TAYLOR PENDLETON

Taylor has been with me on and off almost 6 years. She wasn’t potty trained, wouldn’t feed herself, take care of any personal hygiene, wasn’t taken out into public hardly any because of behaviors, and missed 70+ days of school each year. About a year and a half ago her mom called me and said either you take her or she can go to state custody. There was no way that I was letting that happen to her.

God crossed our paths for a reason and I will do everything in my power to help her become as independent as she is capable of being. She does visit her dad and Nana’s 1-2 days on the weekend. She loves going to her dad and Nana’s because there are no boundaries, she is in charge and she is smart enough to know it - and not blaming them (we each have our own gifts) but they don’t know how to handle a child with special needs. And her Nana really isn’t as physically capable as she once was. Yes, I am tough on Taylor but only because I love her so much! Taylor needs structure, medical needs met, and someone pushing her to be the best she can possibly be. At our house, she is treated just like my other children (routines, chores, expected behaviors, opportunities to grow, etc) - of course tailored to her level. All this to say THANK YOU - this opportunity has not only given me a safe place to bring her everyday - but also helping her to develop physically, socially, and emotionally. Trust me, I know she can be a handful at times. At other times she can be as loving as can be. Thank y’all for loving her and never giving up on her! Y’all Rock!

“Words alone can not express my gratitude for the people taking care of Taylor and helping her grow! She loves going to camp each day, even cries when it’s time to leave most days. The camp director and leaders are amazing and truly using the talents they have been blessed with!! As a mother and educator my heart is filled with joy seeing the difference they are making in so many young lives!! Thank you!”-Selina Rector Pendleton

If you would like to share your Y Story, take a card below, complete it and return it to any YMCA staff member. You may have a chance to be in our My Y Story Spotlight!