

To: The Honorable Nikki R. Haley,

I Debra Manning, because of my love for children and the great need for good foster homes, valued being a foster parent knowing that I could make a positive influence and nurturing place to live. So I became a licensed foster parent on August 10, 2015. The first placement was August 11, 2015 our hearts and loving home were opened to nurture and care for the child any way we could. This is when DSS neglected to fulfill their responsibilities towards the child and us.

On August 12, 2015, I had to take the child to the doctor to get checked for head lice, the child came and needed total care, there was medical attention that should have been done before child was placed in the home. When addressing my concern for the child it seemed that each inquiry was used to remove the child from my home. This child was placed in my home for 80 days and 79 nights I slept in a room next to the child on the other end of my house not with my husband until child was removed for no reason, against what was requested in Mapping done on October 2, 2015.

This child needed therapeutic day care as well as night care which I was already doing 24 hours a day care. And the child was to stay in the Foster home because of the great progress the child was making, mentally and physically. A plan of action was implemented for the support and well being of the child on October 2, 2015. Foster Parent to do list: There were a scheduled appt. for psychological testing dated: Nov. 5, 2015, Child needed a therapeutic day care. In place after ophthalmologist, dated: Nov. 2, 2015. Manning family will pray and think about taking sister into home to get her out of group home. All dates I had to call and cancel.

When I came into foster care I had some reservation, but I am certain that the fears that I had are very real. All my adult life I seen and I heard how bad the system is now I have experienced it for my self.

After all the bad experiences I had in this short period of time let me know that the system is very broken, so after October 30, 2015, I said I am done with trying to help a very broken system and unfair treatment by DSS. After three months I decided that I would try it again, my Coordinator Kelvin Eichinger, called the of Jan. and asked was I ready to foster again seeing on all bad things again I thought DSS had been reformed and the system was better base on the news and base on your statements. On February 1, 2016, Two children from Oconee County were placed in my home. I reluctantly took them. When I got the call I was informed that all the children needed was a loving home until their mother got herself together. The children came with very chronic colds, and medical and behavioral problems. I noticed a problem when the three year old used the bathroom and had a pull-up on, even though I was informed that the child was potty trained, the child also needed medical attention. Again DSS neglected to fulfill their responsibilities towards the children and us. As a Foster parent my job is to make the child feel safe and have a nurturing place to live. And when the time came, letting them go so they can continue the healing process. On April 5, 2016, I got a call of allegation that went out saying that I abused two kids. The investigation was completed on June 27, 2016, with the findings, 84 days. The letter stated if I do not give the Department of Social Services notice of my intent to appeal within the 30 day period I will lose the right to challenge the case findings. I was told completion would take 45 days, I appealed within the 30 days to DSS certified mail. July 30, 2016, I received a certified mail stating that the findings were supported by a preponderance of the evidence, and the hearing would proceed. On August 5, 2016, I received a certified mail for a scheduled hearing on Tuesday, September 27, 2016, room 302, Columbia, South Carolina. The child stated that he did the mark and the pictures of bruises were not the child and they were removed by Rose Mary McGregor; Richard Williams stated that I was not a good caregiver because I said I didn't know how the child got the mark. They said my name will remain on the Central Registry for Child Abuse and Neglect. I went to two lawyers and they said there was no physical evidence, and I was financially unable to get a lawyer. The lawyers stated that I had 30

days to initiate judicial review in court. It was my desire to help the children in foster care, never to be accused of child abuse. After the DSS hearing on September 27, 2016, on December 2, 2016, they upheld their own previous decision. I must express my continued frustration with DSS lack of transparency and responsiveness to my continued requests of support from Honorable Governor Haley, your responsiveness to the other issues and concerns for the state of South Carolina thus far in your terms of office, makes me feel certain that you will give this matter your immediate attention.

I am requesting that you investigate the findings of the decision.

Decision: Based on the foregoing, the decision to indicate this care for physical abuse against Debra Manning is upheld; and her name shall remain on the Central Registry for Child Abuse and Neglect.