

CONTENTS

Preface	xi
Acknowledgments	xv
Chapter 1. The Child Protective System	1
Reporting Abuse or Neglect	1
Investigation	3
The Petition	4
The Court	5
Court Proceedings	7
Role of the Child's Attorney	13
Cracks in the Child Protective System	14
Summary	15
Chapter 2. The Educational System	17
Foster Children and Disabilities	18
Special Education	20
Mental Health Services	30
Conclusion	31
Summary	31
Chapter 3. Sharon: Preventing Placement in a State Psychiatric Hospital	33
Introduction	33
Case Study of Sharon	35
Conclusion	59
Summary	60
Chapter 4. John: Struggling to Stabilize Placement with a Parent	61
Introduction	61
Case Study of John	62
Conclusion	83
Summary	84

Chapter 5. James: Stabilizing Placement with Relatives	85
Introduction	85
Case Study of James	86
Conclusion	113
Summary	113
Chapter 6. Silvia and Carlos: Placing Siblings Together in a Foster Home	115
Introduction	115
Case Study of Silvia and Carlos	116
Conclusion	144
Summary	145
Chapter 7. Robert: Living at the County Emergency Shelter	147
Introduction	147
Case Study of Robert	149
Conclusion	175
Summary	176
Chapter 8. Debra: Supplementing the Appropriate Program	177
Introduction	177
Case Study of Debra	178
Conclusion	200
Summary	201
Chapter 9. Patty: Funding a Unique Program	203
Introduction	203
Case Study of Patty	204
Conclusion	225
Summary	226
Chapter 10. Anthony: Advocating for Foster Home Placement	227
Introduction	227
Case Study of Anthony	228

Conclusion	255
Summary	256
Chapter 11. David: Working with a Court-Appointed Special Advocate to Reunite Separated Siblings	257
Introduction	257
Case Study of David	258
Conclusion	281
Summary	282
Chapter 12. Directions for Change	283
Creating Stable Home Placements	285
Improving School Outcomes	293
Improving Mental Health Outcomes	301
Creating Stable Transition to Adulthood	303
Final Thoughts	309
Summary	309
Notes	311
References	313
Index	323