

HANDOUT 2: CASE STUDY: CHANDRA

Read the case study below and think about what you would say to Chandra to support her.

Chandra is 15 years old and has been in your home for 8 months. She was removed from her mother's care when her mother, Diandra, was arrested for stealing money from her employer and taken to jail. She used the money to buy drugs, as she had a longtime drug habit. Her employer declined to press charges and hoped that she would get treatment for her drug use. Chandra was aware of her mother's drug use, but they had managed to barely get along before her mother was arrested.

Diandra has a reunification plan to follow to have Chandra returned to her care. The plan included a 90-day drug treatment facility in lieu of prison time, visitation with Chandra at the rehab facility, staying clean, getting a job after she completed the program, going to NA meetings, and regular visitation with Chandra at the County Department after drug treatment.

For the past 4 months, Diandra has missed 50% of the visits with Chandra, she lost the job she had, and she has not been attending regular NA meetings. Her social worker has told Diandra that the judge will not extend her reunification if she does not start to meet the reunification requirements, and Chandra will not be returned to her. Chandra is angry at her mother for not following through, and every time she misses a visit, Chandra cries and says she does not understand why her mother doesn't love her.



