

## Special Education

*For foster parents · relative caregivers · adoptive parents · attorneys · advocates*

This training equips families with the tools to help children with special needs obtain an appropriate education. Topics include:

- \* introductory overview for those totally new to special education
- \* IEP rights for students and educational rights holders
- \* assessments
- \* behavioral and disciplinary needs
- \* suspension or expulsion issues (including Manifestation Determination IEPs)
- \* mental health needs in IEPs and AB 3632
- \* placement options including general education, special day classes, and private schools
- \* Compliance Complaints (for when districts don't comply with a child's written IEP)



*The Alliance for Children's Rights is one of the leading free legal services organizations in Los Angeles dedicated solely to protecting impoverished and abused children. Since its inception in 1992, The Alliance has served nearly 60,000 children: children living in or transitioning out of foster care, children in need of medical treatment, children with educational challenges, and children who are waiting for legal guardianship or adoption.*

*Our staff includes lawyers, social workers, and advocates, supplemented by hundreds of pro bono attorneys, paralegals and other volunteers who donate their time and talent to ensure that children have safe, permanent families and get the support and services to which they are entitled.*



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If you...

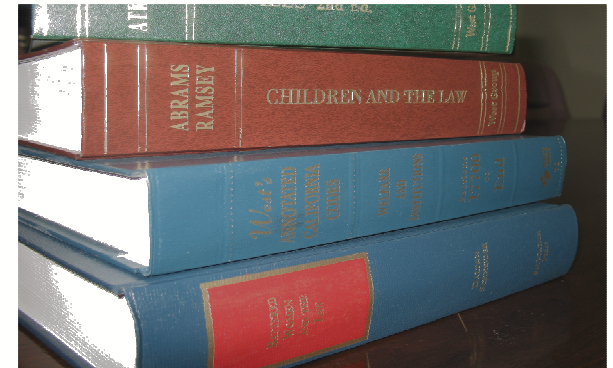
are an advocate....

work with foster children...

are caring for a child who is not your own...

are a lawyer, a judicial officer, or legal professional...

## We can HELP you HELP



**The Alliance for Children's Rights offers a wide variety of trainings for:**

Caregivers · Group Homes · Foster Family Agencies  
Attorneys and Legal Professionals · Social Workers  
Health Care Providers · Judicial Officers and Court Personnel · Advocates · Social Service Providers  
Youth

*Many Alliance trainings satisfy  
MCLE or CEU requirements*

## Information You Can Use

If you're involved with any of the countless issues that face children living in foster care or poverty in Los Angeles County, The Alliance for Children's Rights can help. Every year, The Alliance assists caregivers, advocates, volunteers, and many others by sharing knowledge and resources. The trainings described here can be modified to fit a variety of needs. Call 213-368-6010 for more information.

## Overview of Alliance Services

*For medical, social service and mental health providers · school personnel · caregivers · group home providers · juvenile court personnel*

This training provides a general overview of the services offered by The Alliance so that professionals can make appropriate referrals and best utilize Alliance resources.



## Overview of the Foster Care System

*For medical, social service and mental health providers · school personnel · caregivers · group home personnel*

The Foster Care System is complex, and can be difficult to navigate. This program includes:

- \* DCFS policies and procedures
- \* Juvenile Court procedures and timelines
- \* roles of minor's attorneys and social workers
- \* placement and permanency options
- \* advocacy tips

## Transitioning Youth

*For foster youth and former foster youth, ages 16-24*

The Alliance reaches out to former foster and probation youth to help them learn about relevant laws, teach them how to self-advocate, assist with many of their legal issues, and help them develop important life skills. Outreach occurs on an ongoing basis at transitional housing sites, transitional resource centers, and other community resource centers throughout Los Angeles. Together with attorney and community volunteers, The Alliance helps educate 16-24 year old youth about topics such as:

- \* sealing juvenile court records
- \* clearing tickets and warrants
- \* consumer and credit issues
- \* identity theft
- \* access to public benefits (including Medi-Cal)
- \* Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- \* sibling visitation
- \* housing
- \* employment and education issues
- \* income tax preparation
- \* responsible car ownership

*Trainings are held in a variety of Los Angeles locations*

## Medical Consent Issues for Children

*For medical, social service, and mental health providers · school personnel · caregivers · group home providers · juvenile court personnel*

The rules governing who can consent to medical care for children may be confusing. The Alliance provides advocacy tips and instruction on who can consent to care for children under 18 (including Minor Consent Laws), when to use a Caregiver Affidavit, and Third Party Consent.

## Benefits and Funding

*For advocates · judicial officers · Court personnel caregivers · attorneys*

Nearly all children placed in out-of-home care are eligible for some form of monetary support. Caregivers often need help navigating the complex bureaucratic requirements to obtain benefits for a child in their care. The Alliance can assist in understanding benefits issues relevant to children in foster care, delinquency, or other out-of-home care situations, including:

- \* federal foster care funding (including Youakim and specialized care rates)
- \* state foster care funding
- \* KinGAP
- \* CalWORKs for Non-Needy Caregivers
- \* Adoption Assistance Program payments
- \* Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- \* other funding sources

*Alliance trainings are free of charge*

## Probate Legal Guardianship

*For caregivers · social workers · social service and health care providers · school personnel · advocates · attorneys and legal professionals*

When a child resides with someone other than a parent, the caregiver often encounters difficulty obtaining benefits and services for that child. The Alliance's trainings help service providers and caregivers understand the importance of legal guardianship. Our trainings provide an overview of probate guardianship, joint guardianship for parents with a life threatening or terminal illness, and step by step guidance to complete the legal pleadings for attorneys and caregivers. These trainings include the basic legal process to obtain guardianship, the duties and responsibilities of a legal guardian, the pros and cons of obtaining legal guardianship, and possible alternatives if guardianship is not appropriate.