**Crisis Planning: Geffery and Clayton**

Geffery and Clayton are brothers who until recently, had been living with their mother Debra in a low income apartment complex. Debra has struggled with depression for as long as she can remember and 3 years ago her boys were placed in foster care when she was hospitalized following a suicide attempt. More recently, Debra has been using alcohol and drugs in an attempt to manage her depression. Her children were recently placed in foster care for the second time when her current boyfriend violently attacked Debra and her oldest son, Clayton. Debra was too impaired to protect herself or her children and they were placed in care. Clayton and Geffery’s father is African American – the boys haven’t seen him in several years. Debra is Caucasian.

**Geffery –**

Geffery is 7 years old and was recently placed in foster care for the second time following a domestic violence incident in his home. Thankfully, his CPS worker was able to place him in the same foster home and his foster parents are very invested in his well-being. Geffery is very close to his older brother Clayton, who provided much of his care when they lived together. Clayton was placed in a foster home that specializes in working with juveniles (close to their mother’s home, but on the other side of the city from Geffery). Since his placement, Geffery has been very quiet and spends most of the time in his room. Unfortunately, Geffery had to change schools with this placement. He is involved in special programming due to reading and language delays, but it may take a while to get this started at the new school. Geffery has a difficult time making friends and acts much younger than 7 years old. His teacher reports that Geffery will often break out into “temper tantrums” with little or no warning. When his foster mother asks him about this, he refuses to talk about it. She has become increasingly concerned about Geffery’s behavior, as she has observed him pulling their new puppy’s tail when he believes nobody is watching and then laughing when the puppy squeals.

**Clayton –**

Clayton is 15 years old and was recently placed in foster care for the second time following a domestic violence incident in his home. He has never liked his mother’s boyfriend and during this last incident, the boyfriend attacked Clayton and he was hospitalized overnight for observation. Clayton has run away from home in the past to get away from the fighting and drug use, but always returns home due to his concern about his little brother Geffery. The last time he ran away, he stole a bicycle and some cash from school and became involved with Juvenile Justice Services. Upon discharge from the hospital, Clayton’s JJ worker placed him in a foster home familiar with this age group. His foster father is an avid hunter and has promised to take Clayton to target practice. Clayton was able to stay in his school district, however he has been bullied by a group of older boys at this school. He has developed a relationship with a Guidance Counselor who has helped him deal with the bullying behavior in the past. Recently, Clayton and his friend were accused of bullying members of the Gay/Straight Alliance group after their meetings at school. As a result, he was referred to the School Liaison Officer. Clayton admits to some alcohol use. His mother reports that Clayton overdosed on her prescription medication in the past, however this is not in any of his records and Clayton denies this.