

RESOURCES FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

National Dating Abuse Helpline
(866) 331-9474
TTY (800) 787-3224
www.loveisrespect.org

Texas Education Agency GED Unit
(512) 463-9734
tea.texas.gov

College for All Texans
www.collegeforalltexas.com

American Youth Works
(512) 744-1900
www.americanyouthworks.org

Job Corps
(800) 733-5627
www.jobcorps.gov

AmeriCorps
(800) 942-2677
www.americorps.gov

Texas Runaway Hotline
1 (800) 989-6884 (call or text)
www.texasrunaway.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central TX
(512) 472-5437
www.bbbs.org
www.bigmentoring.org

RESOURCES FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

Austin Child Guidance Center
(512) 451-2242
www.austinchildguidance.org

Children's Partnership
(512) 854-5022
thechildrenspartnershiptx.com

LifeWorks
(512) 735-2400
www.lifeworksaustin.org

SafePlace
(512) 267-7233
www.safeaustin.org

Center for Child Protection
(512) 472-1164
www.centerforchildprotection.org

Texas Foster Youth Justice Project
(877) 313-3688
www.texasfosteryouth.org

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area
(512) 444-7199
www.bgcaustin.org

CASA of Travis County
(512) 459-2272
www.casatrasvis.org



TRAVIS COUNTY

OFFICE *of* CHILD REPRESENTATION

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Information for Teens
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YOUR VOICE IN COURT

1700 GUADALUPE ST., SUITE 5.700
AUSTIN, TX 78701

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 1748
AUSTIN, TX 78767

PHONE: (512) 854-7312

FAX: (512) 854-7316

<https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/criminal-justice/child-representation>

WHAT IS AN ATTORNEY?

An attorney is both your advocate and your counselor. I'm here to help you understand what is happening and make sure that your voice is heard in court.

YOUR ADVOCATE

You are my boss.

As your advocate, it is my job to fight for what is important to you and what you want.

YOUR COUNSELOR

As your counselor, I will explain the law to you, answer any questions you have and give you my best legal advice. Sometimes this means I will tell you things that you don't want to hear, but you can count on me to tell you the truth.

YOUR PRIVILEGE

When you speak with your attorney, you have what's called *attorney client privilege*. That means I can't repeat anything you tell me unless you say it's okay. The only exception to this is if you tell me that someone is being abused. I want you to be able to trust me and tell me what I need to know so I can give you the best advice. Remember, the privilege is yours. This means you are free to talk to anyone about anything. I will keep our conversations private unless you say it's okay for me to talk.

WHAT CAN MY ATTORNEY DO FOR ME?

Your attorney can help you:

- ◆ Make sure you get to attend court hearings in your case and speak to the judge in person, if you want
- ◆ Get visitation with your parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, or anyone else important to you
- ◆ Ask the court to change your placement
- ◆ Recover any possessions you need
- ◆ Request the court to review your medications if they are not helping you
- ◆ Ask the court to change your name
- ◆ Get your driver's license, social security card, birth certificate and state ID
- ◆ Get your own bank account if you are over 16 years old
- ◆ Develop an education plan that is right for you
- ◆ Make a plan for living on your own after you turn 18 years old
- ◆ Obtain copies of your school and medical records

OUR TEAM

Dylan Moench, Chief Counsel

Kelly Gourley Office Manager, Sr.

Nancy Stait, Staff Attorney

Lucie Jones Guajardo, Staff Attorney

Emmarie Foerster, Staff Attorney

Christine MacDonald, Staff Attorney

Kimberly Vincent, Staff Attorney.

JaQuoiya Colerman, Social Worker

Audra Stratman, Social Worker

Sebastian Buantello, Paralegal, Sr.

George Cruz, Paralegal, Jr.

Taylor Williams, Legal Secretary