

Contact:
Constance Farrell,
Communications Director
c.farrell@kids-alliance.org
213.368.6010
209.765.7855 (cell)

## L.A. NONPROFITS LAUNCH NEW WEB SITE FOR CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

knowb4ugo.org provides transition-age foster youth with helpful information and tools for success work, school and life

LOS ANGELES (October 20, 2015) – Know Before You Go (B4UGO) is a new website for foster youth in Los Angeles County informed and developed by foster youth. Released by two child advocacy organizations – the Alliance for Children's Rights and Children's Law Center of California – this website (knowb4ugo.org) was designed to be a place where youth can connect to the information, tools and organizations that can help them successfully transition from foster care to independence.

Too often, foster youth leave the system unprepared. They don't always know where to look for a job, how to apply to college or how to manage their finances. This instability often leads to high rates of



unemployment, low educational attainment and even homelessness and incarceration. Knowb4ugo.org seeks to close the information gap by providing foster youth with the resources they need to graduate high school, prepare for a job interview, take advantage of extended foster care and more.

Content is categorized in the areas of Work, School, Housing, Money, Life and more so youth can easily find the information they are looking for. Foster youth events and content pushed out through the <a href="mailto:@knowb4ugola">@knowb4ugola</a> Twitter account are also featured on the homepage. Videos from youths' perspective are a highlight, and the site will soon serve as the hub of a first-of-its kind YouTube web series by the same name. As episodes are released users will be able to view videos alongside helpful content. At the bottom of each page youth will find related articles, allowing them to quickly navigate to other topics they are interested in.

After the success of the Know Before You Go app, we knew we had to reach youth on platforms they already accessed and most importantly, their phones. Youth always have their smartphones with them, so the website is optimized for mobile and is just as easy to navigate on a device as a computer.

The website is part of the Know Before You Go campaign created by the Alliance and Children's Law Center in 2013 to educate and empower transition-age foster youth in Los Angeles County. The campaign, app, web series and website are seeking funding through the L.A. 2050 grants challenge. The public can show their support by voting for the campaign.

## **About the Alliance for Children's Rights**

The Alliance for Children's Rights protects the rights of impoverished and abused children and youth so that they have safe, stable homes, healthcare and the education they need to thrive.

## About Children's Law Center of California

Children's Law Center of California represents children who have been abused, neglected or abandoned that come under the protection of either the Los Angeles or Sacramento County Juvenile Dependency Court systems.

###