

To Whom it may concern,

I James Leonard of Reno Nevada have a grandson named [REDACTED] who was born in Reno and lived here his whole life and is currently 25 years old. He has been diagnosed with schizophrenia. I would have to say it manifested itself at around the age of 18 to 19 years old and has got worse through the years. Early on they diagnosed him as Bipolar and Depression. Today even though he has been diagnosed with schizophrenia he is in denial and only believes he has Bipolar and Depression. In 2020 we moved back to Reno and stayed a while with my daughter who is the mom to [REDACTED]. My wife was able to go with him to the Doctors and he was given medication for schizophrenia. She made sure every morning he took the medication. He seemed better and even though he worked for temp agencies he was able to work. Soon after we moved his mother was to pick up the role of going with him to the doctors and making sure he took his meds. I guess she stopped making sure he took his meds and not soon later he stopped seeing the doctor.

He started self-medicating with alcohol and soon kept losing jobs through the agency. Still in denial that he has schizophrenia. He was arrested for open container and failed to appear in court not that he was defiant but because of his mindset. He was all weird one day talking demons etc and was taken to the hospital and held and later released this happened at least three times. He later then saw a homeless man being rough handled by a security guard and managed to knock the security to the ground was arrested again and upon his release was to weekly be tested and had to see doctors and go for counseling he again did none of it and was eventually arrested again served some jail time and was released. We pleaded with the Judges to make him get the help he needs but they do not understand the mental illness.

Since then, his mother threw him to the streets, he was later mugged they beat him up took his money, phone and wallet and he showed up on my doorstep. I tried to take him in but my landlord would not accept him as he was 25 and did not want trouble and that he had no credit or reference renting.

My wife and I talked to him and helped him get his ID and SS card bought him a new phone and some food and clothes. We told him we would help to get a roof over his head if he made regular visits to the doctor, got back on his meds, went to counselling and support groups and got a steady job not through an agency. We got him into hotel cortex for 6 weeks and quickly got him out of that hole. We found a place on Park in Reno, and I had to sign a 6-month lease.

He never kept his end of the bargain and started again self-medicating with alcohol. The manager called me the first month that he was drunk and disorderly we went to see him, and he was talking demons and called reno police on me that I was out to get him. Later he cried and did not know why he called them. He still loses jobs and then I was called the day after New year's that [REDACTED] was drunk again and was chasing a tenant with a knife as he thought he was being threatened. Police were called and for some reason they did not arrest him, but the manager is Terminating the lease and wants him out by the end of this month.

We told him he has two choices can hope his mom takes him back which I doubt or get into a shelter. Either way he will become homeless and or die on the streets. He is not the only one there are many with mental illness and they will never get the help unless they commit suicide or harm to someone else. I really think that even though a person is of legal age the family should be able to

step in and make them get the help they rightfully need. Please help us to help him and others. If they cannot make the right decision for themselves someone needs to be able to. Pray mental illness does not hit your family. Again, he will tell you he is not schizophrenia, but the doctors have diagnosed him with schizophrenia. I want to help.

Sincerely, Jim and Susan Leonard