

I never thought in a million years that I would ever find such wonderful people. I want to start by telling my name and letting you know a little about my past. My name is Casi – I know, beautiful, right? I have been in the system for about four years, going on five in February 2010. I have been abused, neglected and worst of all, sexually abused. When I first started out in CPS, I was what you call a bay bay kid. I never listened to what staff had to say. I always, and I do mean always, did what I wanted and nobody could tell me otherwise. It seems I have had anger problems ever since I could walk. I have been taken for granted so many times and to this day, I still have problems with anger. I never know who I can trust and who I can't. I never know who to give my heart to and who to shield it from. My mother always moved from man to man, having babies with each one. I am the third of six kids, and all of us are split up in different group homes. It was then that I decided I have nothing to work for and why not just act like a fool. My motto was "Why do I have to listen to you, you're not my momma". Yes, those were my most famous words. I am a child trying my best to put my past behind me to raise a child of my own. I was never led by a good example. I have been going to counseling with Cathrine for about two or three months, and have far more sessions to go through before I will ever feel truly good about myself and who I have become. I know what I can do and what my limitations are. I am a very lucky person to have come across Maureen, Ginger, and Cathrine. They have helped me in so many ways. Since I have known them I have gotten a job within three months, and have another interview set up today. They have backed me up one hundred and fifty percent and never turned their backs on me, no matter what I did wrong. I have cussed out Maureen more times than I can remember (but only in my head). You best believe when I turn 18 and have my son back, I will be moving into "The Girls Place". Yup, no doubt about that. Maureen is not getting rid of me that easily. (You're stuck with me forever)! My point is Maureen has been a wonderful rolemodel and made me want to become an independent woman and mother.