



# Children's PLACE, INC.

## **Children's Place Success Story**

"Nana Shelly" didn't expect to be raising children again in her 50's, until she and her husband gained custody of their 2.5-year-old granddaughter, Alex, and her older sister. They were referred to Children's Place by DSS due to Alex's social, emotional, and behavioral concerns resulting from early adverse experiences and disruption in the girls' prior home. "Our journey started out rough," Nana Shelly said. She badly wanted to help Alex; she just needed additional support and guidance.

When Alex joined our program last March, she was experiencing significant daily tantrums; angry outbursts; sleep concerns and nightmares; dysregulation; hyperactivity; physical and verbal aggression; attachment difficulties; and developmental delays.

Through therapeutic interventions with Alex and family counseling sessions with her grandparents, Alex's prosocial behaviors and skills have greatly improved. She became less oppositional, more confident, can better identify and express her feelings, and is able to accept disappointments. Furthermore, Alex engages in cooperative play with peers and adults and enjoys utilizing self-calming techniques daily.

"Alex has come so far," said Nana Shelly. "She sleeps all night, follows a routine, and is far less defiant. Her new learned behaviors have brought structure and balance back into our home, for which I am forever grateful to Children's Place." Nana Shelly went on to explain how much she enjoys working with her family counselor and appreciates all the staff: "Even the bus drivers care and have become like family."