

Hello my name is Julie Callahan I am the mother of a 14 ½ year old son Jackson Hurt. We reside at 5296 Merrybell Ln. Grove City, Ohio 43123. My Phone number is 513-304-4017.

Jackson is a complicated young man. He is diagnosed with Autism spectrum disorder, bipolar affective disorder, intermittent explosive disorder, Language impairment, manic disorder, OCD, Partial epilepsy, Pica, Self-injurious behavior, Tic disorder, and concussion syndrome to name just a few. Until recently Jackson resided in his home with his mother, step-father and 2 siblings. He attended school in a specialized program for children with severe behavioral needs. He was on the IO waiver and was staffed 2/1 in the home. Despite the many interventions provide by the family and the community Jackson continued to struggle and since 2011 has been hospitalized over 18 times in acute care facilities such as Cincinnati Children's. He was also hospitalized 2 times in an out of state hospital for 6 months at a time that specialized in children with intensive behavioral needs like Jackson. With each hospitalization the family, in home staff and school staffed were trained on how to better handle Jackson needs. Sadly Jackson continued to struggle and our family was forced to make tough decisions. We felt like we were no longer able to keep Jackson safe and did not feel that it was a safe environment for his siblings or his parents. We sought the help of Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Franklin County Children's First Council, Boundless, South Western City Schools, Nisonger Center, Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. We called for a technical assistance to find better solutions for Jackson.

Unfortunately due to his age and the lack of services in our area it was recommended that we would need to surrender custody to Franklin County Children's services. On November 2, 2018 Jackson was admitted to Cincinnati Children's Hospital in the Neuro Behavioral unit for a severely manic episode. It was during this hospitalization that we made the agonizing decision to surrendered custody to Children's Services on November 16, 2018. Despite the best efforts of all the agencies involved as of today he has been in the hospital for 153 days. Jackson is in need of a long term residential treatment facility. The waitlist are very long and with his many needs we are finding it extremely challenging to find facilities that are willing to take him. We love Jackson very much and want him near his family. We wish to remain a part of his life and

continue to be very involved in his care. By sending him to an out of state facility this will be a huge burden to us emotionally and financially. This system is not set up to keep families together and it puts an even further emotional toll on the child and the family.