

Hi, my name is Corey. I'm 24-years-old and I have a three year old son.

Both my biological and adoptive families abused and neglected me as a child. I battled feelings of depression and loneliness from the time I was nine years old, when my adoptive parents began abusing me and threatening to send me back to DCF. I had very few emotional resources growing up and suffered rejection and isolation from my adoptive parents and also when I was in residential care.

As a teen, I became involved in relationships that were abusive and not supportive of me. I also abused marijuana as a teenager in order to cope with my feelings. I finally signed myself out of DCF care when I turned 17.

I graduated from Hamden High School in 2007 and started working on my CNA certificate. I obtained my CNA certificate in 2008, but was unable to maintain it because of my pregnancy and housing instability in 2009. In 2010, I became involved with DCF again, only this time it was because of domestic violence between me and my son's father. I currently live with my son, but I've been able to share custody with his father even though we don't live together. My son has a strong bond with both me and his father which allows us to share in his life.

In October of 2012, I began working with the Supportive Housing for Families program and was assigned a case manager who helped me find an apartment, showed me how to budget and to plan for my future. Supportive Housing for Families helped me financially to enroll in the Lincoln Technical Institute Medical Assisting course. I recently completed the academic part of the program and will be beginning my internship next month. After I get a job, I plan to pursue my LPN so that I can become self-sufficient and support myself and my son.