



## Paul Hastings Law Firm Opens Doors for Teens

At 16, Diana was a hardworking student who looked forward to getting a driver's license and part-time job. Unlike her peers, Diana couldn't do these things because she didn't have a birth certificate. Life without a birth certificate is a major obstacle for anyone. For foster youth, it closes every door ahead of them.

Paul Hastings was ready to tackle the unique challenges these youth face. Their team jumped in to help Diana and filed a petition with the court. They interviewed family members and friends to establish the time, place and circumstances of her birth. Next they tracked down an emergency room doctor in Tennessee, who was in the room when she was born. With all the evidence Paul Hastings presented, the judge did not hesitate to grant Diana a birth certificate. She was so relieved and excited to have the freedom to take next steps toward her adult life.

"These are extraordinarily bright kids. They are driven and make their communities better with their spirit," said Sarah Kelly-Kilgore of Paul Hastings. "You see these young people walk away from court feeling lighter and excited. They have such difficult backgrounds and to see them have this joy is why we get involved."

Two years later, Diana is in community college and has a part-time job and driver's license! [Read More>](#)

## Annual Dinner Honors Yasmine Delawari Johnson and Matthew Johnson

On Thursday, March 12, 2015, the Alliance will honor philanthropist and political activist Yasmine Delawari Johnson and Matthew Johnson, managing partner at Ziffren Brittenham, LLP, with the National Champion for Children Award at our 23rd Annual Dinner. Yasmine and Matthew are ardent advocates, mentors and champions for vulnerable children. The event will also recognize Mark Ridley-Thomas of the L.A. County Board of Supervisors with the Francis M. Wheat Community Service Award for his dedication to improving child welfare practices.



Max Greenfield from Fox's *New Girl* will entertain guests as the master of ceremonies. Dinner Chairs Leslie & Cliff Gilbert-Lurie, Sue Naegle, Rick Rosen, Susan Friedman and Toni M. Schulman are joined by Honorary **Co-Chairs Mayor Eric Garcetti and First Lady Amy Elaine Wakeland**. Honorary Committee members include Tyler Perry, Tyra Banks, Sacha Baron Cohen, Michael Strahan and many more.

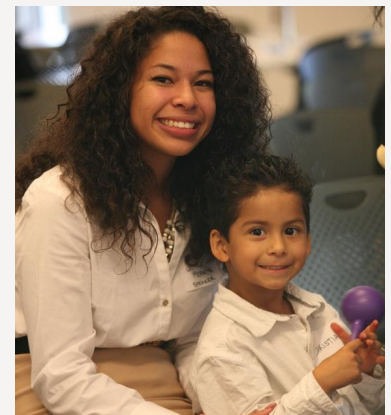


Tables and tickets are still available! [Read More>](#)

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## Alliance of Moms Event Engages Pregnant and Parenting Youth

More than 50 pregnant and parenting youth attended a fun event called "Raising Baby" hosted by the [Alliance of Moms](#). Engaging workshops taught the basics of developmental play, infant care, nutrition and parenting. Young parents heard from peers who had also become parents while in foster care.



"We know how difficult it is being a mom even with the resources we're lucky to have," said Alliance of Moms co-founder Danika Charity. "So we brought in experts we know to share their knowledge with these young parents."

Parents enjoyed exercise from Olympian Angela Davis, beats from DJ Daisy O'Dell, lunch from HeirloomLA and amazing goody bags filled with baby necessities provided by generous sponsors, including The Honest Company, Skip Hop, Akid, ErgoBaby and more! Parents walked away armed with the skills

"Although I have a child, he is not my obstacle, but my motivation."  
-Junely, participant and speaker

they need to fulfill their goals of being great parents! [Read More>](#)

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## New Toolkit will Help School Districts Meet Education Needs of Foster Youth

A new step-by-step guide to improving education outcomes for children in foster care is now available to California schools. The [Foster Youth Education Toolkit](#), created by the Alliance and our partners, walks school administrators through steps to meet the most basic education needs of foster youth.

Foster Youth Education Toolkit

Each section of the Toolkit includes comprehensive information and procedures as well as easy-to-use implementation tools. All of the resources are ready-to-use in school districts across the state through fillable PDFs.



The Foster Youth Education Toolkit is available at [kids-alliance.org/edtoolkit](http://kids-alliance.org/edtoolkit). View the Toolkit through Flipping Book to explore the sections in an interactive format. For Toolkit updates, [sign up for an email list](#). [Read More>](#)



### Mark Your Calendar - 6th Annual the RIGHT to LAUGH

The Alliance's 6th Annual the RIGHT to LAUGH comedy event will be held Wednesday, May 27 at the Avalon Hollywood. Stay tuned for more information on the lineup of top notch comedians. Ray Romano, George Lopez, Wanda Sykes and Nick Kroll have participated in past events.

[Tickets and Information>](#)



### Read the Winter Issue of the Alliance Voice

Want more news on the Alliance and our recent activities? Read the winter issue of the Alliance Voice to learn more about our Annual Dinner, the new L.A. Opportunity Youth Collaborative, a success our pro bono attorneys achieved for a teen client and more. [Read More>](#)

Stay involved and help share our work--join our social media community today!



[Download](#) Know Before You Go, a new, free mobile app for L.A. County foster youth.



The Alliance has earned Charity Navigator's highest four-star rating four years in a row--an honor held by only 7% of all charities they rate.



