Wraparound & Systems of Care

A Success Story

Meet Sara – she has a story you will want to hear. Sara was introduced to Wraparound at the age of 14. After years in the foster system and multiple placements everyone was ready to try something different. Despite not having a relationship for some time, Sara strongly advocated for her biological mother to become a member of the team and start participating in Sara’s life. Through the hard work of the family and youth support partners they began to engage her mom. They organized lunch visits, overnights, and eventually weekend visits for the two of them as they repaired and strengthened their parent-child relationship. These interactions, along with transportation provided by the team to meetings that were over 30 miles from her mom’s home, led to her mom becoming an active member of the Wrap team. Their relationship was getting stronger and stronger every day and life was slowly, but surely, beginning to change in positive ways for Sara.

As things progressed, the DHS caseworker suggested inviting Sara’s adult sister to the team as another natural support person. This is when things really shifted for Sara. Both her mom and sister were now fully engaged and shortly after Sara’s sister became her permanent placement.

After moving in with her sister, Sara really blossomed. Her grades in school improved from D’s and F’s to almost all A’s. She became much healthier; her hygiene habits and self-care became noticeably better. Most exciting, Sara’s social skills and confidence improved exponentially. Sara continued to receive support from her youth support partner from the local Youth M.O.V.E. Oregon chapter learning to ride public transit and taking advantage of opportunities to develop her leadership, social, and public speaking skills.

Because of the Wraparound program and the amazing support Sara and her family received, she now has a positive view of her future!

To learn more about SOC/ Wraparound and the link to CCO’s, view our other handouts at pdx.edu/ccf/scwi and contact Bill Baney, PSU Systems of Care Institute at 503.725.5914 or baneyw@pdx.edu.

Please note that the girl pictured is not the actual client.