



Hi there!

My name is Chandel Pine, and I am the president and founder of Paul's Mountain Non-Profit Organization which was founded in memory of my son who took his life in fifth grade at school. I truly miss the days when I would introduce myself as Paul's Mom, often if I was only identifying him and not my other child is when I was seeking help for Paul. The first time we sought mental health services for Paul was when he was in second grade and having suicidal ideations, at that time I did not know that was the beginning of the journey of climbing Paul's Mountain.

Even though there are Wyoming State Statutes, Federal Regulations and administrative rules in place to identify children with reading difficulties many children are being missed. Only 48.75% of third grade students are reading at grade level at the end of third grade yet are expected to read at a third grade level to learn in fourth grade and beyond.

Since losing my son it has become my goal to ensure that every child is taught how to read and I have learned the only place a person is *guaranteed* to be screen for dyslexia is Federal Prison, 80% of inmates are functionally illiterate, 70% of incarcerated Americans do not hold a high school diploma and 48% suffer from dyslexia, 43% of low literacy adults live in poverty and a dyslexic person is three times more likely to complete suicide.

As I have looked back on this road traveled I often thought if I was given a brochure asking if Paul had struggled with reading what our life would look like today. Paul was never screened for dyslexia until after his in-patient stay for suicidal ideations in fifth grade. I have enclosed with this letter our brochure explaining the services we offer to students. Please, feel free to display this brochure, refer students for evaluations and tutoring. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email.

Take care,

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