectation, dated \_\_\_\_\_.  Other: Mother is to complete a psychological evaluation and follow all recommendations, participate in a drug and alcohol assessment and follow all treatment recommendations, engage in mental health therapy, and participate in visitation. Father is to engage in a batterer's intervention program and successfully complete the program and to participate in a drug and alcohol assessment and follow all treatment recommendations, and to participate in visitation.

**DHS**

DHS is ordered to: \_\_\_\_\_.

**CASA**

CASA is appointed to represent the child/ren.

**Visitation** ORS 419B.337(3)

DHS is ordered to develop or modify the visitation plan to include the following provisions: Each parent is to receive at a minimum twice weekly visits with the child.

**ICWA Determination**

DHS is ordered to continue its inquiry into whether the child is an Indian Child and report the results of the inquiry to the court.

**DHS Disclosure of Records and Reports**

Under ORS 419A.255(4)(a)(C), the Court consents to the use and disclosure of records, reports, materials or documents in the record of the case or the supplemental confidential file by DHS if such use and disclosure is reasonably necessary to perform its official duties related to the involvement of the child with the juvenile court.

Additional orders: \_\_\_\_\_.

**All parties present were notified of these court dates and are ordered to appear:**

<b>APPEARANCE TYPE:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>TIME:</b>
▶ Review hearing	4/5/17	9:25am
▶ Permanency hearing	11/28/17	3:30pm
▶ If the child is in the legal custody of DHS and placed in substitute care, the CRB will conduct a review of this case between 5 and 6 months from entry into care.	5/19/17	3:30pm
▶ Other:		
▶ <input type="checkbox"/> No further hearings.		

DATED: 1/10/17

\_\_\_\_\_  
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Judge Daniel Travers  
Print, Type or Stamp Name of Judge



123456  
Peter Smith  
(123) 456-7890  
123 Main Street  
Town, Oregon 97100

### CHILD WELFARE CASE PLAN

<b>CASE NAME:</b> Ashley Hart	<b>PLAN DATE:</b> 4/21/2017
-------------------------------	-----------------------------

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN(S)

<b>Name:</b> Ashley Hart	
<b>DOB:</b> 9/24/1980	<b>Relationship to Child:</b> mother

<b>Name:</b> Derek Stevens	
<b>DOB:</b> 3/23/1984	<b>Relationship to Child:</b> father

#### CHILD

<b>Child's Name:</b> Colton Stevens	<b>DOB:</b> 11/10/16	<b>Age:</b> 6 mos
<b>ICWA Status:</b> Not Eligible	<b>Gender:</b> male	

#### Active Safety Threats:

<p>One or both parents' behavior is violent and/or they are acting dangerously.</p> <p>One or both parents' drug use is impacting the child's safety.</p> <p>One or both parents' untreated mental health is impacting the child's safety.</p>
--

#### Departmental Efforts to Prevent Removal or to Return Child(ren) Home:

<p>Colton tested positive for opiates at birth. He had limited prenatal care and was born several weeks early. DHS was already working with the family due to Colton's sister's case and was aware that the mother was using illegal substances. Both parents admitted to drug use. Mother admitted that she was currently not in treatment for drug abuse or mental health. The father was currently on probation for an assault charge against the mother and had a no contact order. Due to these issues and a lack of an appropriate safety service provider, the child was taken into DHS care.</p>
--

#### Immediate Family Functioning:

<p>Ms. Hart expresses the desire to regain custody of both of her children. She participated in a psychological evaluation on 2/28/17 and enrolled in Promises Drug and Alcohol outpatient treatment on 2/6/17. Ms. Hart is engaged in mental health counseling through Women Center. Ms. Hart regularly attends her twice weekly visits with Colton at DHS.</p> <p>Mr. Stevens was arrested for a probation violation on 1/18/17 and sentenced to nine months incarceration- he</p>
--

has a release date of October 2017. Prior to his incarceration Mr. Stevens was visiting Colton regularly at DHS.

**Extended Family Functioning:**

Maternal relatives live primarily in California. A maternal aunt has been a support for Ms. Hart and her daughter in the past and continues to be supportive of the daughter.

Paternal relatives have been contacted by DHS- the paternal grandmother expressed interest in being a placement resource for Colton, but after learning that she would not be able to be certified she has not been in touch with DHS.

Colton does not have any visits or contact with extended family. Relatives continue to be explored.

**Protective Capacity Assessment Summary:**

ASHLEY HART- Ashley Hart is the 36 year-old mother of Colton Stevens. Ms. Hart has a history of substance abuse dating back to her teen years as well as a history of engaging in domestically violent relationships. She fails to acknowledge the warning signs or inappropriate behaviors involved in her current relationship, but is able to articulate how similar situations in past relationships fit the criteria for domestic abuse. Ms. Hart indicates that she has had periods of sobriety, but began to use methamphetamine and then opiates approximately 18 months ago. She admitted to using illegal drugs while pregnant with Colton. A previous psychological evaluation done in 2009 when her older daughter came into care diagnosed her with PTSD, Anxiety, and Depression. Ms. Hart had previously been successful in mental health therapy and drug treatment, allowing her daughter to be returned to her care in 2010. However, since that time she has relapsed in drug abuse and has ceased all counseling and medication management for her anxiety and depression.

DEREK STEVENS- Derek Stevens is the 33 year-old father of Colton Stevens. He has been married to Ashley Hart since 2013. Mr. Stevens was employed full-time for most of the marriage, but lost his employment in July 2016. Mr. Stevens was arrested for domestic assault in August 2016 and was on probation with a no contact order for Ms. Hart. Reports from community members indicate that Mr. Stevens and Ms. Hart had regular contact since August 2016. Mr. Stevens was arrested in November 2016 for a probation violation involving the use of illegal substances and was sentenced in January 2017 to nine months incarceration. He is currently incarcerated with an expected release date of October 2017. Mr. Stevens admitted to using illegal substances and to engaging in domestic violence with Ms. Hart. He has expressed wanting to engage in services and reunite his family.

**CHILD:**

<b>Child's Name:</b> Lindsay Hart	<b>DOB:</b> 10/23/2000	<b>Age:</b> 16
<b>ICWA Status:</b> Not Eligible	<b>Gender:</b> female	

**Active Safety Threats:**

- The mother is engaged in a domestically violent relationship that impacts the child's safety.
- The mother's drug use is impacting the child's safety.
- The mother's untreated mental health is impacting the child's safety.

**Departmental Efforts to Prevent Removal or to Return Child(ren) Home:**

Lindsay was previously in DHS care in 2009-2010 due to her mother's drug use and untreated mental health. Lindsay was returned to her mother's care in 2010. Since that time, Ms. Hart married Derek Stevens and had another child, Colton Stevens. Lindsay entered care in May 2016 due to Ms. Hart's untreated drug use and mental health and the domestic violence in the home.

**Immediate Family Functioning:**

Ms. Hart expresses the desire to regain custody of both of her children. She participated in a psychological evaluation on 2/28/17 and enrolled in Promises Drug and Alcohol outpatient treatment on 2/6/17. Ms. Hart is engaged in mental health counseling through Women Center. Ms. Hart was having weekly visits with Lindsay, but those visits were changed to monthly when Lindsay was placed out of county in January 2017.

**Extended Family Functioning:**

Maternal relatives live primarily in California. A maternal aunt has been a support for Ms. Hart in the past and continues to be an emotional support for Lindsay. Lindsay has expressed wanting to live with her aunt.

**Protective Capacity Assessment Summary:**

ASHLEY HART- Ashley Hart is the 36 year-old mother of Lindsay Hart. Ms. Hart has a history of substance abuse dating back to her teen years as well as a history of engaging in domestically violent relationships. She fails to acknowledge the warning signs or inappropriate behaviors involved in her current relationship, but is able to articulate how similar situations in past relationships fit the criteria for domestic abuse. Ms. Hart indicates that she has had periods of sobriety, but began to use methamphetamine and then opiates approximately 18 months ago. A previous psychological evaluation done in 2009 when Brittany came into care diagnosed her with PTSD, Anxiety, and Depression. Ms. Hart had previously been successful in mental health therapy and drug treatment, allowing her daughter to be returned to her care in 2010. However, since that time she has relapsed in drug abuse and has ceased all counseling and medication management for her anxiety and depression.

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES****Expected Outcome #: 1**

**Case Participant:** Ashley Hart

**Expected Outcome:** Ms. Hart will demonstrate an understanding of self-awareness of how her actions resulted in the child being placed in care. She will be able to describe how the environment was unsafe and make the necessary changes that will ensure safety in the future.

**Expected Outcome #: 2**

**Case Participant:** Ashley Hart

**Expected Outcome:** Ms. Hart will seek services that address her recent drug relapse. She will understand and verbalize how drug use impacts her children. She will demonstrate impulse control by maintaining a drug and alcohol free lifestyle.

**Expected Outcome #: 3**

**Case Participant:** Ashley Hart

**Expected Outcome:** Ms. Hart will provide a home that is calm and safe and will recognize the dangers that unsafe individuals pose to her children.

<b>Expected Outcome #:</b> 4
<b>Case Participant:</b> Ashley Hart
<b>Expected Outcome:</b> Ms. Hart will engage in mental health treatment and follow the recommendations from her psychological evaluation.

<b>Expected Outcome #:</b> 5
<b>Case Participant:</b> Derek Stevens
<b>Expected Outcome:</b> Mr. Stevens will seek services that address his drug addiction. He will understand and verbalize how drug use impacts his child. He will demonstrate impulse control by maintaining a drug and alcohol free lifestyle.

<b>Expected Outcome #:</b> 6
<b>Case Participant:</b> Derek Stevens
<b>Expected Outcome:</b> Mr. Stevens will engage in a batterer's intervention program and will understand how his actions led to his child being placed in care.

**Face-to-Face Contact Between Worker and Parent/Guardian for Past Six Months:**

11/21/16	2/28/17	
11/29/16	3/9/17	
12/12/16	3/21/17	
12/20/16	3/30/17	
1/3/17	4/11/17	
1/10/17	4/18/17	
1/24/17		
2/9/17		
2/14/17		

**Case Progress Evaluation Summary:**

Ms. Hart is currently participating in outpatient drug and alcohol treatment, UAs through her treatment provider, and individual counseling. She is regularly visiting Colton at DHS and has had monthly visits with Lindsay. She completed a psychological evaluation. Ms. Hart is currently homeless and living with friends. An updated Action Agreement was signed by Ms. Hart on 3/22/17.

Mr. Stevens is incarcerated with a release date of October 2017. He was visiting with Colton prior to his incarceration. Mr. Stevens expresses a desire to engage in services and to parent Colton.

*Peter Smith*  
 Caseworker

4/21/17



123456  
 Peter Smith  
 (123) 456-7890  
 123 Main Street  
 Town, Oregon 97100

### CHILD SPECIFIC CASE PLAN

<b>CASE NAME:</b> Ashley Hart	<b>PLAN DATE:</b> 4/21/17
-------------------------------	---------------------------

<b>Child's Name:</b> Lindsay Hart	<b>Primary Language:</b> English
<b>DOB:</b> 10/23/2000 <b>Age:</b> 16	<b>Gender:</b> female
<b>Child is considered a runaway:</b> No	<b>ICWA Status:</b> Not Eligible
<b>Siblings:</b> Colton Stevens	<b>Sibling in Substitute Care?</b> yes

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN(S)

<b>Name:</b> Ashley Hart	
<b>DOB:</b> 9/24/1980	<b>Relationship to Child:</b> mother

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>DOB:</b>	<b>Relationship to Child:</b>

#### Description of how Paternity Status has been determined:

There is no legal father.
---------------------------

#### Relative Search:

The following relatives have been sent letters from DHS:	
Maternal Grandparent	NO RESPONSE
Maternal Aunt	PLACEMENT RESOURCE
Maternal Uncle	NO RESPONSE
Maternal First Cousin	CONTACT ONLY

<b>Reasons for Initial Removal:</b> Drug use by mother, untreated mental health issues for mother, domestic violence between mother and partner	
<b>Date of Removal:</b> 5/25/16	
<b>Placement Setting:</b> BRS non-relative foster care	<b>Number of Placements:</b> 5
<b>Date Entered Current Placement:</b> 1/17/17	<b>Are Siblings Placed Together?</b> No
<b>Describe why siblings are not placed together:</b> Higher level of care needed	

### Description of How the Current Placement is Able to Meet the Child's Needs:

Lindsay is currently placed in a BRS non-relative foster home. This foster home has foster parents who are trained to work with higher need kids and provide stability and consistency for Lindsay.

### Immediate Family Functioning:

Ashley Hart is currently married to Derek Stevens. Lindsay was removed from the home due to the drug use by both Ashley and Derek and the domestic violence in the home. Lindsay was previously in foster care in 2009-2010 due to Ashley's untreated mental health and drug use.

### Child's Functioning and Needs:

Lindsay struggles to regulate her emotions and behaviors. She can be impulsive and reckless. Lindsay was in 5 different DHS non-relative foster homes before being accepted into a BRS placement. She has been in this placement since 1/17/17. While Lindsay's behaviors have somewhat improved in this placement, she still struggles to control her behaviors when she gets angry. She can also present as withdrawn and isolated.

Lindsay has been in individual therapy since November 2016. She is currently seeing her second therapist, as the first was not a good fit and she stopped attending after the third session. Lindsay has been with her current therapist since January 2017 and has weekly appointments. Lindsay reports that she feels connected to her current therapist and that therapy is helping.

Lindsay is in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade and on an IEP due to her struggles in math and writing. Lindsay's school attendance has been sporadic as she often refuses to go to school in the morning. This has somewhat improved over the past few months.

Lindsay has been referred to ILP services and is on the waitlist.

Lindsay has experienced traumatizing and overwhelming rejection throughout her life for various reasons, making trust and connection a very complicated process for Lindsay. She struggles with attachment due to ongoing feelings of being abandoned and pushes away people who try to get close to her.

### Placement History:

**Placement Setting:** Regular Family Foster Care non-relative

**Start Date:** 5/25/16

**End Date:** 5/31/16

**End Reason:** moved to equivalent level of care

**Placement Setting:** Regular Family Foster Care non-relative

**Start Date:** 6/1/16

**End Date:** 6/28/16

**End Reason:** ran from placement

**Placement Setting:** Regular Family Foster Care non-relative

**Start Date:** 7/11/16

**End Date:** 11/28/16

**End Reason:** moved to equivalent level of care

**Placement Setting:** Regular Family Foster Care non-relative

**Start Date:** 11/29/16

**End Date:** 12/16/16

**End Reason:** moved to equivalent level of care



<b>Placement Setting:</b> Regular Family Foster Care non-relative		
<b>Start Date:</b> 12/17/16	<b>End Date:</b> 1/16/17	<b>End Reason:</b> moved to higher level of care

<b>Placement Setting:</b> BRS Therapeutic Foster Placement		
<b>Start Date:</b> 1/17/17	<b>End Date:</b>	<b>End Reason:</b>

### Permanency Plan

<b>Permanency Plan:</b> Reunification	<b>Anticipated Date Achieved:</b>
<b>Concurrent Plan:</b> Adoption	<b>Child Placed with Adoptive Resource:</b> No
<b>The child has been out of the family home 11 of the most recent 22 months.</b>	

### Description of intensive, ongoing, unsuccessful efforts to return home, or place with a relative, adoptive, or guardianship resource:

Lindsay reports a close relationship with her maternal aunt, who lives in California. No local relatives were identified to be a placement resource for Lindsay. Lindsay had weekly scheduled visits with her mother and younger brother at DHS, but since being placed out of county those visits have decreased to monthly.

### Description of Efforts to Identify an Adoptive Resource (if applicable):

A relative search is ongoing. Lindsay has a close bond with her maternal aunt in California. The aunt is not able to be a placement resource at this time, but is being explored as a permanent resource for Lindsay should reunification not be possible.

### Education Information

<b>Child is Currently Enrolled in School:</b> Yes	<b>Last Grade Completed:</b> 9th
<b>Current IEP:</b> yes	<b>Meeting Grade Level Benchmarks:</b> no
<b>School Name:</b> Adams High School	

### MEDICAL/MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION

<b>Physician/Clinic:</b>	Eastern Oregon Family Medicine
<b>Dentist:</b>	Smile Keepers
<b>Mental Health Professional:</b>	Eastern Oregon County Mental Health

### Medical/Dental/Mental Health Treatments for the past six months:

Service	Service Date	Provider Name
Physician Visit	2/15/17	Dr. Kaiser
ER Visit	12/28/16	Dr. Hamm

### Psychotropic Medications

Medication	Dosage/Frequency	Start Date

**Child's Medical Needs:**

Lindsay had a physical in February 2017. She is physically healthy and is not on any medications.

**Scheduled visits between the child and parent/guardian for the past 6 months:**

11/29/16	Visit Occurred	2/7/17	Visit Occurred	
12/6/16	Visit Occurred	3/7/17	Visit Occurred	
12/13/16	No Visit Occurred	4/6/17	Visit Occurred	
12/20/16	No Visit Occurred			
12/27/16	Visit Occurred			
1/3/17	No Visit Occurred			
1/10/17	No Visit Occurred			
1/19/17	Visit Occurred			

**Visit contact between the child and siblings for the past 6 months:**

Lindsay was having weekly visits with her younger brother Colton and her mother at the DHS office in December and January. Those visits were reduced to monthly once she moved to Adams County.

**Visit contact between the child and relatives for the past 6 months:**

Lindsay has regular phone and internet contact with her maternal aunt in California.

**Face-to-face Contact Between Worker and Child for the Past Six Months:**

11/17/17	Substitute Care Placement
12/6/17	DHS Office
1/3/17	DHS office (supervised visit)
1/12/17	Substitute Care Placement
2/7/17	DHS Office
3/7/17	DHS Office
3/13/17	Substitute Care Placement
4/6/17	DHS Office
4/17/17	Substitute Care Placement

Peter Smith  
Caseworker

4/21/17



123456  
Peter Smith  
(123) 456-7890  
123 Main Street  
Town, Oregon 97100

### CHILD SPECIFIC CASE PLAN

<b>CASE NAME:</b> Ashley Hart	<b>PLAN DATE:</b> 4/21/2017
-------------------------------	-----------------------------

<b>Child's Name:</b> Colton Stevens	<b>Primary Language:</b> English
<b>DOB:</b> 11/10/16 <b>Age:</b> 6 months	<b>Gender:</b> male
<b>Child is considered a runaway:</b> No	<b>ICWA Status:</b> No
<b>Siblings:</b> Lindsay Hart	<b>Sibling in Substitute Care?</b> yes

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN(S)

<b>Name:</b> Ashley Hart	
<b>DOB:</b> 9/24/1980	<b>Relationship to Child:</b> mother

<b>Name:</b> Derek Stevens	
<b>DOB:</b> 3/23/1984	<b>Relationship to Child:</b> father

#### Description of how Paternity Status has been determined:

Derek Stevens was married to the mother, Ashley Hart, at the time of the child's birth and is listed on the birth certificate.

#### Relative Search:

The following relatives have been sent letters from DHS:	
Maternal Grandparent	NO RESPONSE
Maternal Aunt	CONTACT ONLY
Maternal Uncle	NO RESPONSE
Maternal First Cousin	CONTACT ONLY
Paternal Grandparent	PLACEMENT
Paternal Uncle	NO RESPONSE
Paternal Uncle	NO RESPONSE

<b>Reasons for Initial Removal:</b> Drug use by both parents, untreated mental health issues for mother, domestic violence, child tested positive for heroin at birth
<b>Date of Removal:</b> 11/10/16

<b>Placement Setting:</b> non-relative foster care	<b>Number of Placements:</b> 1
<b>Date Entered Current Placement:</b> 11/21/16	<b>Are Siblings Placed Together?</b> no
<b>Describe why siblings are not placed together:</b> Sibling in a higher level of care	

**Description of How the Current Placement is Able to Meet the Child's Needs:**

The current foster provider is an experienced foster parent dealing with medically fragile/drug affected infants. The foster providers are able to meet Colton's medical needs and monitor his developmental progress.

**Immediate Family Functioning:**

Derek Stevens is incarcerated with a release date of October 2017. Prior to his incarceration in January 2017, the parents were involved in a domestically violent relationship with heroin abuse. Ashley Hart is the mother of 16 year old Lindsay Hart and 6 month old Colton Stevens. Ashley has a history of untreated mental health and drug abuse; Lindsay was previously in foster care in 2009-2010. Ashley is currently homeless and living with friends. She is engaged in drug and alcohol outpatient treatment and mental health counseling services.

**Child's Functioning and Needs:**

Colton tested positive for opiates at birth. He was born several weeks premature and did not have prenatal care. Colton spent 11 days in the NICU going through withdrawal. He was discharged from the hospital to his current foster home.

Colton is currently six months old and is developmentally on target. He was evaluated by Early Intervention in December 2016 and qualified for services twice a month in the home due to his prematurity and prenatal drug exposure. He has made such good progress that his EI service providers closed the service in early April 2017. Colton is up to date with medical visits and was last at his pediatrician on 4/4/17. He is gaining weight appropriately and his pediatrician did not have any concerns. Colton is up to date with immunizations. Colton is described as a happy baby who loves people and will coo and smile at his providers. He can sit up unassisted and roll from front-to-back and back-to-front easily.

**Placement History:**

<b>Placement Setting:</b> Regular Family Foster Care non-relative		
<b>Start Date:</b> 11/21/16	<b>End Date:</b>	<b>End Reason:</b>

**Permanency Plan**

<b>Permanency Plan:</b> Reunification	<b>Anticipated Date Achieved:</b>
<b>Concurrent Plan:</b> Adoption	<b>Child Placed with Adoptive Resource:</b> No
<b>The child has been out of the family home 6 of the most recent 22 months.</b>	

**Description of intensive, ongoing, unsuccessful efforts to return home, or place with a relative, adoptive, or guardianship resource:**

DHS was unable to certify the paternal grandmother for placement. No other relatives have expressed interest in being a placement resource for Colton.

Neither parent has made sufficient progress for the child to be safely returned home- father is incarcerated and unavailable to parent and mother has not made sufficient progress in services.

Colton currently has twice weekly visits with his mother at the DHS office on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 1.5 hours each visit. Colton has not had a visit with his father since his father became incarcerated. Prior to Derek's incarceration, he was visiting with Colton twice per week at DHS.

**Description of Efforts to Identify an Adoptive Resource (if applicable):**

DHS is continuing a relative search.

**Education Information**

<b>Child is Currently Enrolled in School:</b> No	<b>Last Grade Completed:</b>
<b>Current IEP:</b>	<b>Meeting Grade Level Benchmarks:</b>
<b>School Name:</b>	

**MEDICAL/MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION**

<b>Physician/Clinic:</b>	Pediatric Cares, NW
<b>Dentist:</b>	
<b>Mental Health Professional:</b>	

**Medical/Dental/Mental Health Treatments for the past six months:**

Service	Service Date	Provider Name
Physician Visit	4/4/17	Dr. Shaw
Physician Visit	3/2/17	Dr. Shaw
Physician Visit	2/1/17	Dr. Shaw
Physician Visit	1/4/17	Dr. Shaw
Physician Visit	12/20/16	Dr. Shaw
Physician Visit	12/6/16	Dr. Shaw
Physician Visit	11/27/16	Dr. Shaw

**Psychotropic Medications**

Medication	Dosage/Frequency	Start Date

**Child's Medical Needs:**

Child is healthy and up to date on immunizations and medical appointments.

**Scheduled visits between the child and parent/guardian for the past 6 months:**

11/29/16	Visit Occurred	1/19/17	Visit Occurred	3/14/17	Visit Occurred
12/1/16	Visit Occurred	1/24/17	Visit Occurred	3/16/17	Visit Occurred
12/6/16	Visit Occurred	1/26/17	Visit Occurred	3/21/17	Visit Occurred
12/8/16	Visit Occurred	1/31/17	No Visit Occurred	3/23/17	Visit Occurred
12/13/16	No Visit Occurred	2/2/17	Visit Occurred	3/28/17	Visit Occurred
12/15/16	Visit Occurred	2/7/17	Visit Occurred	3/30/17	Visit Occurred
12/20/16	Visit Occurred	2/9/17	Visit Occurred	4/4/17	Visit Occurred
12/22/16	Visit Occurred	2/14/17	Visit Occurred	4/6/17	Visit Occurred
12/27/16	Visit Occurred	2/16/17	Visit Occurred	4/11/17	Visit Occurred
12/29/16	Visit Occurred	2/21/17	Visit Occurred	4/13/17	Visit Occurred
1/3/17	Visit Occurred	2/23/17	Visit Occurred	4/18/17	Visit Occurred

1/5/17	Visit Occurred	2/28/17	Visit Occurred	4/20/17	Visit Occurred
1/10/17	No Visit Occurred	3/2/17	No Visit Occurred		
1/12/17	Visit Occurred	3/7/17	Visit Occurred		
1/17/17	Visit Occurred	3/9/17	Visit Occurred		

**Visit contact between the child and siblings for the past 6 months:**

Colton was having weekly visits with his sister at the DHS office in December and January. Lindsay's move out of county reduced those visits to monthly.

**Visit contact between the child and relatives for the past 6 months:**

**Face-to-face contact between Worker and Child for the Past Six Months:**

11/21/16 Substitute Care Placement  
12/14/16 Substitute Care Placement  
1/3/17 DHS office (supervised visit)  
1/26/17 Substitute Care Placement  
2/15/17 Substitute Care Placement  
2/28/17 DHS office (supervised visit)  
3/14/17 Substitute Care Placement  
4/11/17 Substitute Care Placement

Peter Smith

4/21/17

Caseworker

**CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD**

**Hamilton County, Oregon**

**COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE REPORTS**

<b>CASA:</b> Caroline Williams	<b>Appointed On:</b> 7/25/16	<b>ICWA Case:</b> No
--------------------------------	------------------------------	----------------------

<b>Child</b>	<b>DOB</b>	<b>Age at CRB Review</b>	<b>Petition #</b>	<b>Length of Time in Care</b>
Lindsay Hart	10/23/2000	16 years 6 months	16JU06578	11 months
Colton Stevens	11/10/2016	6 months	16JU135437	6 months

Lindsay has been in foster care for 11 months and been in 6 placements. Colton has been in foster care for 6 months and been in 1 placement. Their last court hearing was of 4/5/2017.

**History**

Lindsay and Colton are dependent wards of the Hamilton County Court in the care and custody of DHS. Lindsay entered foster care 5/25/2016 and Colton entered about five months later on 11/10/2016. The Court established jurisdiction based on the mother's substance abuse, mental health issues, and domestically violent relationship with Mr. Stevens, Colton's father; as well as Mr. Steven's substance abuse and domestic violence. Lindsay does not have a legal father.

When Lindsay was eight, she spent over a year in foster care and was eventually returned to her mother. She has a strained relationship with her mother due to years of trauma and rejection. Lindsay was living at a friend's house prior to re-entering foster care about a year ago.

**Status of Child:**

**How are the child/children doing in the current placement?**

Lindsay has been in her current Behavioral Rehabilitation Services (BRS) placement for four months. Prior to this, she had been in five non-relative regular family foster care placements over a period of seven months. Each placement ended with either the foster parent requesting Lindsay be moved or Lindsay herself making the request. I believe this had a lot to do with Lindsay being used to living very independently.

Lindsay's current foster placement is specially trained to care for teenagers with a history of trauma. There is one other young woman placed in the home that is a little older than Lindsay. The home is clean and organized, and Lindsay is learning many skills that she will need to live successfully on her own. She reports that she likes this placement.

Colton has been in the same placement since entering foster care. The foster provider is experienced is dealing with medically fragile and drug affected infants. With two other drug affected toddlers in the home, the foster home is a busy place, yet Colton has received a lot of

one-on-one attention and has made enough progress that he no longer qualifies for in-home early intervention services.

**How are the child/children's needs being met? Or not met?**

Lindsay has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety. She does not take medication, but has been seeing a counselor weekly for the last four months. Her counselor is reportedly using a trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy to help Lindsay learn to stay calm while she is thinking about past trauma.

Lindsay reports that she wants to get a job this summer. While I believe this experience will be good for her, Lindsay will need support to get to work each day. This has been somewhat of an issue with school. Also, Lindsay will need assistance filling out job applications and practicing for an interview.

Lindsay is on a waitlist for the Independent Living Program (ILP). She was initially resistant to going but she explained that her caseworker indicated that the program could help her get a job and qualify her for assistance with rent when she moves out on her own.

Lindsay is fairly non-committal when asked if she wants more contact with her mother and Colton. Much work will need to be done to repair Lindsay's relationship with her mother before reunification could be possible.

Lindsay had a dentist appointment in early February 2017 and doctor appointment the following month. No concerns were reported. She is up-to-date with all vaccinations.

Colton is making excellent progress. After some difficult months with excessive crying and difficulty sleeping, Colton is now developmentally on target and "graduated" from Early Intervention services last month. Colton had a doctor appointment on 4/4/2017 and no concerns were reported. He is up-to-date with all vaccinations.

**What services are being offered to the child/children? (Mental health, Independent Living Program, etc.?)**

Lindsay – BRS placement, mental health assessment, counseling (weekly), IEP, monthly visits with mother, medical/dental care, and a referral to ILP (currently on the waitlist).

Colton – Specialized placement, medical care, in-home services through Early Intervention, and twice weekly visits with mother.

**Are any other services need for the child/children?**

Lindsay – Assistance applying for summer jobs. Family therapy to help repair relationships with the mother.

Colton – None at this time.

**When are they visiting their parents? Are they visiting with the siblings – if placed in separate homes? How do the visits go?**

Lindsay is visiting her mother and sibling once a month as she currently lives two hours away.



These visits occur in the DHS office during the time that the mother is visiting Colton. Colton requires quite a lot of attention during these visits because of his age. It might be better for Lindsay to have separate visits with the mother and Colton.

Colton appears to enjoy his twice weekly visits with his mother. He smiles (and drools!) a lot. Colton has not been able to visit his father in prison.

### **How is school going?**

Lindsay is behind in math and writing at school. She is on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) where she gets extra assistance in a resource room. Her attendance has improved over the last several months.

Colton is not school age.

### **Status of Parents:**

Have the parents made sufficient progress to make it possible for the child to safely return home?

#### **Mother: Ashley Hart**

The mother is engaged in cases planning and all court ordered services. She completed a psychological evaluation and drug and alcohol assessment. She is engaged in drug and alcohol treatment and mental health therapy, and does not miss any visits with her children.

#### **Father: Derek Stevens**

Colton's father has been incarcerated since the Jurisdiction Hearing and there are limited services available in the prison. He did get himself into the prison's parenting class and just started participating in the Pathfinders Cognitive Restructuring program. He is on a waitlist for a drug and alcohol program. Due to the length of the waitlist, it is unlikely that he will be able to start the program before his release date in October 2017. This means that Mr. Stevens will not start any of his court ordered services (batterer's intervention and drug and alcohol treatment) until after he is released and after Colton will have spent almost a year in foster care (if he is not returned to his mother before then).

### **Conclusion**

#### **Is the permanency plan the most appropriate plan for the child/children?**

As stated above, reunification may not be in the best interests of the children due to the mother's history and the length of time the father must serve in prison. The results of the mother's psychological evaluation as well as her progress in counseling will be critical in determining her ability to successfully parent. If Colton's father does not begin services until after his release, Colton could easily spend a year-and-a-half or more in foster care before the agency would consider returning Colton to him.

**What progress is being made toward this plan?**

The mother is engaged in all court ordered services and the father is willing to engage in them as soon as the services are available. At this time, it is unclear whether Lindsay wants to return to her mother. Much work is needed to repair this relationship.

**Is the concurrent plan the most appropriate plan for the child/children?**

Lindsay has communicated that she would not want to be adopted. Adoption is a very appropriate concurrent plan for Colton given his young age.

**What progress is being made toward this plan?**

Lindsay is close to her maternal aunt in California who has indicated she would consider being a long-term placement resource for Lindsay if needed. However, she indicated she would not be able to take an infant. All maternal relatives live in California and it is reported that none have communicated with DHS that they are willing to be either a short or long-term placement resource for Colton. Colton’s father would like his mother to be a placement resource but she could not be certified due to her criminal history.

**Do you have recommendations you would like the CRB to make?**

- Lindsay have visits with her mother without Colton present.
- Lindsay and her mother be referred to family therapy.
- Lindsay receive assistance applying for summer jobs and practicing for an interview.
- Lindsay engage in ILP services.
- Lindsay’s concurrent plan be changed to guardianship.
- DHS consider whether reunification is in the best interests of both children given the mother’s history and the length of time the father will be incarcerated.

**Foster Children’s Bill of Rights Information**

<b>Completed and/or Provided to Foster Home?</b>	<b>Displayed in Home? Provided to Youth?</b>	<b>Youth is Aware? Reviewed with Youth?</b>
Lindsay: Yes Colton: Yes	Lindsay: Yes/Yes Colton: Yes/Not Applicable	Lindsay: Yes/Yes Colton: Not Applicable

SUBMITTED BY COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE

**Caroline Williams**

**5/9/2017**