

Fostering Success

SPRING 2020



Upon being removed from their home and entering foster care, Alex (14), Estelle (8) and Maria (6) were immediately separated.

Sisters Estelle and Maria live together in one home, while their brother lives in another. Like many other siblings in foster care, the only time they see each other is at monthly Camp Connect events.

During a recent trip to Big Bear, they experienced the excitement of snow tubing. Estelle and Maria would not leave Alex's side, pulling at his arm for attention and reassuring him that it was going to be a blast! As Alex picked up his tube, his energy changed, but he continued to stick by his sisters, matching their enthusiasm. Estelle and Maria could not wait to fly down the hill with their brother.

The girls grabbed their tube and ran to get in line, while Alex quietly approached staff saying, "I don't think I want to do this, what if I go too fast?" The staff member encouraged him to try at least once as it would make his sisters incredibly happy and if he didn't like it, he didn't have to do it again. The three tied their tubes together

and slid down the hill, with Estelle and Maria screaming with laughter. All had huge smiles on their faces and immediately went back in line, ready for round two and on.

The day started with Alex putting on a brave face for his sisters, and hesitantly going down the slope for the first time. However by the end of the day, he flew down the hill solo as his sisters watched from the bottom, giggling with amusement.

Later that night, the girls went to the dance, while Alex hung out with the other teens. Halfway through, the girls went to find Alex and dragged him onto the dance floor. At first, he stood with his sisters swinging his arms around but as time passed, he saw how happy it made his sisters and joined in the dance party.

The joy they experienced was priceless. New memories were created that they will cherish forever.

As a dedicated supporter of Promises2Kids, we want you to know how much your generosity has accomplished. Opportunities for siblings to reunite, bond and just have fun being kids are made possible thanks to your heartfelt kindness.

Elliott (4) and Daniel (3), re-entered the A.B. and Jessie Polinsky Children's Center due to physical aggression they showed each other and their caregivers.

Elliott and Daniel's angry behavior due to past trauma jeopardized their placement in their foster home. As a result, a developmental assessment was completed and they were triaged into the Rady Children's Hospital KidSTART program. Promises2Kids provides funds for a Care Coordinator at KidSTART to ensure that foster children in crisis have the developmental assessment treatment and support they need. KidSTART provides expedited access to services for children who have complex developmental and mental health needs and may be at-risk for losing their current placement.

Neither of the boys had received any early intervention services. During the case review, a Care Coordinator identified the need for services and learned that both boys were previously recommended for services that were declined by their caregiver. Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, Promises2Kids is able to fund a dedicated Care Coordinator for foster children.



Elliott and Daniel have been involved with KidSTART for nearly two months. In that time, several challenges have arisen and been successfully addressed. Services are continuing and are well facilitated. With a strong and supportive circle of care, the boys are showing improvement every day. Their team works collaboratively to support the family, and most importantly the boys have been able to maintain their placement with their new foster family.

Your gifts allow kids like Elliott and Daniel to thrive despite their traumatic beginnings.



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