**M8-D. Case Study – Yolanda and her Mother**

Yolanda has been in the TC for 6 months and has made good progress. She is currently Head of Kitchen Department and works well with her peers. In groups she has expressed her sadness that she has written to her mother and father every week since she entered the TC but they have never replied or made contact. Yolanda is one of the few TC members who has no visitors on visiting days.

A staff member who is currently working as Yolanda’s keyworker makes contact with the parents who are reluctant to have anything to do with their daughter. She ran away from home when she was 15 but has occasionally returned home to stay – sometimes for one of her many failed attempts to detoxify. Her father is angry with her because most times when she has returned to stay with them, she has stolen from them. On at least one occasion, she also stole from her paternal grandmother and this he “can’t forgive”. He is adamant that he wants nothing to do with her but reluctantly agrees to the staff member’s suggestion that her mother should come in to the TC to discuss it with the TC staff and possibly Yolanda herself. Her mother appears more forgiving though she says she feels ashamed by Yolanda’s behaviour which has included periods of prostitution when she was using heavily.

The staff member arranges a meeting at the TC between himself, another staff member and a female senior TC member/graduate and Yolanda’s mother.

*Students should role-play this meeting feeling free to extemporise. Gender roles can be reversed (except for Yolanda and her mother) and it is up to the group whether Yolanda joins the meeting at a later stage.*