

## Hope Restored: Makinzee Writes a New Chapter



*Stock photo used for identity protection*

When Randy first met Makinzee, she was newly released from prison and facing the overwhelming task of starting over. A single mother with a fierce love for her children, she was in the middle of a custody battle with the state for her four-year-old son. The odds were stacked against her, but Makinzee carried herself with a quiet strength that refused to be ignored.

In our parent education classes, Randy saw more than just a woman trying to check boxes on a case plan. He saw a mother who showed up early, asked thoughtful questions, and leaned into every lesson with the hope that it might bring her one step closer to her son. Her resolve was unwavering. She didn't just want to meet the requirements—she wanted to understand them, embody them, and use them to build a future her son could thrive in.

Within weeks, Makinzee secured stable housing. She was actively pursuing employment, determined to create a home that was not only safe but nurturing. Her progress was rapid, but more importantly, it was rooted in genuine transformation. I believed in her—wholeheartedly. So when she completed the Active Parenting program, Randy wrote a letter to accompany her certificate, advocating for the time and space she needed to continue building that foundation.

The judge listened.

Moved by her progress and the sincerity of her efforts, the court granted Makinzee more time to create a safe environment for her son. It wasn't a final victory, but it was a powerful step forward—a recognition that healing and reunification were not just possible, but within reach.

Randy is excited to hear what comes next for Makinzee. Her story is a testament to the power of perseverance, the importance of support, and the unbreakable bond between a mother and her child. Makinzee reminded us all that redemption is real—and that every parent deserves the chance to write a new chapter.