



## Class of 2015 Next Stop: Employment

In June we celebrated many graduations, including students from the First Star UCLA Bruin Academy. Our advocacy ensured that the students stayed on track for **graduation**. Nearly all are now enrolled in college.

Our summer series to get young people ready for the job market kicked off on June 8, with **job shadowing**. Forty youth were matched up with careers of interest and shadowed professionals at SpaceX, Sony Music, DreamWorks and more. After shadowing NPR reporter Karen Grigsby Bates all day, one young person said "I know now that radio's what I want to do. I had an idea before, but now I know for sure!"

To further career readiness we held "Land that Job," a Survival Saturday event on June 13 with resume building, mock interviews and a clothing boutique courtesy of Foster Care Counts. Youth were able to sign up for temporary jobs offered through LA's Summer Jobs program. Many young people said they left feeling more confident in their ability to secure employment! [Read More>](#)

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## Giant Fun at Giant Playdate

On Saturday, May 9, the Alliance of Moms (AOM) gathered together 200 philanthropic-minded families for a Giant Playdate to support L.A. foster kids.

The event, hosted at the beautiful Lombardi House, raised \$45,000 and was sponsored by dozens of top brands, including Angel Swanson of Love & Splendor, Heirloom LA, Camp Craft, Flipbooth and Events 204.

Children drummed and crafted while parents bid on a variety of impressive silent auction items. Thank you to AOM and the generous participants! Learn more at [allianceofmoms.org](http://allianceofmoms.org).



Top: The founders of Alliance of Moms.  
Bottom: Children made crafts while moms bid on silent auction items.



R to L: Two girls work on a craft, a mom looks at auction items and a little one grabs a sweet treat.

## Save the Dates!



### 17th Annual Tennis for Tots September 19

Get your rackets ready for our round-robin doubles tournament on **September 19 at the Los Angeles Tennis Club**. Amateurs and seasoned players alike are welcome to play. Win or lose, there is tasty barbecue for everyone to enjoy. We hope to see you on the courts! [Get Tickets>](#)



### 12th Annual "All-in" for Kids Celebrity Poker Tournament - October 18

Enjoy a day at the tables at our annual poker tournament hosted by **Commerce Casino on October 18**. You'll get to play alongside famous faces and support the Alliance while doing it. It's sure to be a good time, so join us and give Los Angeles' most vulnerable children the upper hand! [Get Tickets>](#)

## Alliance Staff Hit the Conference Trail

Check out these upcoming conferences Alliance staff will be presenting at this summer.

[San Diego Foster Care Education Summit](#) - June 24

Alliance Education Attorney Danielle Tenner will participate in a panel on the Foster Youth Education Toolkit and present on high school stability.

[ABA's National Conference on Children and the Law](#) - July 24-25, Washington, D.C.

Alliance Policy Director Angie Schwartz will participate in a panel on the funding streams available to children in foster care placements with relatives and highlight best practices to increase supports for kinship families. Angie will also co-lead a session with partners at Children's Law Center exploring how California adjusted its approach and its policies to extended foster care (AB 12).

[National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Conference](#) - July 28, Austin, Texas

Alliance Staff Attorney Allison Newcombe together with our L.A. County CSEC partners, will present on their approach to supporting survivors of sex trafficking.

We look forward to sharing our experiences and expertise and learning best practices from other child welfare leaders around the state and country. [Read More>](#)

## Legislative Season 2015

The [Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program](#), known as ARC, which the Alliance helped to bring about last year, was a huge step towards resolving the inequities in how California funds relative foster parents. Most relatives will now be eligible to receive funding equivalent to the basic foster care rate, provided their county has opted into the program. Since not all counties have opted in (15 have not at last count), foster parents will face confusion regarding whether or not they should receive CalWORKs or ARC funding, or how to go about getting the funding initiated.

A bill the Alliance is co-sponsoring, AB 423, will require the county child welfare agency to provide the relative caregivers with all the necessary information about their funding options. It will also require the county to determine the child's eligibility for each benefit and initiate funding for the benefit the child is qualified to receive. AB 423 passed through the Assembly and will be heard in the Senate Human Services Committee on July 14.

[Read More>](#)

## Alliance Voice Ready to Read

Want more Alliance news? Check out the Summer 2015 issue of Alliance Voice. It's filled with compelling stories about our clients and programs and photos from recent events. Learn more about what OYC is up to and hear about a major client victory our pro bonos achieved. You'll also read about how our pregnant and parenting teens program helps break the cycle of foster care. [Read More>](#)





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County foster youth.



The Alliance is among  
only 4% of nonprofits to  
receive this ranking for  
five consecutive years.



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3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 550 • Los Angeles, CA • 90010 • 213.368.6010

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