

## JESUS & GRANT'S STORY

Jesus and Grant met in the summer of 2016 at the Weekend Miracles cake-decorating advocacy event. Amidst the chaos of icing and cupcakes, Jesus captured Grant's attention when they discovered their shared love of football. They talked about Jesus' favorite team—the Seattle Seahawks, and Grant's—the USC Trojans, and the coach they had in common—Pete Carroll. For Jesus and Grant, the event opened the window to a lasting connection and by Thanksgiving the two planned to spend their holidays together. This kind-hearted and sincere teenager needed a family, and Grant was eager to provide the support and love that Jesus needed.

Jesus moved in with Grant in December of 2016 and Grant likes to joke that he got Jesus for Christmas! Jesus and Grant were matched for adoption, and this September, the adoption was finalized. Jesus, now 18, feels that he had already been a part of Grant's family for almost two years now. The night of the finalization, Grant and Jesus had a small commemoration celebration with close family and friends. The family bonds between Jesus and Grant began long before the finalization date, and Kidsave was there to nurture this connection from start to finish.



## DANNYEL, LUIS & IVAN'S STORY

Outside of court, Dannyel, 11, stood with his arms spread wide apart as the sun lighted up his massive smile. Everyone could feel the joy and relief in the air - Dannyel's adoption had just been finalized. Dannyel met Ivan and Luis on the Weekend Miracles Hike for Foster Youth in November 2016 through Dannyel's host parent Chase. Ivan and Luis were drawn to Dannyel because of his charisma and humor. At the time Dannyel was 9, but he was able to articulate and understand his emotions far better than other boys of his age. In his heart he knew he was ready for adoption, and he longed for a family. Finally, two years later, Dannyel has a legal family standing by his side for life. At the finalization, Dannyel joked that now Ivan and Luis would have to respect him no matter what. He is so thrilled to be an official part of the family - and he is especially thrilled to be making more jokes and witty comments to Ivan and Luis for the rest of their lives.



