

CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE

PERMANENT WARD SERVICE PLAN

Michigan Department of Human Services

Report Period

Begin Date: 04/13/2006

End Date: 07/12/2006

Report date: 07/12/2006

DHS Worker: Gonzalez-Borstler, Lacey C
Load#: 6200010211

County of Referral

NEWAYGO

Court
Jurisdiction

27th Circuit Court, Family Division

Court Docket #

05-6388-NA

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Child(ren):

Child Name

Keast, Alyssa

Birth Date

01/22/2000

Log Number

191880

Case Number

X2325462A

Child Age

6 years 5 months

Child Gender

Female

Child Race

White

Height

42 3/4 INCHES

Weight

40 POUNDS

Hair color

BROWN

Eye Color

BLUE

Religion

Unknown

Federal Permanency Plan Goal

Adoption

Michigan Specific Goal Description

Adoption

Current Legal Status

State Ward-MCI

Date of current Placement

12/16/2005

Date Entered Care

03/14/2005

Current placement type

Lic. Unrelated
Foster Home

Anticipated Next Placement

Lic. Unrelated
Foster Home

Date Anticipated Next Placement

12/16/2005

Native American Question Asked

Yes

Tribe

NA

Number of months the child has been a Permanent ward.

2 months

Child Name

NEWAYGO COUNTY
 COURT
 2006-07-13 AM 10:07

Keast, Amber	<u>Birth Date</u>	08/18/2002	<u>Log Number</u>	191881	<u>Case Number</u>	X1437623A
	<u>Child Age</u>	3 years 11 months	<u>Child Gender</u>	Female		
	<u>Child Race</u>	White				
	<u>Height</u>	38 INCHES	<u>Weight</u>	33 POUNDS		
	<u>Hair color</u>	BROWN	<u>Eye Color</u>	HAZEL		
	<u>Religion</u>	Unknown	<u>Federal Adoption</u>		<u>Michigan Specific Adoption</u>	
			<u>Permanency Plan Goal</u>		<u>Goal Description</u>	
	<u>Current Legal Status</u>	State Ward-MCI				
	<u>Date of current Placement</u>	12/16/2005	<u>Date Entered Care</u>	03/14/2005	<u>Current placement type</u>	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home
	<u>Anticipated Next Placement</u>	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	<u>Date Anticipated Next Placement</u>	12/16/2005		
	<u>Native American Question Asked</u>	Yes	<u>Tribe</u>	NA		
	<u>Number of months the child has been a Permanent ward.</u>	2 months				

LEGAL STATUS

A. Court History:

Child	Petition Date	Petition Type	Hearing Date	Hearing Outcome	Order date	Order type
Keast, Alyssa	03/16/2005	Initial	03/16/2005		03/24/2005	Preliminary
			05/18/2005		06/08/2005	Disposition
			08/31/2005		09/07/2005	Review Hearing
			12/07/2005		12/13/2005	Review Hearing
Requirements of the court through its order Erica Keast must continue to cooperate and follow the Parent/Agency Agreement.						
The court does authorize the Department of Human Services to terminate the parental rights of Douglas Keast.						
			12/16/2005		12/21/2005	Preliminary
Requirements of the court through its order Parenting time of Erica Keast is as follows: frequent and supervised the DHS.						
The Department of Human Services shall have the authority to consent to medical treatment for the children while in placement.						

01/18/2006	Termination	02/22/2006	12/21/2005 02/22/2006	Removal Terminate Parental Rights
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Requirements of the court through its order

The parental rights of Douglas Keast are terminated and additional efforts for reunification of the children with the parent shall not be made. The children are continued in the temporary custody of this court and remain in placement with the Department of Human Services.

03/15/2006	03/21/2006	Permanency Planning
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Requirements of the court through its order

The Department of Human Services shall be ordered to initiate proceedings to terminate parental rights no later than 42 days from the date of this hearing. Parenting time with Erica Keast, even if supervised, may be harmful to the children. The children are continued in the temporary custody of the court and remain in placement with the Department of Human Services for care and supervision.

05/03/2006	05/10/2006	Terminate Parental Rights
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Requirements of the court through its order

The parental rights of Erica Keast are terminated, and additional efforts for reunification of the children with the parents shall not be made.

05/10/2006	Commitment
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03/16/2005	Initial	03/16/2005	03/24/2005	Preliminary
		05/18/2005	06/08/2005	Disposition
		08/31/2005	09/07/2005	Review Hearing
		12/07/2005	12/13/2005	Review Hearing

Requirements of the court through its order

Erica Keast must continue to cooperate and follow the Parent/Agency Agreement.

The court does authorize the Department of Human Services to terminate the parental rights of Douglas Keast.

12/16/2005	12/21/2005	Preliminary
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Requirements of the court through its order

Parenting time of Erica Keast is as follows: frequent and supervised the DHS.

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01/18/2006	Termination	02/22/2006	12/21/2005 02/22/2006	Removal Terminate Parental Rights
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03/15/2006	03/21/2006	Permanency Planning
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Requirements of the court through its order

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05/03/2006	05/10/2006	Terminate Parental Rights
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Requirements of the court through its order

B. Next Court Date:

Keast, Alyssa
Keast, Amber

08/09/2006 02:15 PM
08/09/2006 02:15 PM

II. REASONABLE EFFORTS

A. Efforts made by the Agency to place the child in a permanent placement in a timely manner.

A referral has been made to Bethany Christian Services for adoption.

B. If services were not provided, explain the reasons why the services were not provided.

N/A

III. SOCIAL WORK CONTACTS

Date	Contact Type	Contact Method	Contact Location	Scheduled	Kept/Unkept
04/14/2006	Worker	Face to Face	Foster Home	Scheduled	Kept
Person(s) Contacted:	Coppess , Nicole Rae Keast, Amber	Foster Parent Sibling	Keast, Alyssa A Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	Self DHS Agency Staff Member	
monthly home visit to foster home					
05/10/2006	Worker	Face to Face	Court	Scheduled	Kept
Person(s) Contacted:	Keast, Erica J Wingfield, Richard T Thomas, Terrence R. Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	Biological Parent Non-Relative Judge DHS Agency Staff Member	Coppess , Nicole Rae Frisbie, Christine Schropp, Mark	Foster Parent Guardian Ad Litem Attorney	
termination hearing - Ms. Keast released her parental rights					
05/15/2006	Worker	Phone		N/A	N/A
Person(s) Contacted:	Coppess , Nicole Rae Keast, Alyssa A	Foster Parent	Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	DHS Agency Staff Member	
update on girls - started medication					
05/26/2006	Worker	Face to Face	Therapist's office	Scheduled	Kept
Person(s) Contacted:	Coppess , Nicole Rae Keast, Alyssa A Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	Foster Parent Self DHS Agency Staff Member	Grant Primary Center Keast, Amber	School (last attended) Sibling	
f/f contact with foster mom, Amber and Alyssa - picked up girls from school and daycare and transported to scheduled CMH appointment with Dr. Alt.					
06/05/2006	Worker	Phone		N/A	N/A
Person(s) Contacted:	Kozuch, Margaret	Adoption Supervisor	Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	DHS Agency Staff Member	
message from Margie - has questions					
06/05/2006	Worker	Phone		N/A	N/A

Person(s) Contacted:	Kozuch, Margaret message left for Margie - regarding the girls	Adoption Supervisor	Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	DHS Agency Staff Member
06/24/2006 Person(s) Contacted:	Worker Coppess, Nicole Rae	Face to Face Foster Parent	Foster Home Keast, Alyssa A Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	Scheduled Kept Self DHS Agency Staff Member
	Keast, Amber f/f with Amber and Alyssa at foster home - monthly visit	Sibling		
06/30/2006 Person(s) Contacted:	Worker Ward, Deb	Phone Aunt/Uncle	N/A Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	N/A DHS Agency Staff Member
	TC from Deb Ward - maternal aunt, interested in adopting the girls - will send letter of intent			
07/10/2006 Person(s) Contacted:	Worker Ward, Deb	Phone Aunt/Uncle	N/A Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	N/A DHS Agency Staff Member
	message from Deb - regarding letter she sent and what happens now			
07/10/2006 Person(s) Contacted:	Worker Ward, Deb	Other Aunt/Uncle	N/A Gonzalez-borstler, Lacey C	N/A DHS Agency Staff Member
	Letter if intent to adopt received			

IV. PROGRESS SUMMARY

A Child(ren) Reassessment (from CANS section) 1. Child Needs and Strengths and Current Status

Keast, Alyssa has the following needs and strengths:

Priority Needs:

None at this time.

Situational Needs are:

Mental Health and Well-Being
Child Development
Family and Kin Relationship / Attachment

Other Needs are:

None at this time.

Strengths are:

Medical / Physical Health
Education
Substance Use
Sexual Behavior
Peer / Adult Social Relationships (Non-Family)
Cultural / Community Identity

Medical / Physical Health: Adequate health- 0

Alyssa appears to be in good physical health. There are no known medical or physical problems.

Mental Health and Well-Being: Situational concern- -2

Alyssa has been placed on medication (Prozac) to help with her anxiety issues. In the past, there have been some behavioral/emotional concerns regarding Alyssa. As time passes it appears that Alyssa has stabilized.

Child Development:Situational concern- -2

Initially Alyssa appeared to be behind in her social skills. She was not able to play independently or with her sister without fighting or arguing over sharing a toy. Alyssa has since improved a great deal socially and has started to voice her feelings.

Family and Kin Relationship / Attachment:Situational concern- -2

Alyssa does not have any family members that play an active role in her life. Upon initially being placed into care Alyssa went to her maternal grandparents home. However, she and her sister were removed due to inappropriate behavior on the part of the grandparents. Alyssa and her sister then went to live with their maternal uncle, however the uncle requested the children be removed due to them being undisciplined and his inability to control them.

Alyssa does have a significant bond to her foster mother.

Education:Adequate achievement- 0

Alyssa successfully completed Kindergarten. Alyssa will be in the first grade this fall.

Substance Use:No substance use- 1

Not applicable.

Sexual Behavior:Appropriate sexual adjustment / behavior- 0

There is no evidence of sexual abuse.

Peer / Adult Social Relationships (Non-Family):Adequate social relationships- 0

Alyssa is learning how to appropriately interact with peers and adults.

Cultural / Community Identity:Adequate cultural/community identity- 0

Alyssa is being exposed to cultural beliefs/identity and practices and traditions within her family/foster family.

Keast, Amber has the following needs and strengths:

Priority Needs:

Social / Emotional Development and Attachment

Situational Needs are:

Cognitive / Intellectual Development

Other Needs are:

None at this time.

Strengths are:

Medical / Physical Health
Sexual Behavior
Physical / Motor Development
Language / Communication Skills

Medical / Physical Health:Adequate health- 0

Amber appears to be a healthy three and a half year old female. She has no reported physical or developmental problems.

Social / Emotional Development and Attachment:Limited social/emotional development/attachment- -3

Amber has been a very hyperactive child and very difficult to control. She has also been prescribed medication by Dr. Alt and has the diagnosis of ADHD. Since being prescribed medication, Amber has improved dramatically.

Cognitive / Intellectual Development:Situational concern- -2

Amber appears to be behind in her normal age appropriate milestones. She cannot focus on one task.

Sexual Behavior:Healthy sexual adjustment/behavior- 1

There is no evidence of sexual abuse.

Physical / Motor Development:Age-appropriate physical/motor development- 0

Amber's physical development skills are consistent with chronological age level.

Language / Communication Skills:Age-appropriate language/communication skills- 0

Amber's language and communication skills are consistent with chronological age level.

2.

Placement Information

Child Name	Living Arrangement	Begin Date	End Date	Reason for Replacement
Keast, Alyssa	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	12/16/2005	N / A	The children were removed from their mother's care following her attempting suicide.
	Parental Home	12/09/2005	12/16/2005	N / A
	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	07/16/2005	12/09/2005	N / A
	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	07/10/2005	07/16/2005	N / A
	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	07/01/2005	07/10/2005	N / A
	Lic/Unlic Relatives	06/25/2005	07/01/2005	N / A
Keast, Amber	Lic/Unlic Relatives	03/14/2005	06/25/2005	N / A
	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	12/16/2005	N / A	The children's mother attempted suicide while the children were present.
	Parental Home	12/09/2005	12/16/2005	N / A
	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	07/16/2005	12/09/2005	N / A
	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	07/10/2005	07/16/2005	N / A
	Lic. Unrelated Foster Home	07/01/2005	07/10/2005	N / A
	Lic/Unlic Relatives	06/25/2005	07/01/2005	N / A
	Lic/Unlic Relatives	03/14/2005	06/25/2005	N / A

3.

Child(ren)'s current Status**Keast Alyssa A**

ALYSSA IS A 6-YEAR-OLD CAUCASION FEMALE. SHE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. SHE IS APPROX. 44 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS 45 POUNDS.

During this report period Alyssa remains in her foster care placement with her sister. There have been no replacements.

Alyssa is a six year old Caucasian female. She has long brown hair, blue eyes and wears glasses. Physically Alyssa appears to be of average height and weight for her age. She weighs 40 pounds and is 42 3/4 inches tall. Alyssa has no known medical conditions, allergies, or illnesses. Presently she is taking a daily multi-vitamin and Poly Vi-Flor. This report period, Alyssa was seen by Dr. Alt through Community Mental Health. She was prescribed a small dose of Prozac to aid with her anxiety. Since being prescribed medication Alyssa's behavior and over all emotional health has improved significantly. She is still receiving services through Infant Mental Health as well.

Alyssa will be in the first grade this coming fall. She will continue to attend Grant Primary Center pending the outcome of adoption. The school year ended on June 9, 2006. She received very positive marks from her Kindergarten teachers.

Alyssa's hobbies and interests include watching movies, reading, swimming and coloring. She continues to thrive in her current placement.

Keast Amber

AMBER IS A THREE YEAR OLD CAUCASION FEMALE. SHE HAS HAZEL EYES AND BROWN HAIR. PHYSICALLY, SHE APPEARS OF AVERAGE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT FOR HER AGE.

Amber is a three and a half year old Caucasian female. She has short brown hair, and hazel eyes. Physically Amber appears to be of average height and weight for her age. She weighs 35 pounds and is 38 inches tall. Amber has asthma. Amber's last physical was on August 11, 2005. Her immunizations are up to date. This report period Amber was prescribed medication to aid in treating ADHD. She has shown significant improvement in her behavior. She continues to receive infant mental health services.

Amber's hobbies and interests include watching movies and playing outdoors.

4. Education Information (from Education section)

Child Name	School Name	Grade	Pass/ Fail
Alyssa	Grant Primary Center	Kindergarten	
Alyssa is in Kindergarten. Some behavior concerns, but better			

5. Medical and Dental Information

Child Name	Visit Date	Visit Type	Reason for Visit	Treatment
Keast, Alyssa	04/28/2005	Medical Exam	initial physical exam	none
	08/11/2005	Medical Exam	check-up	none
	02/15/2006	Vision	eye examination	needs glasses
Keast, Amber	04/28/2005	Medical Exam	initial physical exam	none
	08/11/2005	Medical Exam	Check-up	None
	02/15/2006	Vision	eye examination	needs glasses

6. Placement Resources

a. Sibling Placement

All siblings are in the same placement

b. Sibling and Kinship Visitation

N/A

c. Best Interests of Current Placement

Keast Alyssa A

The current placement is the least restrictive and the most family like setting.

Keast Amber

The foster mother is more than willing to meet the children's needs. The current placement is the least restrictive and the most family like setting.

7. Residential Care

Keast Alyssa A

Not Applicable

Keast Amber

Not Applicable

8. Permanent Wardship

The permanency planning goal for Alyssa is Adoption (CommCare)

The permanency planning goal for Amber is Adoption (CommCare)

a. Describe the efforts made to finalize the permanency plan.

All pertinent information from the case file has been forwarded to the adoption worker. This worker has been in contact with the adoption specialist on more than one occasion.

b. Child(ren)'s attitudes regarding termination of parental rights and adoption.

Keast Alyssa A

The children are aware that parental rights were terminated. The foster mother reports that neither child has talked about their biological parents nor shown any distress about their parents.

Keast Amber

The children are aware that parental rights were terminated. The foster mother reports that neither child has talked about their biological parents nor shown any distress about their parents.

c. Preparation of child for adoption.

Keast Alyssa A

The children have been talked to about adoption. Due to their age they have a limited concept of what this means.

Keast Amber

The children have been talked to about adoption. Due to their age they have a limited concept of what this means.

d. Possibility of adoption by kinship network or foster parents.

Keast Alyssa A

Two sets of relatives have come forward with regards to adopting the children. There is some concern regarding the appropriateness of the relatives. The foster mother is not interested in adopting the children. She has stated that she believes the children need a two parent family.

Keast Amber

There are two sets of relatives who have submitted letters stating interest in adoption the children. There are concerns regarding the appropriateness of these placements. An adoption home study will have to be completed. The foster mother is not interested in adoption. She believes the children need a two parent family.

e. Efforts to Place in Kinship Network.

Have efforts made to obtain a placement with relatives been pursued? - Yes

The children were originally placed with their maternal grandparents. However they were removed after the grandfather admitted to smoking marijuana as well as did not follow through with the visitation agreement. The children were then placed with their maternal uncle, however he requested they be removed after a week in placement because he could not control their behavior.

f. **Reasons why it is not in the child's best interest to be placed for adoption or within the kinship network:**

It is in the best interest for the children to remain out of the parental home. The conditions that caused the removal have not been rectified.

B. **Foster Parent/Kinship Caregiver Input**

Keast Alyssa A

The foster parent is more than willing care for the children. She had them in her care for several months prior to their return home. The foster parent is prepared to address the children's behavior issues.

Keast Amber

The foster parent is more than willing to care for the children and she is ready to handle their behavioral problems.

V. **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COURT**

Recommendations to the court, if applicable.

A. **Recommended Court Orders**

The DHS respectfully recommends:

1. That Alyssa and Amber Keast remain permanent court wards until the goal of adoption.
2. That a referral is made to the adoption specialist to locate a permanent adoptive home placement for Alyssa and Amber Keast in a reasonable time frame.
3. That this case be reviewed in three months or sooner if requested by an interested party.

Prepared and Approved by:

Worker Name and Title:

Signature:

Supervisor Name and Title:

Signature:

Date: 7/14/06

Date: 7/17/06

For Purchase of Service only:

DHS Local Office Name:

DHS Local Office Approval:

Distribution of Plan:

Child(ren)'s Attorney(s)

FRISBIE, CHRISTINE

Prosecuting Attorney

Legal File

Case File

The Department of Human Services will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, political beliefs or disability. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to a DHS office in your county.

AUTHORITY: P.A. 280 of 1939.

RESPONSE: Voluntary.

PENALTY: None