

Channa Walz

It's so incredibly exhausting to be involved within a system built on lies and buzz words to garner grant money for these organizations that are not actually practicing as they say they are and in doing so, are causing more harm to families than good!

Shame on ICT Business Partners - Wichita, KS for deleting my comments and not having integrity or transparency for the businesses that you are promoting!

Companies in the business of adoption should NOT be involved in "family preservation". It's apparent their loyalties lie with separating families to adopt those children out, which gets them more funding than preventative services!

My family has been "receiving services" from EmberHope since they took over the contract in July. My daughter has has 4 case managers/teams just since October. Not once has my family had one session of family therapy or any supportive services they claim to provide, given to us. Instead, they hired an incompetent new grad to head our case in October, who had no idea what she was really doing. She was trying to be more of a friend to my daughter instead of getting us the mental health services that are needed. I have been prevented from accessing medical records, violating my parental rights. I've not been communicated with properly and left in the dark about pertinent events such as my daughter being pulled from school AND two suicide attempts resulting in one inpatient hospital stay, without consulting me or letting me know!

This company is NOT anywhere near practicing "trauma informed" or "family centered" care. They are actually harming families through their lack of competent employees and funneling money into adoption services and adoption celebrations, instead of preventative measures and services to maintain children in healthy homes.

My daughter is NOT in foster care due to abuse or neglect. She is there due to a lack of PRTF beds and not properly informing parents of what it means to be CINC. I was under the impression it meant a Child In Need of Care for mental health and an automatic bed in a PRTF. I was not properly informed until it was too late, and now we are in worse shape than we were before.

My child needs help. My family needs help.

I have filed formal grievances with no resolution. I've asked to speak to CEO Nikaila Sandate. I've sent email after email and nothing.

This company is NOT safe for families in need of services to remain together. They are first and foremost an adoption agency and shouldn't be allowed to hold contracts for foster youth at the same time.

Clearly a conflict of interest.

Their mission statements and values are nothing more than speak pieces using buzz words that garner hope and get them exuberant amount of financial aid when in reality their practices are not following their own policies.

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Wichita Children's Home is not a safe space for youth with mental health conditions and at high-risk of trafficking.

Last year I was not properly informed of what Child In Need of Care meant after being advised NOT to get my daughter from JIAC following an assault to her sibling and property damage in my home. I was led to believe that CINC meant a Child In Need of Care for Mental Health Services and that it would open a bed within a PRTF for her. Unfortunately, it was too late when I learned that was not the case. My daughter was placed in foster care and send to WCH as her placement.

WCH then placed my 13 year old child with mental health needs in a pod with another child over their policy stated age gap of two years, who is well-known in Wichita to be part of the active sex trafficking circles. My daughter was groomed and ultimately absconded with this youth where she was trafficked and drugged all weekend before I found her. Instead of placing her in a therapeutic placement, she continues to be at WCH despite my several concerns. Most recently, the CEO Debbie Kennedy, purchased 6 poems from my child for \$450 without so much as consulting me about it or verifying the information within as accurate before she stated her intent to "share these with the Board of Directors to show what traumatic lives these kids come from." In reality, those poems were a conglomerate of several other people's stories and what my daughter knew would get her attention and sympathy (part of her mental health dx of BPD with histrionic features). The CEO intends to show these fallacies as truly lived experiences in an attempt to garner more grant money for WCH. This is clearly a form of grooming and exploitation that I sure many other children without as involved parents as me, are also experiencing.

My daughter has had two suicide attempts since December and yet WCH continues to accept her back into their program in spite of not having the adequate mental health services that she needs and in spite of having clear conflicts of interest.

My daughter has no intention of trying to reintegrate after being led to believe by staff that she can stay there until she ages into their Independent Living Program at 16. I can only imagine the amount of money they'll have made off of her at that point through their unethical practices and exploitation of the children in their care.

WCH is complicit in my daughter being sex trafficked. They lack the adequate mental health care my child needs and they are actively engaging in exploitation of youth within their facility.

I have been avoided and dismissed by CEO Debbie Kennedy every time I've called, left messages, etc.

I've reported them to CARF International and will be seeking justice to prevent other vulnerable children from being exploited or trafficked, like mine.