



London* had initially been removed from her father's home due to his inability to care for her medical needs, which include a genetic disorder that limits her life expectancy. At that time, *Child Advocates* specialist attorney for the Project for Children with Complex Medical Needs worked with the Department of Human Services (DHS) Community Umbrella Agency (CUA) and with London's medical providers to ensure that her father received training on her care, and nursing services to support her in his home. The court ordered that London could be reunified with her father, with the continued supervision of the court and with support from CUA and *Child Advocates*.

Unfortunately, when London received unexplained abusive injuries while in the care of her father, she had to be removed again. London spent significant time waiting in the hospital for a home, and was discharged into a pediatric nursing home. Always mindful of London's prognosis and her right to live with a family, *Child Advocates* initiated biweekly meetings with our partners to advocate for a home for London. After plans fell through with a relative, and with no medical foster opportunities available, our *Child Advocates* team turned to a new solution—looking outside of DHS for a family home.

Through a collaboration with Pennsylvania's Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), our staff attorney led an initiative to place London in a Life Sharing home with a family trained in her medical needs. Since the transition, London has blossomed. She attends school with her nurse and belly laughs when it's time to play in the sprinklers. With *Child Advocates'* assistance, her new family has cultivated a relationship with London's father and grandmother, ensuring that she is surrounded by those who love her. Recently, her Life Sharing family was granted permanent legal custody, and London continues to thrive and have a full life experience in her stable and permanent home.

**Name has been changed to protect client confidentiality.*