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## Tell your story

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Surround yourself with  
the dreamers and the  
doers, the believers and  
thinkers, but most of all,  
surround yourself with  
those who see greatness  
within you, even when you  
don't see it yourself.

Imagine having your newborn baby taken away from you because of a falsely reported phone call to Child Protective Services and what that would feel like. And now imagine that they will not give your child back to you, despite years of jumping through hoops to prove that you are a worthy parent, with no evidence to the contrary.

As a mother of two children, I can't imagine a more terrifying world to live in...and yet, I've seen it happen to someone else. I'm here to share that story with you.

Before going into the story, it seems fair to briefly tell you about who I am. Besides being a mother of two wonderful grown children, I am a doctoral student with an M.S. NDR (negotiation and dispute resolution), a B.S. in social science/psychology and an associate degree in criminal justice. I have over 20 years of volunteering in non-profit organizations and currently, I work as a Professional Mediator and Life Coach ([www.aktionnow.com](http://www.aktionnow.com)) I only share this because it

helps to know that my education level and field of study qualify me to make these assessments and hopefully brings credibility to the story. I have been volunteering my time with a family as their life coach/mentor. I met them in May 2016 when I was volunteering at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Child Protective Services (CPS) in Bend, Oregon. My position was to monitor parent visitations for families that had their children in the State of Oregon's custody. I met Amy and Eric when I was the case worker required to observe them during home visits with their nearly 3-year-old son, Christopher, every Friday. Each visit was for three hours, which provided a lot of interaction for me to observe and document. I quickly discovered that this family had no problem at all taking care of their son. They showed loving attention, were attentive to his needs, and at this point had been fighting faithfully in court for almost three years to prove to CPS that they were capable and loving parents. For those of you doing the math, yes, Christopher was removed from them when he was only days old.

In my professional opinion, after multiple sessions observing Amy and Eric interact with their son for hours on end, I found no reason they should have had their child taken from them and placed in the State's care. Any reasonably trained and educated CPS worker should have arrived at the same conclusion, as I documented in the session notes of every visit.

The couple demonstrated competent parenting skills with Christopher, had no history of abuse or neglect, and expressed a deep desire to have Christopher returned to them to raise him along with the mother's twin boys. I would also add that it was apparent from their body language and how they treated each other that the couple was in love, and while that is not a requirement to be a parent, it's a big bonus for a child.

So why was a newborn baby taken away from his mother and father? As the caseworker assigned to the family, I learned their story... Seven days after losing her own mother, Amy Fabbrini (the mother in this story) gave birth to Christopher at home. She was unaware that

she was pregnant. Amy suffers from kidney issues (which she says is a genetic thing passed down from her family), causing intense pain at times. She had associated the symptoms of pregnancy with the disorder. After helping with a surprise delivery of his new baby boy, Eric (the father), immediately called 911 and had mother and baby brought to the hospital. Both were in shock of this and were understandably probably affected by this traumatic event.

Amy had been living with her parents and her two twin boys after a divorce with the father of the twins. After losing her mother to Alzheimer's and the surprise addition of a new child, Amy told her father of this event; to hear him tell her that she may not bring the infant back to his home. She was forced to make the decision to move with her twin boys in with her newborn child's father, Eric. What happens next is what I believe to be a traumatic panic, her grieving father, dealing with the recent death of his wife and now losing the companionship of Amy and the twin boys, called CPS and falsely reported neglect, after he had already known about a falsely reported call from Eric's roommate (after an argument that they had). It sounds confusing but this is the mess the couple was in days after the infant had arrived, without having a chance to settle in as a new family, get adjusted to the idea of a new baby, or get the house ready for such an event, they were dealing with negativity - rather than excitement of a precious little baby boy.

Sadly, CPS took infant Christopher, and he has been in foster care ever since. At the time that they took the infant, they also took Amy's twin boys and gave them to her ex-husband who had not really been involved with the boys much. Amy lost all three of her boys within a week after her loss of her mother to Alzheimer's. She was not given grievance counseling or condolences to this day from CPS.

Additionally, the parents have complied with all of CPS's requests from the beginning. There was no abuse. There was no neglect. There was no alcohol or drug use. CPS has simply claimed that they are "retarded" (yes, that was actually the term used by a CPS worker) and that they do not have the intelligence to raise a child.

When I questioned this supervisor assigned to the case, he replied with derogatory remarks about the father and mother. I asked why the couple had not been given their child back. His reply shocked me. He said, "Eric is retarded, fat and lazy - he doesn't even brush his teeth. There is no way that I am allowing them to have Christopher." The way that this supervisor spoke about the parents was anything but professional. It was then that I realized that this couple had been up against a powerful agency that seemed to have little or no accountability.

After I had spent almost three months observing this family and reporting weekly on my observations, we learned that none of the reports I had submitted to CPS were given to the court or the attorneys representing each parent. Eric continually asked his attorney to get copies of the reports that I had submitted. After no reports were produced by CPS, Eric's attorney asked me if I would be willing to testify in court regarding my observations of the visits. I agreed. While on vacation in California, I testified telephonically in court on behalf of Eric and Amy to report my observations that were in the reports which could not be obtained from CPS by either attorney. I reported the interactions that I observed between Eric, Amy and their son, Christopher. I told the judge that I did not understand why CPS had not returned this now almost 3-year-old child back to his parents. Just a few days after I testified in court, I was notified from CPS that they "no longer needed my volunteer help" because they "had recently hired someone for the position." I was asked to come in and return my key to the building along with all equipment that CPS had given me to use while I was in an observational role.

When I got back from my vacation, I met with the supervisor and turned everything in. During that meeting, I asked for clarification as to why I was being released [just days after my testimony] from a "volunteer position," and why I was being treated so differently by him that afternoon. He only replied with "we have a new hire for your

position," and then said, "I will need to walk you to the door; you now have no clearance to walk freely."

As I walked to the door (which was approximately a football field away in distance), he walked behind me. The feeling from him was cold as if I did something criminal. His demeanor was completely opposite of how he used to conduct himself in my presence. Prior to the testimony, I gave in court, the supervisors would tell me how thankful they were to have me and my expertise.

I decided to continue to work with the family as a life coach and mentor, volunteering my time to help them get their son back. Their case with Christopher is currently back in the county courts, after going to the appellate courts and the supreme courts of Oregon. CPS has moved toward adoption, permanently removing the child from them and terminating their rights as parents.

Eric has a normal high school diploma and tested in the middle of his class. Amy also has a normal high school diploma. The two of them have newer vehicles, a three-bedroom, two-bath house and live in Redmond, Oregon.

Recently, Amy gave birth to another healthy boy, named Hunter. Even though this new baby is viewed as a "new case," CPS came into the hospital and took Hunter from his parents. They did not do any investigation to see if this child was at risk. They simply took him. When the worker arrived, he was not even prepared to take the newborn infant. He had to ask the hospital for diapers, wipes, blankets, an outfit, formula and did not once ask the nurses about the care of the infant with the parents. I had spent hours with the family in the hospital, and they kept hourly records of their child (e.g., when he nursed, when he wet the diaper when he had a bowel movement, etc.). They were very caring, attentive, happy, and in love with their new baby boy.

The night before CPS came to take the child, they informed me that they were coming to take the infant. I offered my home to CPS for the child, and that I would provide 24/7 observation with the family in my

home, and that I would work from home to give this mother a chance to bond while CPS did their "investigation." They refused.

The next morning, I emailed the case worker peer-reviewed journal articles explaining the neuroscience regarding the trauma that occurs to an infant when it is taken from his mother, and how the first several weeks are a very crucial time for nutrition (from breast milk), bonding and attachment development. He emailed me back with, "Can I call you?" However, he never called. He came that day at 2:00 pm and took the infant.

In court the next Tuesday we pleaded to have the child returned to me as a caregiver so that Amy could nurse and bond with the infant. The judge agreed to have CPS perform a background on me and encouraged the infant to return to the mother with 24/7 monitoring until CPS was done with their investigation. To this day, they still have not performed a background check on me. I have sent probably 20 emails. We are now asking for an expedited court date and want to expose this case. It is criminal and inhumane what CPS is doing. If you have any ideas; (i.e. contacts for news stories, lawyers, or other organizations that you feel you can connect me to; I would be most appreciative. Please send all inquiries to [sherrenehagenbach@gmail.com](mailto:sherrenehagenbach@gmail.com) See updates on news coverage and up to date info and news investigations

<https://www.facebook.com/aktionnow/>

or

<https://www.facebook.com/ReturnChrisandHunter/>

**The funds will go toward:** \*representation in court

\*legal assistance

\*payment for office supplies & mailing

\*clothing for court

\*fees that Amy now has since she has to pay child support for the twin boys that CPS took

\*payment for services of daily communication with team advisor(s) -

\*transportation to and from their meetings and court dates

\*any additional funds that are needed to assist in this the fight for justice (i.e. advertising, psychologist testing, etc) ...**anything we need to pay to prove they are fit parents.**

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**Sherrene Hagenbach** is Eric & Amy's Life Coach & Advocate, she will be 100% responsible for allocating the money to pay for the items listed above, needs the family has, & to pay for all assistance on this case.

**All receipts will be kept & will be required for reimbursements!**

\*\*\*in addition she will provide Eric & Amy with a pre-paid card for travel expenses when we have court, items needed for court or representation, or other travel expenses in regard to getting their boys back.

All they want is to have their boys back home where they belong. They also want to set a precedent for all other families in this situation; they want to be a spark of hope for others. To never let go of of the dream for your family to one day be reunited.

**We need an army of support immediately.** They need to get their case overturned. The Child Welfare System in Oregon NEEDS reform, it needs accountability and it needs their time to go toward the children who are REALLY abused and in need of their time & funding to get them to safety. This couple has a loving home for their boys to live in. They are fully capable of providing parental care, with a safe and loving environment. If you have been blessed with any amount of extra funds that could go toward their fight - we would greatly appreciate it. We hope that to the measure you give it will multiply back to you.



Thank you so much for every penny that is collected on their behalf.  
aKt'ion Now



To Whom It May Concern:

It is important to us that you know how important Eric, Amy, Christopher, and Hunter are to us. Though, our previous situations prevented us from being as available as we would have liked. We are available now for their questions, concerns and or needs.

Our family situation affecting our lives for the past 4 years:

We lived in Bend, for 25 years and upon retirement we had decided to move back home to Tucson, Arizona. We moved in February 2014. Pam's mother lived in a retirement facility and upon arrival in Tucson Pam started providing daily assistance to her. Her health declined so much that she moved into our home in September 2014. Pam spent 3-4 hours a day caring for her mother. A few months later she entered a rehabilitation facility and then transitioned into a care home. Pam visited her mother everyday once she left our home. She passed away in August 2015.

In February of 2016 our youngest son's wife left him. He moved into our home, with his 2 children for about 6 months. We provided daily support for him and the children during this time. The divorce was contentious and the process took almost 2 years, finally ending at the end of November 2017. This nearly 2 year period was very stressful.

Craig's elderly mother, now almost 96, also lives in Tucson. She has been in failing health for years. She doesn't drive due to poor eyesight. She is also living with kidney disease, has severe scoliosis, and severe pain daily. We support her by taking her prepared meals, taking her to Doctor appointments, grocery shopping, cleaning house, doing repairs, etc.

With the divorce over we have had more time available to visit with Eric and Amy. When we talk we ask about Hunter and Christopher. Now that Hunter is

with Eric and Amy we get to hear and/or see him. He is quite the chatterbox. We have talked with Christopher by phone as he plays with his toys. We talk with Eric and Amy 3-6 times per week.

With our family situation more settled our plans are to visit more frequently (2-3 times per year), even getting over to the Oregon Coast with Eric, Amy and family together with Eric's 2 brothers and their families, in a family reunion of sorts. We would love for the cousins to finally get to know each other. We have supported him financially and will continue to do so. We have enjoyed our video chats and plan to do more. Currently Pam is planning to fly to Redmond to get to know her grandchildren. A request has been made to allow Eric's entire family to make a trip to Tucson to see his nearly 96 year old Grandmother before she too passes away. He has not seen her in over 10 years. It is our wish that Eric and Amy get to introduce Christopher and Hunter to Eric's grandma, and also to a large extended Ziegler family. Please know that we are available to Eric and Amy, Christopher, and Hunter. We look forward to spending time with Eric and Amy and getting to know our grandchildren.

Craig and Pam Ziegler

## Letter for Court

Pietro x

**AMY  
FABBRINI**

We are frustrated because we have tried to get someone else who we know will ...



**Sherrene Hagenbach** <sherrenehagenbach@gmail.com>

to fabbriniamy

That's excellent!!! Want me to print it off for you? So you can read it to the judge?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 10:31 PM AMY FABBRINI <fabbriniamy@yahoo.com> wrote:

We are frustrated because we have tried to get someone else who we know will fight for us, and the state has made it difficult for them. We have been fighting for our kids for over four years now and have done everything we been told to do, we have been promised that if we do services that it will increase our chances, but yet four years later and we still don't have Christopher back. We will no longer go for empty promises because that's all they are. All we have been trying to do is get our kids back and every time we get hit by opposition from cps and the providers and also our attorneys. Cps and the providers have shut us out with a lot of stuff and options that we could of or should have had. We are treated like we have already lost our rights and the providers got all our rights, the providers get to make all the decisions and if she doesn't feel comfortable with something she doesn't have to do it. Our case is based on our IQ's and that we can't properly or safely take care of our kids because of our IQ's, how well we parent our kids doesn't have anything to with IQ. There are plenty of other parents out there that have worse disabilities and yet they can parent their kids just fine. We have proved over and over again that we can safely and properly take care of our kids, we have even been told by the worker that does our visits and our caseworker that they can clearly see our strengths when parenting our kids and it shows how much we love our kids. If we need advice or help we know plenty of people that are more than willing to help us and give us advice, we have had this support system in place this whole time. For the last 4 year's it hasn't only affected us, it has had a major affect on Christopher to. Christopher has been so confused this whole time, especially now that he is getting older. Christopher has been told by the providers that he has two sets of parents and two homes, the providers shouldn't be telling Christopher that they are his parents, they should be encouraging Christopher to call us his mom and dad. Christopher has been so confused lately that when we try to comfort him, he pushes us away, there has been times that he has told Eric to not hug him, to leave him alone and to not touch him like that. During the last two visits Christopher has wanted to leave the visits early because he wants to go back to " his home with "his mommy, he likes being at "his home with "his mommy that "his mommy misses him when he is at our visits. We haven't been able to go to the boys doctors appointments to let the doctor know about some of our concerns, one concern is that both boys have had a really bad cold now for over 4 months and it hasn't got better its got to the point that it a sinus infection. Its been really hard to live a normal life with everything going on feeling like we are constantly being watched so that we do something wrong so they can use it against us in court. This last year since sherrene has been helping us, me especially she has taught me to let my voice be heard and to speak up for myself. She has encouraged us to be stronger people and to not let people push us around. These last four years Eric has been struggling to find a job because employers want reliable workers with flexible schedules. Eric just recently was able to get work, his old boss from the bulletin gave him his old job back, so the state can longer use that against him. It has been mentioned that Eric doesn't say much, that's because lately I have been the voice for both of us, we make decisions together as a team because we work better as a team. In the end all we want is our kids back so we can be a family



It has been quite some time since I have last updated the petition. I apologize for the inconsistencies; I had no idea just how much time this case would require from my life. I am so thankful to my husband and family for allowing me the thousands of hours to devote to Eric and Amy in order that they have every opportunity to fight for their rights to parent their children. I calculated with my husband that in the 27 months of helping this family, I have spent over 4,000 hours. Many sleepless nights, research, etc. This case came with a large DHS/CPS team, the state's Attorneys, the CASA team, Foster Care Providers, etc. that all came against me, Eric and Amy trying to terminate Eric and Amy's rights to parent their children. Then was the grueling task of trying to get Christopher back in their home even after the court ruled for him to be reunified with his parents. If you can imagine for a moment... just think about that. Three individuals up against an army...

Well, I could not have done this without my husband, Chris Winters. He has provided a home, a shoulder to cry on, and assistance to this family as well. He is a true hero to me. I also could not have done this without the prayer, assistance, and suggestions from Pietro Barbieri. Pietro Barbieri was the attorney who had contacted us to see how he may be of support to Eric and Amy once their case was nationally discovered. Through many discussions Esquire Barbieri and I had, he always remained consistent. Although, we tried to get him into our state to represent Eric and Amy, the state (in many lengthy ways that would bore you) would not allow him into our state to assist the parents. Therefore, he would pray for me, offer me ideas as a, now friend, and send me valuable information that after researching the documents, I was able to get an investigation going through the State of Oregon Department of Health and Human Resources – specifically the Child Protective Services department.

[FYI: This investigation is known as the Civil Rights Discrimination Complaint that any citizen can file if they feel that their rights are violated. Just understand that it needs to be filled out completely and with care. After it is sent in, it can take several months (in our case approximately four months) before they contact you.]

Anyway – I wanted to make sure that I thanked those who have stood by my side and helped me along the way. Although I name humans, the main help came from having faith and trusting that I was placed specifically for Eric and Amy by the One who has the power to bring us to the right place at the right time. Everyone was at the right place, at the right time, and it felt completely orchestrated from the Main One who cares about each human on earth.

Saying that, here is the update you all have been waiting for.

Eric and Amy have their children back in their home. Their parental rights were not terminated.

This is the timeline of events:

September 2013

Eric and Amy had their son Christopher removed from their care at just days old. As a result, they also took Amy's twin boys (who had always been in her care) and gave them to her ex-husband (who never had custody before).

August of 2016

After years of Eric and Amy doing everything that the department asked, Eric and Amy's Parental Rights were still being terminated by the State of Oregon Department of Health and Human Services/Child Welfare (Protective Services) department.

Fall 2016

Eric and Amy's rights were being terminated and the courts were moving toward adopting their son out to the foster care providers. However, Eric and Amy appealed the decision. They lost at the Appellate level. They sent it to the State of Oregon Supreme Court, which they again... lost at. This meant that they were able to sit through another trial (with new evidence) it is just the way that these cases work.

[I have no idea why they go through all of this – the only people who truly suffer the most... are the children that the State claims to be protecting.]

So, I begin contacting politicians, media outlets, resources from all over our state and the United States trying to get answers for Eric and Amy.

February 2017

Hunter (Eric and Amy's second son) was born. CPS removed from the hospital at just 2 days old, he was given to the same foster care provider that their older son Christopher was with.

JUMPING PAST ALL OF THE FRUSTRATING HOURS OF 11 MORE MONTHS  
BATTLING IN COURT... to current situation...

December 2017

Hunter was court ordered [finally] to be returned to his parents. DHS/CPS immediately returned him. No reunification process, in fact the following day at noon, they had their son Hunter 24-7 [without any instructions as to his likes, needs, routines] – but they were able to pull it off while leaning on my husband and I for 24-7 assistance as they needed it.



January 2018

Parental Rights of Eric and Amy were granted for Christopher and the order from the court was for Christopher to be reunited with his parents through a doctor that was a DHS/CPS approved doctor. This was not the doctor that Amy had asked her attorney to provide, however, Amy was not given the opportunity to request the doctor of her choosing. Amy's requests were constantly dismissed by her court appointed attorney.

AFTER COURT RULING...

Child's State Attorney – files an appeal. He explains harshly how the parents are not as qualified as the foster care providers, they do not have the financial backing as the foster care providers, they do not have the educational background as the foster care providers, and they are not fit parents for a child with [whom he believes has severe disabilities] and the parents cannot care for him.

*We urge you to go to their Facebook page [The Amy and Eric story](#):  
[#returnchrisandhunter to Their Parents and watch Christopher for yourself.](#)*

Eric's parents (Pam and Craig) contact myself (Sherrene Hagenbach-Winters) for the first time in this process and expresses thanksgiving for my advocacy and parental coaching for Eric and Amy. They offer their assistance if it will be received by Eric and Amy – they express their side of the story. They explained that DHS/CPS informed them that Eric and Amy would not be receiving their children back. This information provided by DHS/CPS to Eric's parents left them confused and heartbroken. It also handicapped their relationship. I offered to assist with reuniting and restoring the relationship between Eric and his parents. This means that Eric and Amy now finally... after over four years of fighting for their rights have some family members who want to help them and remain by their side. The reunification process was difficult, painful, and then beautiful. It is amazing what happens when families work through the tough stuff. Healing and Forgiveness takes place, after that comes all the rewards of having a family.

March 2018

Eric and Amy give birth to their daughter Danica. She is healthy, strong, and so adorable. Eric's mom flew out from Arizona to stay with them for three weeks to help with Hunter and the newborn time.

Spring 2018

Amy and I filed complaints against her court appointed attorney and asked the court for her withdrawal from the case. [The complaint is currently being investigated by the State of Oregon Bar Association.]

May 2018

It took almost 5 months before Eric and Amy were able to receive an overnight with their son Christopher. Their first overnight occurred in the month of May – 2018... FOUR YEARS AND EIGHT MONTHS AFTER THEY GAVE BIRTH TO THEIR SON...they finally have him spend one night per week with them.

Summer 2018 [June, July, and August]

Eric's parents make several trips up to Oregon from Arizona, they are building their relationship with the little one's (completely excited to be grandparents) and assisting in decisions that required their help (i.e. they purchased a vehicle for Eric that was large enough to transport all three children in – with car seats, they assisted in landscaping duties, etc.). Basically, they offered all help that they can assist with.

June 2018

Amy is appointed a new attorney. This attorney would not allow myself to attend any visits with Amy, even after her request. We decided that we were so close to the end, that we would not force this – even though Amy has the right to request anybody she wants to be in the room with her, especially through ADA – but for now – we will not push that issue. This is not an important issue to press currently, since we are just trying to get Christopher home and we are almost 100% there.

July 2018

The foster care providers file a lawsuit against Eric and Amy requesting parental rights and guardianship over their (Eric and Amy's) son, Christopher. Eric and Amy must hire a private attorney to fight against this (as it was a separate case from DHS/CPS and they would not be able to qualify for a court-appointed attorney). Eric's parents pay for this attorney. This required even more of my time, Eric and Amy's time, Eric's parents time, etc. just to strategize and come up with a defense, for now another court battle. Although, this was one more blow and stress... eventually, these charges were dropped from foster care providers in August 2018. However, this was not dropped until after several court appearances, added stress and trauma to the family, and thousands of dollars spent in attorney fees.

August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Eric and Amy as of this date; now can have their son everyday EXCEPT Wednesday from noon through Thursday at 5:00 pm where he stays at the foster care provider's

home. Additionally, every other weekend Christopher stays at the foster care provider's home. [This is against ALL REQUESTS of Eric and Amy, their support team, and their family (who are more recently involved)] They continually demand for Christopher to come home to them, for DHS/CPS to stay out of their lives, and to have a different doctor during the reunification process. They are denied all these things.

They will continue to do as instructed; they do not agree with it, but they do not have a choice... they just want their son back. Once things are finalized, they may have more options.

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Today is August 28, 2018

I am updating everyone on what was decided by the courts:

The doctor that was appointed to assist in the reunification with Christopher, has done nothing more than drag out the entire process. She and I do not agree on the process and as professionals... we do not have to agree. However, this doctor has continually sided with the State of Oregon (her wage is paid by them – she has a contract with the State of Oregon to assist with DHS/CPS children) so it makes sense that 'you do not bite the hand that feeds you' – similarly this doctor has often sided with the foster care providers in helping them attain all that they are requesting. This has been very frustrating for Eric and Amy. Everything that Eric and Amy have requested from the doctor, has been denied in favor of the foster care providers (not even Christopher's request). That is interesting to me.

Similarly, Christopher may have some behavioral displays that are different than other children (but what child does exactly what other children do?) all children grow and develop at different rates. Christopher has been assessed by me and two other professionals in the community. The results were that he is just like other peers in his age group; or even more advanced in many areas. However, the State of Oregon is wanting him to show disabilities far greater than he has. I do not see disabilities. I see 'abilities' the doctor has called me many things untrue. Even claimed that I am hurting Eric and Amy's case – rather than helping them. Funny, because I am under the impression if I went away... that:

- 1) Eric and Amy's rights would have been terminated.
- 2) Eric and Amy would not have filed any legitimate civil rights discrimination complaints (they do not know how and nobody else is here helping them).
- 3) Eric and Amy would not have had their story told the media (I was the one who called the Oregonian for 5 months before they wrote the article).

- 4) Eric and Amy would not have spoken to any news reporters – and there would not be a Facebook page set up to inform the public about this tragedy.

I could go on and on... but you get my point. The state of Oregon DHS, the doctor's that they pay to go up on the stands, and all the other connected services attached to them feel that I am not a benefit to Eric and Amy, yet if I was not here... they would not have what they have. In fact, if I was gone... they (DHS/CPS of the state of Oregon) would not be under investigation.

Which leads me to this additional update about the process Eric and Amy have been through:

Fall 2017

We find an attorney on the east coast that wants to assist us if we can find a 'pro hac vice' attorney that will allow him to work along side of them and fight for Eric and Amy to not only get their boys back, but also to sue the State of Oregon DHS for discrimination of their civil rights.

The east coast attorney answered many questions I had (professional to professional, not attorney client questions). One such question he answered was how I can file a civil rights discrimination complaint myself on behalf of Eric and Amy. He also explains that it may be good measure to have Power of Attorney to help in this situation. I received Power of Attorney for Eric and Amy and I filed a civil rights discrimination claim against the Department of Health and Human Services, on behalf of Eric and Amy through the United States of America.

If you have been following their case on Facebook and change.org you know once the east coast attorney had found an attorney working in Oregon - for entrance into the state to help fight this case; this attorney met alone with the court appointed attorney. She did this without Eric, Amy or I included in this meeting and against our request. We had sent in writing that we wanted to be involved in the meeting or we did not approve of the meeting. The meeting happened anyway against our wishes and these attorneys had a closed-door private meeting for about two hours. Subsequently, that night the new attorney withdrew from our case – which would mean that the attorney from the east coast could again... not help with the case.

Late Fall/Early Winter 2017

The court appointed attorney filed false allegations against the east coast attorney even though Eric, Amy and I informed her that her allegations were incorrect. She filed them anyway-not just in our state (Oregon), but also in his state on the east coast. This prevented him any further communication with me regarding this case. We now needed to be communication free in a sense, because we did not want to have collaborative

conversations in case the allegations made would require my complete and transparent account of what was going on. We wanted to make sure that the allegations would be found untrue.

Winter 2017

Eric, Amy and I prepared for the case, I worked hand in hand with Amy's court appointed attorney; providing her with evidence, research, proof, etc. along with assisting her in the communication between Eric and Amy. This was no easy venture. The court appointed attorney was not completely forthcoming and did not honor Amy's constant requests to submit different documentation that she felt was relevant. However, in the end... the judge denied the termination of parental rights and ordered both boys to come home. Hunter was brought home immediately and Christopher was put on a reunification plan. His date for complete reunification was in April 2018.

Spring 2018

Courts hear both sides of the case for how the reunification process is going. It is now April and there has not even been one overnight that has taken place. Court dates are set throughout the summer with constant pushed back dates for when Christopher will be reunited. Finally, in August a few things were decided.

August 2018

Christopher's progress was discussed with the judge. Craig (Eric's father and Christopher's paternal grandfather) was in court. He was asked by the judge to answer some of her questions. She asked how often he visits, what type of assistance does he give, what goes on when he is around for visits, how long are his visits, etc. She then asked for myself to add any information if I had any to share. I refuted the so called 'facts' that the State attorneys were stating about Eric and Amy as parents as well as his opinion of Christopher's development. I explained that Eric and Amy were willing to work with anybody and any services if they were not connected to Child Protective Services in any way. That they wanted their son in pre-school but were not given his shot records, birth certificate, or social security as requested multiple times. Therefore, nobody will allow them to sign him up for classes without these items. I also stated that they did apply for him to attend the Head start Pre-school program – and I believed they qualified for the services based on income.

The judge in the end stated that she wanted Christopher to be in a pre-school that had a smaller class size/ratio than Head start, which meant that they had to pay out of pocket for a private pre-school that is not even mandated by the state anyway. Children in the state of Oregon are not required to attend pre-school, but not only does Christopher have to attend pre-school (which the parents want him to attend anyway) but they have to pay for a private pre-school and research one that focuses on 'special needs'

While this does not seem fair at all. Nor does it seem like the courts should be able to mandate this from Eric and Amy to receive full custody and prove that they can parent, it tells me that they are required to go above and beyond the average American by being forced to pay for private pre-school for Christopher if they want him to come home and live with them. This is an outrage... I believe in education. I have multiple collegiate degrees, I think education is empowerment and important. However, that is what 'I' believe, that is not what every person believes. It is also not what is required of Americans. So, why then is this required of Eric and Amy?

I will most likely never understand this case.

August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Eric, Amy, their children and I all met with a pre-school owner and teacher in Redmond. Her pre-school is located within walking distance to Eric and Amy's house. She is educated with a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood education and has a strong desire to help children explore learning without judgement, creating a diversified atmosphere, and specializes with children who may have learning disabilities (just in case the judge believes that Christopher has a learning disability and needs this type of experience from a pre-school teacher. I would encourage you to look up this pre-school. I was impressed with what she offered and how organized she was. The name of the pre-school is Learn With Me (a place where adults and children come and learn together) you can find them on Facebook as well: Learn With Me, LLC She is located in Redmond, Oregon and has a heart of gold (at least that is what I had experienced from her), she has a spot in her class set aside for Eric and Amy and welcomed Christopher with joy.

Now, we will have to see how the court likes this idea.

Eric and Amy are looking forward to the Appeals case being dismissed, for them to live without the constant nagging appearances of court, DHS/CPS appointments, and for the shared visitations with the foster care providers to end. Please continue to support this family. They have worked so hard to reunite their family. A huge blessing for them would be to get the courts and government agencies out of their home for good.

If you have the time, resources, or knowledge of a civil rights attorney that would be able to take this case; please contact me. You can still reach me through my corporation website.

IN ADDITION: I have teamed up with my husband to start a non-profit. I am looking forward to offering supportive material, books, educational pamphlets, and anything I can for families like Eric and Amy's. Similarly, I am using this non-profit to once again reach the youth in our community with a positive place to go. The non-profit can be found on Facebook, please go to it and like us if you will. Also, share our page with

everyone. We want to be a positive influence and infect as many as we can with kindness, love, care, compassion, and support.

## NON-PROFIT

Involved at the Dream Center (please find us on Facebook) – you can also find more information on my website: <https://www.aktionnow.com/> from there you can message me, or just read more about what goes on with my corporation and non-profit. (If anybody donates a large amount of money and would like a tax ID number, please message me – I can do that!)

As my work permits and funds provide – I would like to be known as a philanthropist, but not just one who provides funding to others, but one who is in love with helping others succeed, helping others out of depression, helping fight for their parental rights, helping fight for their civil rights in general, and supporting children and youth by just 'being there.'

All who have donated to this case, are also philanthropists – when we come together to combine our money and donate to good causes and the welfare of humanity, we all make this world just a little bit better.

## THANK YOU...

Thank you to all of you who have followed this case. Thank you for all who have prayed and sent good vibes. Thank you to all who have donated from your own resources. I hope that you all have been paid back for the measure in which you gave.

