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To Whom It May Concern:

Lindsey LiCari contacted me to initiate therapeutic services in April of 2017 due to suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety and depression. Lindsey's three-year-old son, Ayden, was diagnosed with cancer when he was one-year-old. Lindsey reports emotional pain and suffering that increased in duration and frequency with each day that her son suffered with the pain and treatment of cancer. Ayden would attend some therapy sessions with his mom and at times was in pain or exhausted due to chronic illness. Lindsey would provide nurturing and support to Ayden and do whatever she could to ease his pain and comfort her son. Lindsey would adapt to meet her son's needs as he communicated how he was feeling, for example she would hold Ayden lovingly in her arms throughout the entire session, have his favorite toys for him to play with, or have snacks when he was hungry. Lindsey and Ayden appeared to have a strong bond and seemed to be connected and in synch with one another.

Lindsey was referred to this therapist through Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation of Nevada when she expressed to the children's cancer charity she was devastated that her son was suffering with cancer for almost two years and she needed emotional support. Lindsey exhibited symptoms consistent with PTSD, anxiety, and depression. Lindsey reported she wanted counseling to have a safe place to express her feelings and strengthen her coping skills due to the trauma that is consistent for parents whose child has a severe and long-term illness. Tragically, Ayden died in November of 2017. Lindsey has continued with the counseling process for grief and bereavement. Lindsey's symptoms and emotional struggles have increased in intensity, frequency and duration. Lindsey reports she has had more physical illness that her doctor connected to her level of stress. Lindsey reports that everyday she mourns for Ayden, who was her one and only child. Lindsey's quality of life seems to have declined since the death of her son, as is consistent with the research showing that the death of a child is one of the worst traumas that can happen to a person in their lifetime.

It is recommended that Lindsey continue with therapy, be supported by the people in her life, as she needs help to reduce the stress that comes with the daily wear and tear of life.

Sincerely,

Sarah M. Haggerty MS, MFT

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