

August 26, 2010

Dear Parent or Loved One,

Since you are reading this, we are so very sorry for the pain and anguish that you are experiencing. When you first fell in love with this precious person, you could not have imagined arriving at this place. Our hearts and hope are with you.

We recommend I.C. as an interventionist wholeheartedly and without reservation. Years from now, when all this is past, you will still be talking about how amazing I.C. was and how grateful you were to find him. I.C. will take care of your child **and** you with concern, focus, and expertise. He appreciates the gravity of the situation you are in and he handles the responsibility of being allowed into your family at such an intense moment with competence that is well beyond his years. You will find that his age and the fact that he has "been there, done that" are advantages in connecting with both you and your loved one.

Sixteen days ago I.C. swooped into our lives on a mission: to save our 20-year old son, and us. I.C. had been alerted by Treatment Center that we might call. Within minutes of speaking with him, we were comforted by his caring take-charge skills. He was our cheerleader that an intervention was the right thing to do and set forth the plan of how it would all come together. During the 48 hours between the time of our first contact and his arrival, I.C. was in constant contact with us via text and voice. No question was too silly. "How would this work? How would that work?"

From the moment we met I.C. at the airport, we knew that he had command of the situation. He led us through the letter-

writing process and shared his personal experiences as a drug abuser, the scenarios of other interventions, and his time in the wilderness and aftercare. He connected with my husband and me as well as our 23 year old son, and my husband's brother, who is in the counseling profession. (We have heard through the grapevine that our other son has shared with a number of friends how amazing I.C. was with all of us and with his brother.) I.C.'s continual assurances that the intervention would be successful got us through the day.

The plans were set and I.C. and my brother-in-law went to son's bedroom at 3:15 am. I.C.'s orchestration of the intervention was pitch perfect. The order of our letters and even our positions around the table had been thought out. When I.C. explained that he had been in my sons place, we could see that he immediately had credibility with our son. I.C. was nearly an age peer, but more importantly, I.C. and our son could talk about the relationship between a person and their drug. I learned so much from just the few minutes I heard them converse.

Off they went to the airport. I.C. kept us posted as to how our son was doing each step of the way. While our son was texting me about "Couldn't there be another way?" my husband was texting I.C. about how we should respond. It seems that while our son was engaging in the predictable manipulation of his mom, he was thanking I.C. for getting him to this opportunity.

Their first flight was delayed and consequently they missed their second flight to Salt Lake. I.C. took charge of the situation when they learned that all subsequent flights were already filled. I don't know what he did, but he convinced the airline personnel that our son had to be on the next flight. And so he was.

Since that fateful day, I.C. has called us several times just to check-in on our emotional well-being. In addition, he's followed up on our son's progress at the Treatment Center and given us an insider's perspective of what our son might be going through.

We are so sorry that you are in this place, but you are lucky that you have I.C. to help you through. We wish you and your family the best.

Concerned Parents
Chicago