

Family Name: SINCLAIR, Steven
 File Number: S012010

INTAKE CLOSING SUMMARY

Demographics:

Mother: Father: Steven Sinclair
 Maiden Name:
 DOB: May 15, 1980
 Address: no fixed address Feb.04
 Phone: no
 Cell:
 Race: Aboriginal
 Aboriginal Status: Aboriginal Status: Treaty - Lake St. Martin

<u>Children</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Location</u>
Phoenix Sinclair (f)	April 23, 2000	1331 Selkirk Ave

Significant Others:
 Samantha Kematch 301-747 Furby St. - biological mother of Phoenix

Source of Referral:
 Date: January 16/04
 Name: [REDACTED]
 Relationship to Case Reference: [REDACTED]
 Method of Referral:

Presenting Problem:
 At this time, we will copy the information from the Samantha Kematch file as it is the same information that would be entered on this file:

[REDACTED] lived with Samantha, Phoenix, and Samantha's mother, [REDACTED] at 757 Furby. They had a falling out at Christmas and [REDACTED] had to have police remove her belongings, which were vandalized by the time she got them. [REDACTED] alleges that Samantha goes out drinking frequently leaving Phoenix with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] allegedly smokes "rock " when Phoenix is present. [REDACTED] has not heard anything about the family since she left the home.
 For follow up by CRU
 Jacki Davidson/ AHU

Prior to the case being assigned to a Central Intake worker, a request was made for CRU to check with E & I Assistance to determine where, in fact Phoenix actually resides, because, last November, the child was with her father, Steven Sinclair.

A call to E & I Assistance determined that Samantha Kematches' file was closed to them in

March/03 as she had no children with her. [REDACTED] Samantha's mother is on assistance on her own budget at [REDACTED]; her birthdate is Sept. 3/56. At this time, Steven Sinclair is on E & I Assistance with Phoenix on his budget and they live at the address shown above.

A call was then made to SOR to obtain further information. From our conversation, it was found that she (SOR), was living with Samantha on Balmoral St. from sometime in Aug/03 until they both moved in with [REDACTED] at her Furby St. Address at the end of October. At some point in mid November, Samantha got a telephone call from Steven Sinclair's sister, Jen (?), saying that Steven had gone out and left Phoenix alone in the apartment. Samantha then went to Steven's place, picked up Phoenix and kept her with the other adults at the Furby St. address. As we continued to talk and I asked questions, SOR told me that she discovered that some people came to pick up Phoenix around Jan. 2/04 and took her to their place in Selkirk? SOR further said that there has been much arguing going on among all the adults, but couldn't/wouldn't elaborate on exactly who was doing the arguing and what it was they were actually arguing about. In reading the closing dictation in the Sinclair file which is the most recent, it was found that Phoenix was in a POS with a family named Stephensen who lived on Selkirk Ave. It is believed that this may be the family who picked up Phoenix as in the last file recording closing summary in the Sinclair file it is recommended that Phoenix be placed with the Stephensens should she return to "care". An attempt to speak with the Stephensen family was unsuccessful as both the home telephone number along with Mr. Stephensen's work phone number are "out of service" at this time.

Given that the guardianship of Phoenix is with Mr. Sinclair and she is on his budget with E & I Assistance, it is felt that the Kematch file be closed at this time and that the Sinclair file be re-opened.

Calls were made to Stan Williams (Mr. Steven's former FSW worker, 4315), as well as to Mario Rojas (the Stephenson's former POS worker, 4510), in an attempt to find a more current phone number for the Stephenson family in order that they may be contacted. Unfortunately, neither was available and a message was left for both.

Given that there is a possibility of risk to young Phoenix and with the uncertainty of where the child actually is at this time, it is recommended this file be opened to Northwest Intake for investigation and assessment. Because this situation has been an on-going concern as it would appear from discussion with SOR, coupled with the history in both parents' files, a 5 day response time is indicated.

Barbara Klos, social worker
CRU

History:

S012010 last closed Nov/03. Following is information copied from the last closing summary (please read information on file for more details):

Both parents have been involved with child welfare agencies as permanent wards. Samantha became a ward of Cree Nation Child and Family Services in 1993 and Steven a ward of Winnipeg Child and Family Services in 1991. Samantha had one child, [REDACTED] when she was seventeen years old who is a permanent ward in care of Cree Nation Child and Family Services. Steven and Samantha had two children together. Phoenix born on April 23, 2000 and apprehended at birth as neither parent was ready or prepared to parent their daughter. In September of 2000 Phoenix was returned to her parents. On April 29, 2001, they had another baby named [REDACTED] who went to live with them and Phoenix. [REDACTED] died of natural causes related to complications of pneumonia on July 15, 2001 while in the care of Steven shortly after Samantha and Steven separated. Phoenix remained with Steven and the file was closed in March 2002 because Steven did not want any further services from the agency. The file was re-opened on February 28, 2003 due to medical concerns about Phoenix having a foreign object in her nose and was infected. The file was subsequently transferred for ongoing service on June 27, 2003, after Phoenix was apprehended on June 23, 2003. Steven's ability to parent his daughter had deteriorated to the point of him being under the influence most of the time and subjecting his daughter to inappropriate caregivers.

Mr. Sinclair requested his child stay in care until he felt strong enough to care for her once again. He has had his time out and will parent Phoenix starting October 2, 2003. He has done no programming and as such is prone to returning to an unhealthy way of managing stresses in his life. He is aware of the need to arrange for appropriate alternative caregivers when he feels the need for a break or time out for respite.

In the event Mr. Sinclair returns to unhealthy ways of managing his life and caring for his daughter, it is recommended Phoenix be placed with Place of Safety Foster Parents, Rohan and Kimberly Stephenson. It is also recommended he attend to programming for lifestyle difficulties prior to him considering parenting his daughter Phoenix. It is anticipated a Temporary Order of six months to a year would be required.

Data: File received by Northeast Intake worker January 20/04.

Jan.21/04 - Workers Lisa and Monica Marx attended to 1331 Selkirk Ave. Rohan and Kim are Phoenix' godparents and were a Place of Safety for her in 2003. Phoenix was present in the home. Rohan stated that they have been looking after her since beginning of January. I asked him where Steven was or what he was up to? He said he didn't know and that there's lots of rumors and everyone is saying different things. He would not elaborate. He said they are willing to take Phoenix as long as necessary. They do not care about the money from CFS in terms of being a POS again. They are happy to look after her. Rohan states he doesn't actually live here but stays here sometimes. He works in the country. Kim has other children and is on Social Assistance. I advised him I would be looking for Steven to talk to him and would get back to Rohan. They don't have a phone any more.

Workers fielded to Steven's home on Magnus. He was not home. Looking inside, workers could see no signs that anyone had been there recently. The home was clean and furnished but there was holes in the walls and the lighting fixtures were pulled off the ceiling. It didn't look like

anyone was staying there recently.

Jan. 22/04 Consult with Doug Ingram. Call previous supervisor. Get in touch with Steven. Leave child with Rohan for now.

Pc from Heather Edinborough. She recommends leaving Phoenix with the Stephensons. Transfer the file to Family Service and they can determine whether this should be the long term plan.

Jan.23/04 Field to Steven's home again. No one home. Left my card.

January 28/04 Pc msg from Steven with no number to call him back at. He said he would call back.

Feb. 5, 2004 - Pc from Steven. I advised him that I needed to talk to him about Phoenix. He said he heard she was at Kim and Rohan's. He heard that Samantha is out of town. I told him that Phoenix has been at Kim's for the last month. He seemed surprised by this. He said he doesn't talk to Samantha and has nothing to do with her. I advised him of the concerns that Samantha is drinking and doing drugs. He says he knows nothing about her situation. He added that when he drinks he gets an appropriate sitter or takes her to Rohan and Kim's. I asked him why Phoenix is not with him. He said he had to move out of his place on Magnus and is staying with a friend. He said he is looking for a place to live and is on Social Assistance. He would not say why he had to move. He says Phoenix is safe and fine to stay with Kim and he will agree to leave her there under a private arrangement. I advised him at this point Phoenix is not under apprehension and the agency is recommending she stay with Rohan and Kim. He said he agrees with this and can visit Phoenix any time he wants.

PC to Stevens EIA worker Sandra Oja [REDACTED]. She also talked with Steven today. He advised her he moved out of Magnus and did not say why. He claims to be staying with a friend named [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]. He has not received Assistance for February and seemed unconcerned about it. Sandra is suspecting he has income from somewhere as he wasn't eager to meet with her to get his money. She is meeting with him on Monday. She also doesn't know why Phoenix isn't with him. She told him if he's not parenting he will have to look for work and will not be sponsored to go to school. He was ok with that.

Assessment:

This file was re-opened on January 16, 2004 The referral came from a friend of Samantha Kematch, mother of Phoenix. SOR reported that she had been living with Samantha and Samantha's mother [REDACTED]. At some point in mid-November/03 Phoenix was brought to Samantha's home as she had been left alone by her father and custodial parent, Steven. SOR is alleging that there is lots of fighting in Samantha's home, and that she goes out drinking frequently leaving Phoenix with [REDACTED]. SOR then alleged that [REDACTED] "smokes rock" in the presence of Phoenix. SOR then heard through someone else that "some people" came to pick up Phoenix from Samantha on January 2/04 and were now looking after her. (Samantha and Steven do not live together).

4

In follow up to this report, CRU workers confirmed with E&IA that Phoenix is on the budget of Steven and is supposed to be residing with him. It was also determined by the address provided, that the people who are caring for Phoenix are likely her godparents, Rohan and Kim Stephenson. These are the same people who were made a Place of Safety by this agency in 2003 when Phoenix was in the temporary care of Wpg. C&FS. The file was then referred to this worker on January 20/04.

In response to the file information, this worker determined that an immediate field is necessary to determine the whereabouts of Phoenix, age 2. Risk would be high if she was with either Steven or Samantha, low if she was in fact with the Stephensons. Worker and partner Monica Marx fielded to 1331 Selkirk Ave to the Stephenson residence. We found Rohan and Phoenix present in the home. We identified ourselves as being from the agency and that we needed to determine if Phoenix was safe and how she came to be staying with them. Rohan stated Phoenix had been with them since early January. He did not say why or how she came to be with them, just that there are a lot of rumors going around. When directly asked about Steven, Rohan stated he hadn't heard from Steven and did not know what he was doing or why he didn't have Phoenix in his care anymore. Rohan was then asked about Samantha and he stated he didn't know anything about her either. Worker explored with him whether he and Kim are willing to care for Phoenix again. He advised this worker that they were very happy to have Phoenix and that she's better off with them. Worker asked whether this would be a financial burden or whether they would prefer the agency to make them a Place of Safety again. He stated they did not need agency intervention and they would keep Phoenix under a private arrangement. They were warned and cautioned by this worker that Phoenix is not to be returned to Steven unless an assessment by this agency was done first. Rohan agreed he would call the agency. Worker followed this up by sending the Stephensons a letter outlining agency expectations and concerns.

Worker did not have any contact with Samantha Kematch as she is not the custodial parent. The only information I received about Samantha is that she is "out of town".

Worker fielded to Steven Sinclair's home several times at 740 Magnus Ave. Looking in the window, the home appeared to be vacant although there were sparse furnishings in the home. The home appeared vandalized in the interior with lights, closet doors, floor tiles ripped up and holes punched in the walls. Finally on February 5/04, Steven phoned this worker. I advised him that Phoenix is with the Stephenson's. From his reaction, this worker got the impression he didn't know for sure that she had been there since January. He only said he heard something about that and he heard Samantha was out of town. When asked he did not explain why Samantha had Phoenix in the first place when she was returned to his care by CFS in October 2003. In answering this worker's questions, Steven was very vague. He stated the reason Phoenix is not with him is because he needs to find a place to live. He is temporarily staying with a friend and would not provide information. He also did not explain why he lost his place on Magnus when it is paid for by E&IA. This worker went on to discuss the concerns about Samantha drinking and that she is not a suitable caregiver for Phoenix. He agreed. He then stated when he is drinking he gets an appropriate babysitter. When I asked him what his intentions were regarding parenting Phoenix he stated she can stay with the Stephensons. He would like to get a place, a job and be more stable prior to Phoenix returning to him. I advised him of the

seriousness of this situation and that this agency was considering apprehending Phoenix if she returned to him or Samantha. He stated that he would agree to Phoenix staying with the Stephensons until he gets his life together.

File information shows that Phoenix was apprehended at birth and then returned to parents 5 months later. Phoenix was again apprehended in June 2003 and remained in care under a three month temporary order. She was then returned to Steven in October/03. It appears from current information that he only parented for one month, until mid November and then Phoenix somehow ended up at Samantha's. It appears from Steven's actions and lack of ability to clarify his situation, that he either cannot or is choosing not to parent Phoenix. There have been previous concerns about Steven abusing substances and the previous file closing states he did not obtain any type of programming to address his issues. There is currently no direct evidence or reports regarding what Steven is doing currently. Worker spoke with his E&IA worker who also did not know that Phoenix wasn't with him, or that he was moving. She spoke with him today and found all this out. She has no new information to add about his situation. She is taking Phoenix off his budget and he will be required to look for work. She suspects he must have some type of illegitimate income as he is not concerned about losing the funds, and has not been given any money for February.

This worker cannot make an accurate assessment of Steven's current lifestyle due to lack of information provided. This worker would therefore determine that Phoenix would be at high risk of coming into care should she return to Steven's care. She would also be at high risk of coming into care should she be found in Samantha's care. Worker has therefore safety planned with the current caregivers to Phoenix, the Stephensons. They have agreed with this worker's assessment and have agreed to keep Phoenix in their care under a private arrangement. They will allow Steven to visit Phoenix in their home whenever he wants, though he has not come to date (Jan. 21). Due to the fact that a private arrangement has been agreed to between Steven and the Stephensons, worker is recommending this file be closed at this time.

Statement of Risk:

Risk is low as long as Phoenix remains with the Stephensons. Should she be found in the care of Steven or Samantha, risk would change to high.

Recommendations:

Worker is recommending this file be closed to Northeast Intake.

Closed on Intake: February 13, 2004

Intake Worker: Lisa Mirochnick

Intake Supervisor: Doug Ingram

