



## VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

Since 1992, the [Alliance for Children's Rights](#) has helped 125,000 children. Our staff of experienced advocates is supplemented by hundreds of pro bono attorneys, paralegals, mentors and other volunteers who donate their time to improving the lives of children. Together we work one child at a time and system wide. Learn more at [kids-alliance.org/volunteer](#).

The Alliance is funded by private donations. If you would like to support our programs, you can make a donation at [kids-alliance.org](#).



## PROGRAMS AND TRAININGS

### COMMUNITY CLINICS AND TRAININGS:

In addition to direct service and public policy work, we offer community-wide trainings on the foster care and issues affecting children and caregivers in the child welfare system:

- Foster Care Adoption
- Legal Guardianship
- Education
- Healthcare
- Public Benefits
- Transition-Age Youth

Trainings are geared towards a range of audiences, including health and social service providers, youth and caregivers, and pro bono attorneys. Trainings can be modified to fit a variety of needs.

For more information, call 213.368.6010 or email [info@kids-alliance.org](mailto:info@kids-alliance.org).



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The Alliance for Children's Rights protects the rights of impoverished, abused and neglected children and youth. By providing free legal services and advocacy, the Alliance staff and pro bono attorneys ensure children have stable homes, healthcare and the education they need to succeed in school and in life. We also work to create system-wide change for foster youth through public policy reform.



**The Bridges to the Future training includes:**  
 Advocacy on the right to remain in school of origin  
 • Partial credits • High school graduation options • School discipline • The role of education rights holders



## Healthcare and Benefits

These programs secure vital resources and services, enabling caregivers to provide basic necessities and address the specialized mental health and medical needs experienced by so many children in foster care.

**Healthcare training includes:** Medi-Cal coverage for foster youth • Minor Consent Laws and who can consent to care • Caregiver Affidavits and Third Party Consents • Denial of medical services • Affordable Care Act (ACA) extension of Medi-Cal for former foster youth

**Benefits training includes:** Financial benefits for children living in out-of-home care • Federal foster care funding • State foster care funding • Specialized care rates • KinGAP • CalWORKs • Adoption Assistance Program (AAP)

## PROGRAMS:

### ♥ Foster Care Adoption

This program has earned national acclaim for its pro bono model and partnership with the Juvenile Court, which enables the expeditious completion of one-third of all foster care adoptions in Los Angeles County annually. The Alliance created the National Adoption Day model, which is now celebrated in all 50 states.

### Legal Guardianship

This program assists relatives and other adults to become legal guardians through probate court, preventing children from entering foster care when biological parents are unable to care for them.

**Training includes:** Overview of probate guardianship, duties and responsibilities, and financial assistance  
 • Joint guardianships for parents with life threatening illnesses • Legal pleadings (for pro bono attorneys and caregivers) • Alternatives to legal guardianship



### Education

**Early Child Development**— Our Saltz Family Early Intervention Advocacy Center obtains appropriate assessments and early intervention services for foster children, ages 0-5, who are at high risk for developmental delays.

**Special Education (K-12)**— Nearly half of foster children have learning delays and disabilities and are struggling in school. The Alliance provides direct advocacy at Individual Education Program meetings, tailored to each child's needs.

**Trainings include:** Determining a child's developmental delay or learning disability • Identifying appropriate, goals, placements and services • Advocating at Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) and Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings

**Bridges to the Future**— Foster children change schools an average of six times while in care. This causes a disruption in learning, lost credits and enrollment issues, leading to high dropout rates. Bridges advocates for foster teens to overcome these obstacles and works to dismantle the school to prison pipeline, a trend in schools that pushes troubled and disabled youth into the criminal justice system. By increasing school stability, youth are more likely to stay on track for high school graduation.

### NextStep for Transition-Age Youth

NextStep assists youth, 14 to 24, through the difficult transition from foster care to independence. NextStep provides direct legal services and connects youth to housing, education and career resources, and extended foster care to 21. NextStep pairs young adults with mentors and advocates for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for youth with disabilities. Get the free Know Before You Go app by texting BEFORE to 96362.

**Trainings to group homes, transitional housing programs and youth include:** Benefits of extended foster care • Sealing juvenile records • Consumer, contract and credit responsibility • False advertising • Identity theft • Housing • Employment • Education and financial aid • Understanding leasing and financing • Life skills • Medi-Cal • Supplemental Security Income eligibility



Family



Education



Stability



Justice