***Note to Trainer: Participant roles will print on separate pages and should be distributed individually to participants (each person only sees their role). The person who is facilitating doesn’t get instructions.***

**Monica Peters, works at Burger King, age 28, Caucasian**

You became involved with the Department when a report was filed after police found your 8 year old son Joshua walking on the street by himself at 12:15 am. When they took him home, you answered the door and you seemed “out of it” and they believed it was because you had been getting high—they smelled marijuana when you opened the door. Because you seemed to be under the influence, the police did not believe it was safe for Joshua to remain home so they placed him in the custody of CFS. You don’t really see anything wrong with smoking pot and “getting high” because you are an adult. However, because of your love for Joshua, you enrolled in substance abuse classes about 2 months ago.

Joshua has been in foster care for about 5 months and although he attends school, his grades are beginning to drop and he appears sad.

Your boyfriend Jimmy was not home because he works nights.

Because you were a foster child, you are worried that he will have the same experience that you did. When you were 11, you were placed into foster care when the Department learned that your mother was a sex worker who used heroin. You stayed in 5 different foster homes over the next five years, and were returned to your mother at age 16 after she completed rehab. Your mom was clean for about 6 months before she started using again and you re-entered foster care at 17. You emancipated from the system at 18

You got pregnant at 20 by a boyfriend, Daryl Davis, who was gang involved. While you were pregnant, he gave you black eye when he thought you were flirting with his friend. The relationship ended when Joshua was born and he found a new girlfriend. You then hooked up with James (Jimmy) Jackson and have been with him ever since. Jimmy has been a positive role model for Joshua

At the meeting, you are anxious and are willing to do whatever it takes to get your son back. You only have weekly supervised visits at this point and you are desperate to see him again and have him returned home.

This is your first time meeting Ronnie Wilcox. Your social worker asked if Ronnie could be invited to this meeting, which you agreed to.

**James (Jimmy) Jackson, auto mechanic, age 30, African American**

You love Monica and Josh. You work as a mechanic and feel proud of supporting your family. You don’t think Monica smoking weed is a terrible thing, after all, it is legal in several states now, but you realize it is not a good role model for Joshua at his young age. While you too smoke pot, you make it a point to not smoke pot while Joshua is in your care.

You were working at the time Joshua was taken into custody.

At the meeting, you are certain that you can gain custody of Joshua if people understand what good parents you and Monica are, but you reluctantly concede that smoking pot around Joshua is not the best role model for him.

This is your first time meeting Ronnie Wilcox. Your social worker asked if Ronnie could be invited to this meeting, which you agreed might be a good idea. However, you are concerned that Joshua will be made fun of if he starts seeing a therapist.

**Doris Jackson, age 53 (Jimmy’s mother), African American**

 You are proud of your son, Jimmy. You think that Jimmy and Monica are excellent parents. You are sad to think of Joshua being in foster care but you are relieved Monica has enrolled in classes and are encouraged that this may lead to Joshua’s return home. You have unsupervised visits and have taken Joshua on day visits to do things he enjoys. You hope that from this meeting you could have some overnight visits with him. You are often times out of town for work and your work schedule is difficult, so you have not requested that Joshua be placed with you.

**Ronnie Wilcox**, **Case Manager for Education Related Mental Health, age 37,** **Caucasian**

You have been asked to attend this Child and Family Team meeting because Joshua’s grades have been declining and he appears to be increasingly sad after visits with his mother, Jimmy, and his grandmother. You have not yet met Joshua and this is your first time meeting the mom, step-dad, and grandmother.

**Joshua, 8 years old, Caucasian**

You have been in foster care for about 5 months and you just want to go home. You really look forward to your visits with mom and Jimmy but it is getting harder to say goodbye. You also really like being with your grandmother and the extended time you spend with her are great. You really enjoy it when she takes you to the skate board park because it makes you feel like things are normal again, even if for a short time.

You are not doing as well in school because every time you see your family it just gets harder for you to adjust to foster care and that is affecting your school work.

**NOTES TO SOCIAL WORKER**

You got this case about 4 months ago. The investigation was substantiated for neglect of Joshua Peters by his mother, Monica. Joshua was found walking on the street by himself at 12:15 a.m. When the police officers took him home the house reeked of marijuana and Monica seemed “out of it”. Mother has been reluctant to begin drug treatment but has finally started her classes. Because Monica has recently begun her classes, you have not allowed unsupervised visits. You are hopeful that they can begin soon, once you get a good report from her drug counselor.

There is 1 prior referral for general neglect 2 years ago that was unfounded.

Joshua’s grades have begun slipping and he has begun to exhibit signs of depression which is concerning to you. You have asked Monica and Jimmy if you could invite the Case Manager for Mental Health to the meeting. This meeting is the first time that Monica, Jimmy, Delores, and Joshua are meeting the case manager.