

**APPENDIX F:
RESOURCES FOR FOSTER CHILDREN
AND FOSTER CAREGIVERS IN CALIFORNIA**

LEGAL SERVICES

Alliance for Children’s Rights

“The mission of The Alliance for Children’s Rights is protecting the rights and futures of abused and impoverished children throughout Los Angeles County – in hopes of creating a world in which all children are able to have a safe and permanent family, a quality education, and all of the support and services they so rightfully deserve.”

Website: www.kids-alliance.org
Main Office: 3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 550 (Client Intake – No Walk-ins)
Los Angeles, CA 90010
Tel: 213-368-6010
Fax: 213-368-6016
Advocacy Areas: Dependency, Foster Care Adoptions, Health Care, Probate
Guardianships, Government Benefits, Special Education
Counties Served: Los Angeles

Bet Tzedek Legal Services

“Bet Tzedek, ‘The House of Justice,’ provides free legal assistance to thousands of people who would otherwise be denied access to the legal system underpinning our democracy.”

Website: www.bettzedek.org
Main Office: 145 South Fairfax Ave., #200 (Client Intake – No Walk-ins)
Los Angeles, CA 90036
Tel: 323-939-0506
Fax: 323-549-5880
Advocacy Areas: Kinship Care, Family Caregivers, Disability Rights, Consumer
Rights, Employment, Holocaust Reparations, Housing,
Government Benefits, Landlord/Tenant, Senior Rights, Nursing
Home Advocacy
Counties Served: Los Angeles

Children’s Advocacy Institute

The Children’s Advocacy Institute (CAI) is part of the [Center for Public Interest Law](#) at the [University of San Diego School of Law](#). Staffed by experienced attorneys and advocates, advised by the [CAI Council for Children](#), and assisted by USD law student interns, CAI works to improve the status and well-being of children in our society by representing their interests and right to a safe, healthy childhood. In addition to its [academic program](#), which trains law students to be effective child advocates, CAI represents children in the state legislature, in the courts, before administrative agencies, and through public education programs.

Website: www.caichildlaw.org
Email: info@caichildlaw.org
Main Office: 5998 Alcala Park
San Diego, CA 92110
Tel: 619-260-4806
Fax: 619-260-4753
Sacramento Office: 717 K. Street, Suite 509
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: 916-444-3875

Advocacy Areas: Fax: 916-444-6611
Juvenile Justice System, Dependency System, Child Abuse Prevention, Foster Care, Adoption, Government Benefits, Health, Education, Special Education, Child Care

Services Offered: Legislative, Litigation, Budget Advocacy, Regulatory Advocacy, Public Education

Counties Served: San Diego, plus Statewide Advocacy

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

“As Los Angeles’ frontline law firm for low-income people, we promote access to justice, strengthen communities, combat discrimination, and effect systemic change through representation, advocacy, and community education.”

Website: www.lafla.org

Main Office: 1102 Crenshaw Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90019
Tel: 323-801-7991
Fax: 323-801-7945

East Los Angeles: 5228 Whittier Blvd
(Government Benefits, Los Angeles, CA 90022
Including Foster Care) Tel: 213-640-3883 (Client Intake)
Fax: 213-640-3911

Other Offices: East Los Angeles, Inglewood, Inner City, Long Beach, Santa Monica, South Central

Advocacy Areas: Children, Foster Care, Government Benefits, Community Economic Development, Consumer Rights, Employment, Family Law, Health Care, Housing, Immigrants’ Rights, Bankruptcy

Counties Served: Los Angeles

Legal Services for Children

“Legal Services for Children (LSC) was founded in 1975 as one of the first non-profit law firms in the country dedicated to advancing the rights of youth by providing direct legal representation and social work services. LSC’s goal is to ensure all children in the San Francisco Bay Area have an opportunity to be raised in a safe environment with equal access to a meaningful education and the services they need to become healthy and productive young adults.”

Website: www.lsc-sf.org

Main Office: 1254 Market St., 3rd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel: 415-863-3762
Fax: 415-863-7708

Advocacy Areas: Legal Guardianship, Dependency, School Discipline, Immigration, and Emancipation

Area Served: Bay Area

Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc.

“MHAS provides free legal services to people with medical and developmental disabilities. MHAS assists both children and adults with an emphasis on obtaining government benefits and services, protecting rights, and fighting discrimination.”

Website: www.mhas-la.org

Email: info@mhas-la.org

Main Office: 3255 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 902
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Tel: 213-389-2077
Fax: 213-389-2595
Advocacy Areas: Children, Government Benefits, Civil Rights, Special Education, Foster Youth Education, Disability Rights, Employment, Health Care, Housing, Mental Health, Fair Housing
Counties Served: Los Angeles

National Center for Youth Law

"NCYL uses the law to improve the lives of poor children. The Center works to ensure they have the resources, support, and opportunities they need for a healthy and productive future. The Center focuses its work in four areas: safety, stability, and well-being of abused and neglected children, quality health and mental health care, successful transitions to adulthood for at-risk youth, and financial stability for low-income families and children."

Website: www.youthlaw.org
info@youthlaw.org
Main Office: 405 14th Street, 15th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2701
Tel: 510-835-8098
Fax: 510-835-8099
Sacramento Office: 1107 Ninth St., Suite 801
Sacramento, CA 95814-3600
Tel: 916-444-2290
Fax: 916-442-7966
Advocacy Areas: Children and Youth
Services Offered: Consultation, Information Services, Representation, Training
Counties Served: Statewide Legal Support Center

Protection and Advocacy, Inc.

"Advancing the human and legal rights of people with disabilities."

Website: www.pai-ca.org
Main Office: 100 Howe Avenue, 185N
Sacramento, CA 95825
Tel: 916-488-9950
Fax: 916-488-9960
LA Office: 3580 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 902
Los Angeles, CA 90010
Tel: 213-427-8747
Fax: 213-427-8767
Other Offices: Sacramento, Oakland, San Diego
Advocacy Areas: Disability Rights
Counties Served: Statewide

Public Counsel's Children's Rights Project

"Public Counsel is dedicated to advancing equal justice under law by delivering pro bono legal services to indigent and under-represented children and adults throughout Los Angeles County, ensuring that other community-based organizations serving this population have legal support, and mobilizing the pro bono resources of the community's private attorneys and law students."

Website: www.publiccounsel.org
Main Office: 610 S. Ardmore Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90005
Tel: 213-385-2977
Fax: 213-385-9089
Advocacy Areas: Foster Care, Adoptions, Legal Guardianships, Education,
Special Education, Health, Mental Health, Government Benefits,
Pregnant and Parenting Teens
Counties Served: Los Angeles

Western Center on Law and Poverty

"WCLP advances and enforces the rights of low-income Californians in health, housing and public assistance by working statewide for systemic change. We improve the lives of our clients through litigation, education, legal support to social and legal services providers, legislation, and policy advocacy."

Website: www.wclp.org
Email: info@wclp.org
Main Office: 3701 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 208
Los Angeles, CA 90010
Tel: 213-487-7211
Fax: 213-487-0242
Other Offices: Oakland, Sacramento
Advocacy Areas: Health, Housing, Welfare, Foster Care
Services Offered: Consultation; Information; Representation; Training
Counties Served: Statewide Legal Support Center

Youth Law Center

"The Youth Law Center is a public interest law firm that works to protect children in the nation's foster care and juvenile justice systems from abuse and neglect, and to ensure that they receive the necessary support and services to become healthy and productive adults."

Website: www.ylc.org
Email: info@ylc.org
Main Office: 417 Montgomery Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94104
Tel: 415-543-3379
Fax: 415-956-9022
Advocacy Areas: Children and Youth
Services Offered: Consultation; Information; Representation; Training
Counties Served: Statewide Legal Support Center

OTHER SOURCES OF LEGAL INFORMATION

California Youth Connection

“CYC is guided, focused and driven by current and former foster youth with the assistance of other committed community members. CYC promotes the participation of foster youth in policy development and legislative change to improve the foster care system, and strives to improve social work practice and child welfare policy. CYC Chapters in counties throughout the state identify local issues and use grassroots and community organizing to create change.”

Website: www.calyouthconn.org
Main Office: 604 Mission St., 9th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
Tel: 415-442-5060
800-397-8236
Fax: 415-442-0720
Southern Office: 523 W. 6th St., #365
Los Angeles, CA 90014
Tel 213-489-0720
Fax 213-489-0620
Northern Office: 1650 Oregon St.
Redding, CA 96001
Tel: 530-243-8450
Fax: 530-243-8650

California Office of the Foster Care Ombudsman

The Office of the Foster Care Ombudsman was established by the Legislature to do the following:

1. Ensure the voice of foster children and youth is heard, and act on their behalf.
2. Create an avenue for foster children and youth to file complaints regarding their placement, care and services without fear of retribution from those who provide their care and services.
3. Act as an independent forum for the investigation and resolution of complaints made by or on behalf of children placed in foster care and make appropriate referrals.
4. Provide children and youth with information on their rights when placed in foster care.
5. Maintain a toll-free telephone number which foster children and youth may call from anywhere in California to express their concerns and complaints.

Website: www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov
Help Line: 877-846-1602
Email: fosteryouthhelp@dss.ca.gov

The State Bar of California

The State Bar is a public corporation within the judicial branch of government, serving as an arm of the California Supreme Court, which regulates the professional conduct of the state’s lawyers and provides greater access to the justice system for all citizens. Two publications of particular interest to foster care children, families, and advocates which are available on the website are: “Kids & the Law – An A-Z Guide for Parents” and “When You Become 18: A Survival Guide for Teenagers”

Website: www.calbar.org
Main Office: 180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Tel: 415-538-2000

**The Judicial Council of California's
Center for Families, Children, & the Courts**

The Administrative Offices of the Court's Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) is dedicated to improving the quality of justice and services to meet the diverse needs of children, youth, families, and self-represented litigants in the California courts.

Website: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/>
Email: CFCC@jud.ca.gov
Main Office: 455 Golden Gate Ave., 6th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102-3660
Tel: 415-865-7739
Fax: 415-865-7217