

INTAKE TRANSFER SUMMARYREFERRAL DATE: April 24/2000REFERRAL SOURCE: [REDACTED], HSC social worker [REDACTED]FAMILY REFERRED: Parents: Samantha Kematch (DOB Sept.9/81) &
Steve Sinclair (DOB May 15/80)
4-864 Magnus
no phoneChildren: [REDACTED] (DOB July 23/98)
-In care with Cree Nation CFS-
Phoenix Sinclair (DOB Apr.23/2000)
-In care with Winnipeg CFS-
Placement: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PRESENTING PROBLEM: On this date, the above hospital social worker called the Agency to advise that Samantha gave birth to baby girl, Phoenix, after having no prenatal care. In discussions, it was discovered that Samantha had another child that was in the care of Cree Nation CFS. When asked why, Samantha thought that it was because they thought that she may hurt the baby, as her mother did her. In further questioning the couple, it was discovered that they had not made any purchases for the baby whatsoever and Samantha indicated not being emotionally ready to parent. N/Duty workers attended the hospital on this date to meet with the parents, and both indicated that they were not prepared to care for this baby, either financially or emotionally. Some of the options were discussed with the couple (around adoptions, VSG etc) and they both indicated that they required some time to think about their options and required the baby coming in to Agency care in order to do so. The workers noted that Samantha presented as quite immature in her presentation and did not seem to understand the seriousness of the matter at hand. In the end, Phoenix Sinclair was placed under Apprehension with the Agency on April 24/2000.

HISTORY OF INVOLVEMENT: The Agency appears to have one history of involvement with Samantha Kematch, dating back to July 1998, when her son, [REDACTED] was born. At that time, the family was referred to our Agency from Cree Nation CFS, with whom Samantha was a Permanent Ward. They had serious concerns about Samantha's ability to parent, as she had kept her pregnancy a secret, had received no prenatal care and had been resistant to any kind of assistance. Winnipeg CFS apprehended [REDACTED] on their behalf and he was eventually transferred to Cree Nation CFS. Please refer to Social History (and attached paperwork) from Cree Nation CFS (on file).

INTERVENTIONS:

April 25/2000 Received referral for follow up.

P/C from Cathy Allen, HSC social worker [REDACTED], to advise that Phoenix was ready for discharge.

P/C to placement department, who will begin looking for a placement resource for baby.

Field to Women's hospital and met with Samantha and Steve. Both were in the room with Phoenix and appeared attentive and excited by her. Samantha indicated to this writer that she had "changed" her mind and no longer wanted this writer to leave with her baby. She indicated that her mother and her aunt were on their way to Winnipeg from their home reserve (she did not know which reserve her mother lives on) and would be here at 6 pm to pick Phoenix up. This writer indicated that Phoenix is currently under Apprehension with the Agency, therefore, no one can simply come and pick the baby up. Samantha was advised to give her mother my phone number to discuss her interest in caring for Phoenix. It was at this point, that Samantha reiterated that her mother used to abuse her when she was younger and that this is why she was in Agency care. This writer then indicated that her mother would likely not make an appropriate care alternative for Phoenix under these circumstances. Samantha then thought that she had an aunt that may want to care for Phoenix. She was again directed to get anyone who is interested to make contact with this writer to discuss further. This writer invited the parents to help this writer to dress Phoenix and only Steve did so. Samantha seemed only vaguely interested in the process, and when we were walking downstairs, she seemed more interested in chatting and giggling with a friend. The girl that the couple met up with, appeared extremely shocked that they had just had a baby. She made it sound as though the couple had kept this a secret on purpose.

This writer talked with hospital staff and the baby's nurse, Bev, who indicated that Phoenix is perfectly healthy and there are no specific care instructions. All of the appropriate forms were filled out for Phoenix's discharge, and information was left on the mother and child's charts.

Phoenix was moved from the hospital to Agency shelter, [REDACTED] by this writer without incident.

April 26/2000 P/C from placement resource indicating that there was a note for Phoenix to be seen by a doctor when she is 2 weeks old. They were advised to call Agency nurse, Lois Yallowega, to set this up. They indicated that her first night was fine and that she appears to be a very healthy baby.

P/C from Steve Sinclair, asking why there hasn't been a visit set up for today. This writer indicated that we were in the process of setting up visits, but that it would not be today. He became very angry with this writer and started swearing over the phone. After he was calmed down, he indicated that he and Samantha would prefer afternoon visits with Phoenix. This writer will call him back at Mamawi center on Selkirk Avenue.

P/C to Val Brooks and asked about requesting a driver for Phoenix to come in for visits. She advises that visits can be set up for Fridays (11-1:15 pm) at the office. This writer faxed the information over to Val's office (944-4521).

P/C to placement resource to advise the times and days for Phoenix's visit with parents.

P/C to Mamawi on Selkirk and left a message for them to call this writer.

P/C to Cree Nation CFS. The receptionist advised that [REDACTED] is a ward of their Agency and that the worker is Germaine Brass. She is unavailable this week, therefore, she will leave a message for her Supervisor, Rosa McKay, to call this writer back.

P/C from Steve, asking about his visitation with Phoenix. He was advised of the time and days of his visits and he indicated that they will be there. He asked this writer if it was alright if they brought a "friend" and advocate with them to the visit. He indicated that he and Samantha have a connection to the Winnipeg Boys and Girls club and they would like one of the workers, Nikki Taylor, to attend with them and assist them. At this point, this writer realized that the person whom they consider their advocate, is this writer's first cousin. The issue of conflict of interest will have to be discussed with Supervisor, Orobko, tomorrow.

April 27/2000 Meeting with Supervisor, Orobko, and it was decided that the case will be a conflict of interest due to the familial connection. From this point on, this writer was directed to get the paper work completed and the Supervisor will deal with the case.

P/C to Rose McKay at Cree Nation CFS (989-4800). She indicated that Samantha was a Permanent Ward of their Agency until her age of majority, and that [REDACTED] is also a Permanent Ward. Currently, [REDACTED] is placed in Winnipeg, however, he will soon be transferred to Island Lake to live with his father's relatives. The Island Lake Agency will take over case management on behalf of Cree Nation. In terms of history, Rose advises that Samantha has had no involvement with [REDACTED] has made really no attempts for visitation and doesn't even phone to ask how he is doing. In terms of Treaty Status and which Agency to serve for Phoenix, Rose indicates that she is unsure of this. Apparently, the family is originally from Shoal River band, however, at some point, Samantha's mother was trying to register with the Pine Creek band. At that time, it was up to Samantha which reserve she would register with, however, it is unclear which one she chose. Subsequently, she believes that both Cree Nation CFS (Shoal River) and West Region CFS (Pine Creek) will have to be served court papers. She will fax over any information that they may have with regard to their history with Samantha and [REDACTED]

Spoke with the family's advocate, Nikki Taylor (of the Winnipeg Boys and Girls club), and she was apprised of the status that this writer has with the case, in that it is a conflict of interest for this writer. She was given the name and the number of this writer's Supervisor to provide to the family. She will be in attendance at the visit tomorrow and will discuss matters further with this writer's Supervisor.

Sent Particulars to court coordinator, Gloria Woytiuk. She will take care of serving Notices to all 3 Native Agencies.

April 28/2000 Reviewed Social History and Closing Summary that was faxed to this writer from Cree Nation CFS. It speaks to Samantha's time in the care of that Agency dating back to 1993, when she came in to their care. None of the attached history from Cree Nation discusses anything to do with [REDACTED] and his time in their care.

P/C to Rose McKay at Cree Nation CFS and left her a message to call this writer.

Spoke with Rose McKay, and she advises that the information that this writer requires is on [REDACTED]'s file. She will locate it and fax it over to this writer.

Samantha and Staven, along with Nikki Taylor, came in to the office for their visit with Phoenix. All parties were introduced to Supervisor, Andy Orobko, who will be taking over management of the case until its transfer to family service unit. He advised everyone present of the reasons that the file can no longer remain with this writer. From this point, the file will be closed to this writer.

ASSESSMENT: Samantha Kematch (18) and Steve Sinclair (19) are the parents to Phoenix Sinclair (5 days). Samantha Kematch has another child; [REDACTED] (DOB July 23/98), who is a Permanent Ward of Cree Nation CFS. The social worker there for [REDACTED] is Germaine Brass, and her Supervisor is Rose McKay. Currently, [REDACTED] is in foster placement in Winnipeg, however, he is moving to Island Lake to reside with his father's family. Samantha has been a Permanent Ward of Cree Nation CFS since 1993, when she was apprehended from her mother due to issues of alcoholism, neglect, abandonment and abuse. Samantha's years in the care of that Agency were fraught with difficulties for her, in that she was often AWOL from placements, involved in criminal activities, sexually promiscuous, didn't attend school, was hostile and aggressive and generally had difficulties following any rules. Cree Nation CFS made attempts to place Samantha in a level IV setting due to these behaviors, and she was eventually placed in an Independent Living program supervised by MacDonald Youth services. Cree Nation CFS provided this writer with information with regard to Samantha, however, they have yet to provide information with regard to the reasons behind [REDACTED] becoming a Permanent Ward. In a phone conversation with Supervisor, Rose McKay, she indicated that Samantha hid her pregnancy (with [REDACTED]) from everyone and made no prenatal plans around having a baby. She was also provided some opportunity to parent [REDACTED] however, she lacked the ability to do so and ended up not being able to feed him or meet his basic needs. The behaviors that she had been exhibiting plus her lack of motivation to parent [REDACTED] resulted in their Agency asking Winnipeg CFS to apprehend on their behalf. To date, Cree Nation advises that Samantha has taken no interest in [REDACTED] and has no contact or communication with him or his Guardian Agency.

On April 24/2000, the Women's hospital made contact with the Agency's N/Duty service to advise that Samantha had given birth to a baby girl; Phoenix Sinclair. She indicated to

hospital staff that she had not prenatal care and had nothing to prepare for the imminent birth. She advised hospital staff that a previous child of hers was in the care of Cree Nation CFS as they were worried that she would hurt her child, much like her mother hurt her. The couple presented as ambivalent around parenting Phoenix, as they felt that they were neither financially nor emotionally prepared. On that same day, N/Duty workers attended the hospital and met with the parents. They asked workers to take Phoenix in to care until they were able to ascertain whether or not they wanted to parent. The couple reiterated their lack of prenatal care and preparation for the expected baby. For these said reasons, Phoenix was placed under Apprehension with the Agency. On April 25/2000, Phoenix was ready for discharge from the hospital and this writer met with the parents there. At that time, both parents again indicated not being "ready" to parent Phoenix, however, they wanted the Agency to consider placing her with Samantha's mother. Due to the history (alcoholism, neglect, abandonment and abuse) that resulted in Samantha and her siblings becoming Permanent Wards of CFS, this writer indicated that this was not a possibility. The couple discussed other familial options, however, to date, no one has made contact with this family to inquire about caring for Phoenix. On this date, Phoenix was moved to an Agency shelter at [REDACTED]

At this point, the parents remain somewhat ambivalent around their motivation to parent Phoenix. There is some indication that, despite their initial reaction, they are eventually wanting to parent Phoenix. This writer has yet to receive written documentation around the reasons that Samantha's son, [REDACTED], became a Permanent Ward of Cree Nation CFS. Once this information is received, it will need to be incorporated in to the final assessment of the family and the Recommended Plan. Both parents have been served with the Petition and Notice of Hearing papers, and the legal department has taken care of serving the appropriate Native Agencies.

ASSESSMENT (Child): Phoenix Victoria Hope Sinclair (DOB April 23/2000) is under Apprehension with Winnipeg CFS as of April 24/2000. She is currently placed in the Agency EAPD shelter of [REDACTED]. Phoenix has her 2 week appointment scheduled with Dr. Lipnowski at the Children's Clinic on Wednesday, May 3/2000 at 10:30am. The placement resource identifies that Phoenix is a healthy, happy baby and that there are no concerns.

Phoenix visits with her parents at the Intake office every Friday from 11 am-1:15 pm. Phoenix is brought to the office by Agency case-aids.

CASE CLOSED TO MARNIE SAUNDERSON, OF WINNIPEG CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES, INTAKE UNIT -April 28/2000-


Marnie Sanderson
Social Worker
Intake Unit

Andrew Orobko
Unit Coordinator
Intake Unit