



*"To develop and enhance quality services and promote self reliance
amongst families of the San Carlos Apache Tribe"*

COURT UPDATE: CW-2024-0024

May 20, 2026



In the Matter of: Brandon Salter (14) DOB: 01/19/13,

Parents: Tina Salter (father deceased),

Placement: Sophia Modless, paternal cousin/aunt

COURT UPDATE: Currently, Brandon continues to reside at Catalyst Community Corporation in Mesa AZ since March 19, 2026.

I had a sit-down home visit with him at the home on April 15, 2026 around 4:30 pm after school. He missed his family and asked when can they come see him. Which is why I asked they be allowed visitation.

The visitation with his aunt, brothers and grandmother, did happen on May 16, 2026 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. That evening I received a call from Sophia with concerns for the child's safety at the home concerning being bullied by the older boys in the home, and with many complaints.

And the aunt Sophia wanted the child returned to her as soon as possible.

Brandon was doing well at this new Group Home. I received an email that he was set up with counseling services and was doing ok until the visit, he began acting up. He was home because he was suspended for the rest of the school year because he was getting into trouble at school.

I would like to see him return back into his aunt's care, because the aunt now realizes she can get counseling for the boys while under her care.

SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE

San Carlos Avenue, Post Office Box 0, Building #7 San Carlos, Arizona 85550

Telephone: (928) 475-2313/2314 Fax: (928) 475-2342



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Sophia Modless, from the beginning didn't understand how to handle three boys being placed in her care suddenly on emergency placement, boys who needed help with counseling, neglect by mother after their father passed away. The boys needed counseling and she had signed up the two younger boys up with Easter Seals in Thatcher. The aunt wants to take custody back of Brandon and go that route with him also. She wants to be involved in his care with where he is placed at and wants visits, the brothers miss their brother and want to see him also. The whole family is involved and has serious concerns of the child being out at a Group Home, they want him back in their care and they want to make sure he is safe in their home. The aunt has her mother, her cousins, and other family who are willing to help her take care of the child Brandon, now that she understands all he needs is Counseling like his brothers.

I believe before the children suffer more bond issues and separation from family, the child Brandon be given back to the aunt and she will continue to get him into services along with his brothers. The aunt has a better understanding that all she needs is counseling services for the boys while under her care, and she does want to pursue permanent guardianship eventually.

I have been working with a calmer more understanding aunt, who I have been explaining procedures to and eventually we work towards reunification. *(But at present she is beginning to demand to get custody of the child Brandon Salter.)*

The mother Tina Salter had come in to state she wanted the aunt Sophia to have guardianship of her children and she had filed a notarized statement. Tina has not made effort to work towards reunification. And her three boys are afraid of her and they don't want to see her or be around her, they had made statements to me that they don't want to go back to her.

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At this I am requesting on behalf of the child and the family that the child Brandon return home and in the care and custody of the aunt Sophia Modless.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zahra Goseyun". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Zahra" and last name "Goseyun" clearly distinguishable.

Zahra Goseyun, CPS Case Manager