

October 31, 2025

Key Issues and Past Challenges

- First and foremost is the lack of acknowledging that [Redacted] was born an addict, has a substance use/abuse problem, has a lower IQ, has been Section 35, almost died from Fentanyl exposure, and has pending criminal charges, [Redacted] IS NOT a typical [Redacted] is delayed developmentally and is not posed to take on the “normal” things a [Redacted] does like a job or a license. [Redacted] a complex kid but everyone is looking at his chronological age and not [Redacted] age developmentally.
- Concerns from Court Appearances and Misrepresentations by DCF Attorney
 - Being called out in court and told to “step up and parent” when [Redacted] doesn’t know us was disgusting and to have DCF worker [Redacted] not stand up and support us was just as bad. I have done nothing but stand up and parent and advocate for [Redacted] since [Redacted] came to us at 2 weeks old. If I didn’t stand up and be a parent, I would still own my small business - I closed it after 16 years in business because I was giving 100% to the business and 100% to [Redacted] and it was draining me physically and emotionally. Since then I have had to turn down a nice promotion with a hefty wage increase because I cannot work outside the home 5 days a week - someone has to be home for/with [Redacted] 7 days a week. If that isn’t standing up and parenting I don’t know what is. In addition I have personally spent 2 Mother’s Day [Redacted] in a row in the [Redacted] - is that not stepping up and parenting?
 - The program discussed during the last appearance virtually on [Redacted], was [Redacted], but was constantly referred to as [Redacted]; DCF attorney omitted that DCF, [Redacted] school, and we all filed 51As expressing concerns about the program and that sending him back there would be detrimental to his physical and mental health..
 - [Redacted] lack of recognition of [Redacted] at that same court appearance was appalling - [Redacted] referred to [Redacted] 95% of the time - showing a total lack of knowledge of the case at all

- This was exacerbated when discussing the expectations chart we have set for [Redacted]. The expectations chart for [Redacted] was a collaborative effort between us and the DCF worker [Redacted], designed to provide structure and accountability. But [Redacted] was appalled for example that [Redacted] can't be in the living room during working hours - [Redacted] [Redacted] can't use the kitchen after 9 pm - that's because [Redacted] eats constantly and it disrupts the whole house. I could go on.
- My emails, described as "ad nauseam," were not refusals but explicit explanations why the [Redacted] program, Virtual family therapy and the Mentor Program were inappropriate (will address as I go down the list), urging DCF to provide suitable services.
- It was not acknowledged in court that [Redacted] is ineligible for both DMH and DDS services, leaving no other state agency support.
- [Redacted] criminal charges were not referenced in proceedings. It seems to be forgotten that [Redacted].
- Transportation assistance reference during the latest viral court appearance was incorrect as it was rarely needed (about 5% of the time); primarily [Redacted] [Redacted] sole caregivers so we have no other family to rely on for help. To date we have put on 4,100 medical miles between our two vehicles.
- I feel unfairly blamed as the root cause of [Redacted] difficulties despite being affected by his behaviors, including verbal and past physical abuse.
- Since the 51A filing, we have felt anxious that our actions may be used against us, though DCF's neglect of not taking the due diligence that I had done and shared several times prior to [Redacted] placement as [Redacted] and was ignored and told "that's the only place [Redacted] can go" has contributed significantly to the situation.
- Virtual Therapy Access
There are ongoing barriers to [Redacted] participation in virtual therapy due to [Redacted] lack of restraint, due to [Redacted] documented ADHD, from leaving the room, going to get snacks, etc., which has been not only seen when [Redacted] is on a virtual appointment but also with the visits with DCF worker, [Redacted] during the monthly family visit and witnessed by other providers in the home as well. This has been clearly documented that virtual is not appropriate for [Redacted].
- Mentor Program in [Redacted]
Attempts to include [Redacted] in a local mentor program in [Redacted] was explained as being inadequate for [Redacted] because of a concern that the peers [Redacted] would connect with at this program are in an area that's a hot bed of drug activity, similar to [Redacted] Driving by at 9am there was a contact high that I experienced and this program was from 6-9 pm. Not an ideal situation for [Redacted]

- Referral Process—ICC and A-CRA
Although DCF claimed referrals for ICC and A-CRA were made, these supports only began after my own advocacy.
- Family Therapy Referral Specificity
I sent a list of potential [Redacted] [Redacted]. However, for the one individual who was taking new patients, a family therapy referral was made instead. [Redacted], [Redacted] is in private practice, and offers stability unlike previous resources provided through DCF or other agencies should be seeing [Redacted] individually. He does not coddle [Name Redacted] as [Redacted] other therapists have and [Redacted] holds [Redacted] accountable.
- Key Tracking and Adolescent Worker
These services had reported that they meet with [Redacted] for one hour, twice weekly are, in reality, seeing [Redacted] only once a week for less than half an hour, 45 minutes at the most (and that's only happened once). Additionally, the service meant to build life skills has only addressed obtaining a driver's license and job, with no broader support for other essential skills or independent living. So it was discontinued by DCF without any discussion input from us. DCF is now expecting [Redacted] TM to take on that role in addition to her role as his TM.
- PACT-Y Service Limitations (DMH)
PACT-Y, the program provided through DMH, is currently severely understaffed. Because [Redacted] remains [Redacted] approval for participation is not possible, and I will not agree to start a service offering even less support than what is already in place.