

## Testimony to the importance of having consistent, positive, mentor support in the life of a "Little" where there is uncertainty and lack of support to navigate life.

Sep 25, 2020, 10:33 AM

Hi Madeline, Grandpa texted me yesterday and asked if I could check on Little . Apparently she hasn't been going to school the last three days and asked if I could talk to her about it. I did take her out to coffee yesterday and she seemed great but apparently she was hiding how she really felt. She didn't go to school again today and he texted me this morning. I've been texting back-and-forth with her and she said "to be honest I dont have the right mindset to get up on time wash my hair and wash my clothes right now."

Is there some thing that I should say or not say, do or not do, or someone that we should be talking to? Apparently he is not getting answers from her.

We planned to go fishing tonight, so I kind of assumed she would go to school today. He texted me this morning and said that she didn't go again.

Oct 13, 2020, 3:59 PM

I talked with the school social worker and she told me that i had to report it to social services. 😞 i am a mandated reporter as a teacher and since i told her , she is also a mandated reporter. I just got off the phone with them. They said they would keep me in the loop. Not sure if anything is coming from it. My stomach feels sick 😞😞😞 i

It's the right thing to do even though I know it makes you feel sick. I just don't want her to spiral downward and it not get caught before something bad happens. This doesn't change anything with your friendship. Continue to let her know you care and you are there for her no matter what. So sorry that sometimes these friendships aren't the easiest but she was taken from her family a few years ago now and I can't imagine living a life without any support system.

Why is her brother and sister still with them? That is my question. She has got to feel so left out.

Good question! I do not understand so many things!

Nov 2, 2020, 1:34 PM

Hope you're staying healthy! Did you get the survey letter? How are things going for Little ?

Yes i did. Im quarantined now so cant see her til next weekend. My hubby tested a symptomatic positive so had to quarantine til friday. Ive been texting with her and her Posts dont seem as alarming now, however she did cop all of her hair off yesterday to about 2-3 inches all around. She said she just did it, wasnt planning it 😞 i hope she will be ok going back to school. She is going to get teased or talked about for sure.

Nov 10, 2020, 9:59 PM

We are going for coffee/smoothies tomorrow. I will try to ask her the hard questions 😞😞. Ive seen her with 3 different hairstyles on snapchat now so i am wondering if she really cut her hair that short? Hm. I guess ill find out.

I made a book of pictures of us together through chatbooks. It turned out sooo nice! Im excited to give it to her



Im going to be in greenbush on sunday so that wont work. Was going to contact you today and let you know that Little texted me last night at 11:30 and told me she was in a bad place mentally and a friend of hers texted me and said that she thought she did self harm. It was true. She didnt want to tell her grandpa so i said i would come over, so she said she maybe needed to go to the ER. I did not see what she did to herself, but once we got there she would not go in to the room and talk to the docs so we came back. I called grandpa and told him i was dropping her off. He was groggy and said ok, ( 2:45AM) but called me at 6 this morning wondering what i wanted 😞. He didnt remember talking to me. Ug.. but said he went to her room and said she was "fine". They have an appt on wed in roseau with a mental health person already set up. Not sure where to go from here?

Jan 29, 2021, 5:52 PM

First of all I'm so thankful you're in her life! Mentoring definitely hasn't been the smoothest ride. Unfortunately mentors are what several kids need in their life and now more then ever! Someone to show they care! Encouraging Grandpa and/or Little to keep the Wed. Appointment would be where I'd start. Continue being the person who cares in her life, which might be more than anyone else does at this point. Encourage her that her life matters and has purpose and she has the ability to make good choices for her life. Continue showing her what making good choices looks like.

Yes im hoping they will keep the appt

Jan 29, 2021, 5:52 PM