

Testimonial

To Whom It May Concern,

My Name is Pare and I am the maternal grandmother to Jayden.

Jayden has lived with me most of his life till the age of 12, he decided he wanted to pursue a lifestyle that I did not agree with.

From 2-12 Years old he was challenging, misunderstood, and misdiagnosed with various behavioural patterns that were frustrating.

Then aged 14, after living his lifestyle without me in his life, I received a call from the Mental Health where Jayden was admitted and finally was diagnosed Schizophrenia. Where I have had him ever since.

The journey of him residing with me has been horrific. He displayed not only his own needs, wants, and DON'T WANT I had to learn to put up with this new Jayden. It was taking a toll on me, then at the age of 17 I kicked him out.

I had a very good reason, I was happy he was with XYZ i, I did not keep in touch with him because it was easier and very difficult at times where XYZ would contact me and update on how it was doing – Or they would ask me if he could come back. Where I would tell them No.

After many placements who would not or could not have him anymore, I knew I had to do something.

I had donated some household gears to Triple R (RRR) I was desperate and asked Esther if she could have my moko. She said at that time they did not specialise in Mental Health – Or had anyone with exp to attend to his needs.

Then XYZ called and asked if I could take my grandson, Again I said no because I am also Schizophrenic as well.

Following week, a hui was called and after speaking with Esther a 2nd time she said Yes.

Jayden started with Esther and Levi at RRR & what she has instilled, taught, and engaged with my grandson has been overwhelmingly beautiful and special.

I took my grandson back home after I started seeing the change in him.

My grandson is very respectful, helpful, loving, kind, talks to me and does not pursue that lifestyle that I did not agree with anymore!

I am very happy and astonished and amazed how Jayden is so appreciative of me of our home. I enjoy my grandson – we communicate wonderful and very loving.

He loves me and listens immediately when I ask him to do something.

I just cannot believe how much he has improved and I owe it to Esther, Levi, Mary, Sandra, Abe, and Dee.

I would also like to add, last week – I noticed my Mokos mental health deteriorating and on Sunday September 11th he tried to commit suicide.

Esther & Levi had been away for a week in Kaikoura and because I have no whanau support, in desperation I called Esther. She rang Dee, who looks after the accommodation while they are away. He immediately came to my house.

I called everyone – services, hospital, care workers. No one came but told me I had to get him to ED.

Dee encouraged my moko to get in the car and stayed with him all day and into the evening.

Without Esther and her people, I would have been lost, alone,

Sad, drained mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually!!

To this day, even though he is admitted to the ward – They even keep up with contacting my moko while he is in the hospital.

And finally, all this was done OUT OF THE NORMAL WORKING HOURS.

Mental Health is seen by many as an illness, but to these beautiful people Esther & Levi. They do not see my grandson as having an illness, but for who he is. A young man – who wanted a part-time job. He gained that, and used what he learnt during the day at home with me. No amount of money can give my grandson what he does for me at home. And that is love, respect, gratitude and appreciation.

Nga Mihi – Pare & Jayden