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| **Initial Case Notes** | | | | | |
| **Last Name of Case** | | | **Redd** | | |
| **Spirit ID (DCP&P case number)** | | | **11-7-012345** | | |
| **Child(ren’s) Name** | **DOB** | **Age** | **Ethnicity** | **Sex** | **Current Location** |
| **Mariah Redd** | **February 1, 20XX** | **5 months** | **African-American** | **Female** | **Resource Placement - JB** |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Parent’s Information** | | |
|  | **Current Address** | **Phone** |
| **Clarissa Ann Redd** | **1856 Main St. Anytown, NJ** | **unknown** |
| **Johnny Smith (putative)** | **Unknown** | **unknown** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Current Caregiver(s)** | **Address** | **Phone** |
| **Julia Budd** | **1776 Grimes Creek Rd. Somewhere, NJ** | **609-555-1766** |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Attorneys for:** |  | **Phone** |
| **Clarissa Ann Redd** | **Darlene Wright** | **609-555-9898** |
| **Johnny Smith** | **Walt Harris** | **609-555-1334** |
| **DCP&P** | **DAG – Robin Jackson** | **609-555-7544** |
| **Mariah** | **Law Guardian -** |  |

**Case History**

Ms. Clarissa Ann Redd, African American, age 25, reported to Kim Ellis, the DCP&P caseworker that she has been using "sherm" (cigarettes dipped in PCP) on and off since she was 18. She has a 10 year-old son, Buddy, who is in the legal custody of her mother, Lela Jones. Lela is married to Clarissa's stepfather, Charles Jones. Clarissa stays with them when she isn't with a boyfriend. Clarissa's second child, a 7 year-old boy named Tyrone, lives with his father, Willy Monroe and his wife, Pearl.

The local hospital notified DCP&P of an infant that was born on 2/1 and tested positive for PCP.  The infant, Mariah Redd, is the third child born to Clarissa Redd. She was removed from the care of Ms. Redd and placed in foster care with Julia Budd.  When Mariah was 2 months old, she and Clarissa went to Fresh Start, a mother/baby residential treatment program.

**CASA History:**

Case Initially Assigned to: John Hill

Date Assigned: 2/19

Date Terminated: 6/30

**Current CASA:** YOU

Date Assigned: 7/8

Initial DCP&P Caseworker: Heather Bunning

Current DCP&P Caseworker: Kim Ellis

Court Ordered Services:

For the Child:

- Medical health needs reviewed per physician's orders due to high risk birth

- Educational needs met as appropriate

For the Father:

- Establish paternity

- If applicable: pay child support

For the Mother:

- Substance abuse evaluation and follow recommendations of service provider

- Urine analysis twice per week

- Parenting classes

**Medical History: Mariah Redd**

Prepared by: County Health Clinic, Dr. Scott M.D.

**Birth:** Tested positive for PCP at birth. APGAR scores: 7/8. Mariah stayed in the hospital for a 5-day detox period experiencing tremors and irritability. Nurses’ reported to caseworker that Ms. Redd was hostile and refused services. Ms. Redd was discharged the day after the birth, she did not return to visit the baby. Rock-a-Baby volunteers held Mariah every day and helped with feeding her.

**County Health Clinic:** The DCP&P caseworker referred Mariah to the county program for high-risk infants. Mariah was followed by the County Health Clinic for 6 months and then released into the regular well-baby program, as she showed no developmental delays or neurological deficits. Other County Health Clinic items of note:

- Clinic ran multiple HIV and Hepatitis-C tests. All were negative.

- Infant tolerates formula with no problem.

**Pediatrician:** Resource mom has been on schedule with inoculations and well-baby care. Mariah has had only the usual colds and earaches. Recent tests indicate potential abnormalities.  A follow-up appointment has been requested.

**DCP&P Case File**: Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Center – Fresh Start

Release form has been signed by patient; records are accessible to DCP&P caseworker and other necessary parties.

Fresh Start therapist explained to caseworker that Ms. Redd attended group sessions and individual therapy but she "never seemed wholeheartedly committed to the program." She seemed somewhat immature and self-centered. Her care for Mariah was only minimally sufficient, and she required a lot of coaching to parent even that well.

Ms. Redd was only in the program for two months before leaving against medical advice (AMA). Per clinicians, the usual stay is 6 months, minimum. Ms. Redd got into "petty disputes" with several other clients. Ms. Redd reported to this case worker that an especially nasty and protracted "feud" between her and another client led to her leaving the program. Fresh Start staff stated that they tried to mediate, but Ms. Redd would not stop arguing with the other woman. Staff observed that Ms. Redd seemed to enjoy the excitement of it.

Fresh Start therapist noted to this case worker: "She was very guarded and defensive in group but we spoke a couple times in private. When Johnny's paternity test came up negative Clarissa was terrified he would leave her. She was sure he would abandon her and was just devastated when he did. That's the real reason she blew out of here. Plus I think things were getting a little too real for her in group. You know, almost every addicted woman we treat here has experienced some kind of sexual abuse in the past. Clarissa said that never happened to her but she would get very uncomfortable when other women started processing around that topic. Her reaction had that too close for comfort feeling to it."

The therapist stated to this case worker that Fresh Start would be willing to take Clarissa back into the program if she was willing to try again. They would have to interview her first, to make sure she's really committed to her own sobriety this time.

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE ASSESSMENT**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_Clarissa Redd\_\_\_\_\_                    Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_\_123.456\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Clarissa Redd\_\_\_\_\_\_\_                    Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_3/28\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1.         Presenting Problem/Reason for Assessment**

This case was referred to me by Kim Ellis, the foster care worker for Ms. Redd's PCP positive female infant, Mariah Redd, born 2/1. Ms. Redd was PCP positive and tested at elevated levels of THC at the time of delivery. S/A assessment was requested to determination feasibility of reunification. Ms. Redd has a 10 year-old son in her mother's custody and a 7 year-old son living with his father.  Ms. Redd is a single African American female, mother of three, and she is 25 years old.

**2.         Family of origin history in relation to:**

**Chemical Dependency**

She said on her mother's side of the family her grandfather was an alcoholic but her mother doesn't drink. She said her stepfather is a drinker. She doesn't know about the rest of his family. She doesn't know about her natural father's family.

**Mental Illness**

             She said there was no mental illness on either side of the family.

**Marital Status**

She said her mother and natural father were divorced when she was 4 years old. Her mother married her stepfather when she was 7. She has one sister.

**Past Abuse**

She said her mother never beat her but her stepfather did. He has not hit her since she grew up (age 18). She said he was really hard on her sister, who ran away to join the army when she was 18. She said her sister accused step-father of attempting to have sex with her but she doesn't believe it. Her mother said it wasn't true, "And besides, he never tried to touch me."

**3.         Education**

Graduated high school

**4.         Employment**

Not currently employed. Past employment include fast food preparation and working at a car wash. She said she had never lost a job due to alcohol or drug use.

**5.         Legal Status – past/present**

She has been arrested for assault, worthless checks, larceny, and in 2008, possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia. She has never had a DWI.

**6.         Marital Status/Functioning**

She has never been married.

**7.         Mental Illness History**

She said she has never had counseling for life issues, been suicidal, homicidal or had hallucinations.

**8.         Chemical Dependency History**

She started smoking cigarettes and drinking on weekends at the age of 14. After her first child was born when she was 15 years old, she began to smoke marijuana occasionally.

When she was 18, she experimented with cigarettes dipped in PCP ("sherm"). She liked it immediately and started using it whenever she had the money, almost every weekend, even during her pregnancy. Her second child was born PCP positive the summer after she graduated H.S. At age 20 she "got busted with some weed" and states she was dealing marijuana at the time to get money for cocaine. She experimented with inhalants, mushrooms and speed in her early twenties but didn't use them often. She claims that she has not used PCP since her baby was born and that she has only smoked marijuana about 5 times. She said she hasn't been drunk in years and only rarely has a beer if friends are drinking. She denied having shakes, achy bones, blackouts, night sweats, or hallucinations through the use of alcohol or drugs.

**9.         Treatment/Intervention**

She attended NA weekly for 4 months in early 2010, as ordered by the court, subsequent to her drug charges. She did not continue to attend and never worked with a sponsor.

**10.       Prognosis – Strengths/Needs**

Ms. Redd identified her mother and her boyfriend as her main support system. She does not see DCP&P as a support but stated that after court last week she understands she will have to work with them to get her baby back. She seems highly motivated to be reunited with her child. This may provide her with motivation to seek and complete treatment.

**11.       Recommendations**

It is my recommendation that Ms. Redd enter Fresh Start or another mother/baby in-patient program where she can be reunited with her child immediately. She said she didn't want to leave town or be away from her boyfriend that long. Ms. Redd is in denial about the level of her addiction. She should at least enter our agency's pre-treatment program for women. I administered a drug screen today and recommend random tests for the next 3 months. If she uses PCP again, either in-patient or intensive outpatient (IOP) treatment is recommended.

**12.       Provisional Diagnosis**

PCP Dependency. R/O: Dependent Personality Disorder

Signature:   Grace Hanker, MS, CCAS

GH:ds/TH 107SA

**SERVICE UNIT CONTACT SHEET**

COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF DCP&P

CASE NAME\_\_\_\_Redd, Mariah\_\_\_\_                         DCP&P caseworker \_\_Kim Ellis\_\_\_\_

Spirit ID\_\_\_11-7-012345-7\_\_\_\_\_\_

01FEB   Tele: Hospital reports birth of narcotic positive infant, female.

02FEB             Hospital: Interview with mother, Clarissa Ann Redd, Age 25, very hostile. Stated would not leave hospital without her baby. Hospital will discharge mother tomorrow. Baby will stay for 5-day detox and observation.

06FEB Home Visit (HV): Child placed with foster family: Julia Budd, [phone and address]

14FEB HV: Foster home. Juvenile continues to progress well.

14FEB Office visit with Clarissa Redd (mother) and Lela Jones (maternal grandmother). Tearful but appropriate behavior from Clarissa. Said she didn't have a drug problem, "just smoked it once in a while." [sherm]  Supervised visits set for 2 PM Friday, weekly.

20FEB HV: Maternal grandmother, Lela Jones, present for whole interview, supportive of daughter. Home placement is not an option because Lela works. Family agreed Mariah to stay in foster care while Clarissa "gets herself together." Clarissa was cooperative. She turned to her mother for guidance several times. Clarissa had no appointment for substance abuse evaluation so we made one. Clarissa named boyfriend, Johnny Smith, as father for Mariah and asked if he could come to the visits.

21FEB DCP&P: Visit with Johnny Smith (alleged father), Clarissa (mother) and juvenile. Mr. Smith polite, cooperative, held the baby a lot, seemed proud. Stated Mariah is his but won't sign papers without a test. He agreed to contact child support enforcement for paternity test and voluntary child support.  Clarissa spent time holding Mariah but also seemed jealous of her. Notified that CASA will observe a future visit. This was agreeable.

07MAR Tele: Substance abuse (S/A) counselor called to say Clarissa a "no show" for evaluation.

Also - no show for today's visit with child.

07MAR Tele: Called maternal grandmother, Lela Jones, who said she wasn't sure where Clarissa was, "She's 25 now. I can't be keeping track of her every move."

14MAR DCP&P: Visit with Johnny, Clarissa, Mariah. Volunteer Advocate Present. Clarissa said they had car trouble last week, she will reschedule S/A appointment. Told them that child support enforcement has agreed to see them after next visit. Reminded Clarissa court hearing is 3/18. She said "Yeah I know. After that I'm gonna get my baby back and be done with you." Informed mother that without the S/A evaluation, the court won't return custody.

18MAR Court orders: Clarissa to do S/A evaluation and follow recommendations; Mr. Smith to have paternity test; pay child support if father. Continue supervised visits.

30MAR DCP&P: Visit w/ Johnny, Clarissa, Mariah. This worker discussed substance abuse treatment options with Clarissa. Her 3/19 screen was + for PCP. 3/28 S/A evaluation - recommended residential mommy/baby program, Fresh Start. She agreed to go but said she wasn't ready yet.

04APR DCP&P: Visit with Clarissa, Mariah. Mother tearful, said failed another drug screen and needs help. Agreed to Fresh Start. Said she can't stop using crack, that she's been high every weekend for as long as she can remember. Stated she hates step-father. She doesn't like Buddy living there but that's up to her mom now. I asked her what she was worried about and she said, "Charles isn't a good man."

11APR Fresh Start: Transported mother and baby to Fresh Start Program. Baby transitioned well.

19APR Tele: Call to Fresh Start. Clarissa adjusting to program. Baby is fine.

22MAY Fresh Start: Visit. Congratulated Clarissa for hanging in with the program. Mother and baby

doing well.

20JUN Tele: Fresh Start called to say Clarissa is planning to leave AMA (against medical advice). She had been feuding with another client "about nothing" and on the phone a lot - calling home? Staff told her they'd call DCP&P and hold Mariah if she leaves. Clarissa has packed all her things and is waiting for a ride. Baby secure in building.

20JUN Drove to Fresh start. Clarissa gone. Picked up baby. Julia Budd foster home available. Placed Mariah there again.