

# Daniels Family Story Video Script

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Strong Families, Safe Children

Dad: "SO THE LOW POINT FOR ME WAS PROBABLY LOSIN' MY FAMILY AND KNOWING THAT I WAS THE CAUSE OF THE SITUATION."

This is the Daniels family's story of reunification.  
Kansas City

Dad: "IT KIND OF CAME AS A SURPRISE. I WAS AT HOME WITH ALOEUS BABYSITTING. I BELIEVE BREANNA WAS AT SCHOOL AND NICOLETTE WAS AT THE HAIRDRESSER. YEAH, I WAS. AND I GET A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. COUPLE OF OFFICERS AT THE DOOR, ASKIN' ME, YOU KNOW, WHO I WAS, I ANSWERED THEM, AT THAT POINT, THEY TOLD ME THEY WERE TAKIN' ME IN."

THE DANIELS FAMILY KNEW THEY HAD MADE MISTAKES AND IN AN INSTANT THEY KNEW THEIR BAD CHOICES WOULD NOW IMPACT THEIR ENTIRE FAMILY.

THEIR CHILDREN WERE PLACED INTO FOSTER CARE.

BUT ERIC AND NICOLLETTE WEREN'T LEFT WITHOUT HOPE THAT THEY WOULD SEE THEIR CHILDREN AGAIN SOON.

Mom: "I THINK WE HAD EVERYTHING WRAPPED UP IN SIX MONTH, I THINK SIX MONTHS TOPS, RIGHT. JUST THE THOUGHT THAT... JUST IMAGINGING THAT THIS COULD HAVE LASTED ANY LONGER WOULD HAVE BEEN TERRIBLE."

THE DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIE'S FOSTER CARE AND FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES PROVIDER K-V-C, OFFERED THE FAMILY A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES TO ADDRESS THEIR OWN ISSUES AND HOW TO EFFECTIVELY AND LOVINGLY PARENT THEIR CHILDREN.  
THEY LEARNED HOW TO DEAL WITH OLD PROBLEMS AND HOW TO FACE CHALLENGES THAT LIE AHEAD.

Mom: "WE HAD SEVERAL PEOPLE WE HAD TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH AND I THINK IN EVERY LITTLE WAY, EVERYONE KIND OF HELPED EITHER WITH COMMUNICATION THAT WE HAD TO KEEP IN CONTACT WITH THEM, BUT THEY WERE VERY EASY TO GET A HOLD OF AND IF WE NEEDED TO KNOW ANYTHING, WE

HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH BEING ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH MOST EVERYONE. WE HAD DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE FOSTER PARENTS AS WELL, WHICH I THINK MADE IT A LITTLE SMOOTHER BECAUSE WE WERE ABLE TO KIND OF LIKE GET A LITTLE MORE INFORMATION.”

THE COUPLE SAY THE REQUIRED COURSES HELPED THEM SEE WHAT THEY WERE DOING WRONG AND HOW TO MAKE IT RIGHT.

Dad: “LEARNING DIFFERENT METHODS OF DISCIPLINE WAS REALLY EFFECTIVE WITH OUR CHILDREN. JUST LEARNIN’ DIFFERENT METHODS OF DISCIPLINE AND LEARNIN’ HOW TO BETTER COMMUNICATION WITH THE CHILDREN.”

THE REQUIRED PARENTING CLASSES WERE SO USEFUL, THEY DECIDED TO TAKE EVEN MORE.

Mom: “I THINK THEY WANTED US TO TAKE LIKE 12, BUT WE TOOK IT ON OURSELVES AND I THINK WE TOOK LIKE 25 OR SO HOURS, JUST ON OURSELVES. JUST SOME CLASSES WE HAD SEEN WE WANTED OR WE WERE INTERESTED IN, SO WE TOOK THEM AS WELL.”

THEY HAVE THIS ADVICE FOR OTHER FAMILIES IN CRISIS.

Dad: “THEY’RE YOUR CHILDREN, OF COURSE YOU LOVE THEM UNCONDITIONALLY, BUT YOU DON’T REALIZE HOW MUCH THEY MEAN UNTIL THEY’RE GONE. THAT WAS PROBABLY, THAT WAS THE ROUGHEST SIX MONTHS OF MY LIFE, BAR NONE. SO THE ADVICE I COULD GIVE SOMEONE THAT’S IN THAT JEOPARDY, JUST DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER THAT YOU CAN DO TO ASSURE THAT YOUR CHILDREN STAY WITH YOU, WHETHER IT BE SEEKING COUNSELING OR DOING WHAT THE COURT SYSTEMS ARE ASKING YOU TO DO.”

Mom: “YOU GET ALL THE PARENTS WHO TALK ABOUT ‘OH MY KIDS ARE ACTIN’ LIKE BRATS, HERE TAKE EM, YOU CAN HAVE MINE TOO.’ SINCE THE KIDS WERE TAKEN FROM US FOR THE SIX MONTHS, AND THEY’VE COME BACK HOME, THOSE ARE THE KIND OF THINGS THAT JUST SORT OF HIT A SPOT. BECAUSE, YOU GET SOME WHO’LL BE SAYING OH MY KIDS ARE BRATS, YOU CAN TAKE THEM HOME WITH YOU FOR THE DAY. THAT’S DEFINITELY SOMETHING I DON’T SAY EVER, BECAUSE IT COULD REALLY HAPPEN. SO, I JUST FIND THE IMPRTANCE.”

WITH THEIR NEW PARENTING SKILLS, THEY ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A BRIGHT FUTURE TOGETHER.

Dad: "JUST RAISIN' HEALTHY, HAPPY CHILDREN, THAT'S MY HOPES AND GOALS FOR MYSELF AS WELL AS FOR THEM. I JUST WANT FOR THEM TO BE HAPPY IN WHATEVER IT IS THAT THEY'RE DOING."

Mom: "I'M WITH YOU ON ALL THAT. I DON'T THINK I HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD TO THAT ONE."

Dad: "DITTO?"

Mom: "DITTO, THERE WE GO."

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