

SAMPLE CHILD SUMMARY

DATE: (Today's Date)

COMPLETED BY: (Name of Caseworker and Contact information)

Identifying Information on the Child to Be Placed:

Name: Tim Sample

Date of Birth: 5/24/1991

Sex: Male

Race/ Ethnicity: Caucasian

Identifying Information on Parents:

Mother: Sharon Samples

Address: Martinsburg, WV

Father: Samuel Samples

Address: Elkins, WV

Family History

Tim is the only child of Samuel Samples and Sharon Samples.

Mrs. Samples is reported to have had little contact with Tim since his birth, frequently leaving him in the care of relatives. Mr. Samples claims he is not interested in being a father to Tim. He says Sharon made it difficult for him to locate or visit his son.

Sharon and Samuel were divorced in 1998.

In 2002, Samuel Sample initiated court proceedings for regular visitation. Visits were supervised by a third party. Samuel failed to see his son during some of the weekend visitations. It appears he was unable to abstain from drinking throughout the duration of the visit. Sharon frequently voiced her dissatisfaction about the actions of the supervising third party. A chemical dependency evaluation indicted Samuel was well into the middle stage of alcoholism. Samuel's chemical dependency evaluation did not indicate any chemical dependency but did show a tendency to abuse when confronted with stressful situations. Tim has not had any contact with his father since the time of these visits.

Samuel is currently residing in West Virginia and plans to remain there until September 2006, at which time he hopes to resume work in Texas. Tim has had frequent and meaningful contact with some of his father's sisters and with his mother's brother.

Permanency Plan

The permanency plan for this youth is Legal Guardianship with a relative. The WVDHR proposes to place Tim in the home of his maternal uncle, George Simms. His address is 1234 Court Street, Cumberland, Maryland 56789. His phone number is: 123-456-7891.

Reason Why Child Is in Care

Tim was placed in the custody of WVDHHR in May 2005 due to his mother's unstable mental health and Tim's excessive absences from school. Tim would stay home from school in an effort to take care of his mother. According to Sharon's mother and her brother she has had a history of depression and paranoid delusions since high school.

Sharon has infrequent contact with her family. The contact that has been made has often been psychotic in nature. Sharon denies being mentally ill. Her psychiatrist says she suffers from some type of delusional disorder.

Current Adjustment

Tim has done well in his current foster care home. His foster parents report no unusual behavior or disturbances. He is enrolled in regular education classes with regular attendance. His summer school attendance last year enabled him to get on age appropriate grade level. His participation in basketball has encouraged him to keep his grades up.

Tim's uncle George lives in close proximity to the WV border and Tim's foster home in Mineral County, WV which has facilitated his regular participation in case planning meetings and visitation.

A psychological evaluation indicates Tim is basically well adjusted. Tim's school delays have now been attributed to lack of regular attendance and not developmental delays as previously suspected. A copy of the psychological evaluation is attached.

Previous Placement History

Tim was in foster care from January 2003 through July 2003 when his mother brought him to the DHHR office and said she did not want to care for the child. The mother attended counseling and parenting classes and Tim was returned to the care of his mother.

Reason Out-of-State Placement Is Requested

Sharon initially requested placement with George Simms, Tim's uncle. Tim's father is also in agreement with this proposed placement. Tim has spent a substantial amount of time in the home of his uncle and is excited to move forward with the placement. The uncle has already enrolled in foster parent training classes in Maryland and is anxious to participate in the home study process.

Numerous reliable sources have indicated Samuel has a substantial alcoholism problem. While some family members in WV has opened their homes as a visiting resource for Tim, only his maternal uncle in Maryland has agreed to accept Tim as a member of his family. Child's Special Needs

Tim has participated in individual and group therapy to understand the dynamics of being a child of a substance abusing parent and the child of parent with serious mental health issues.

Other than the need for a safe, stable, and loving environment, no other special services are indicated at this time. Tim needs a permanent caretaker that can provide for his physical and emotional needs.

Goals of the Placement and Anticipated Length of Placement

It is anticipated that this will be a permanent placement for Tim. Upon successful completion of a trial placement period, WVDHHR will request concurrence from Maryland to pursue a plan of permanent legal guardianship.

Post Placement Plans

WVDHHR will petition the Court for a transfer of permanent legal guardianship of Tim to his uncle George.