

Sam was biologically born a male and placed into foster care at age 6 due to abuse and neglect by his biological mother.



When Sam was 16, she came out to her foster parents as transgender and wanted to be called Samantha, and wear female clothing. Samantha's foster parents became very angry and said he needed to wear boys' clothing, go by his male name, and meet with the pastor of their church for counseling. Samantha felt very threatened and eventually was kicked out by her foster parents for going against their wishes of living life as a male. She ended up homeless and living between emergency shelters and the streets. Samantha's county social worker told the staff at the emergency shelter that he could come home as long as he went by his male name, wore boys' clothing and went to church every Sunday.