

**ABOUT TEXAS FOSTER YOUTH  
JUSTICE PROJECT**

The FYJP is sponsored by Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. Funding comes from the Supreme Court of Texas' Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families, and the Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation.

**Texas Foster Youth Justice Project**

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**Texas Foster Youth  
Justice Project**

**Knowledge**

**Action**

**Power**



Get a lawyer you can trust from the Texas Foster Youth Justice Project. The FYJP provides free and confidential legal assistance to foster youth and former foster youth.

Do you need help:

- Staying in contact with siblings?
- Having a say in what medication you take?
- Staying in the same school?
- Getting a copy of your own records?
- Changing your name?

## **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**

You have the right to be involved in your service planning meetings. You have the right to be given a copy or summary of each service plan and service plan review.

You have the right to attend your court hearings.  
You have the right to speak to the judge.

You have the right to send and receive unopened mail. You have the right to make and receive private phone calls.

You have the right to report abuse, neglect, or exploitation without fear of punishment or retaliation.

You have the right to visit and have contact with your family, including brothers and sisters, unless specifically denied by a court of law. If the court has denied visitation, you have the right to be told why and have both the denial and the reasons documented in your record.

If you are at least sixteen years old, you have the right to keep your own money. You have the right to open a bank account.

You have many, many more rights.

## **TAKE ACTION TO KEEP YOUR RIGHTS**

**If you know your legal rights and take action based on that knowledge, you have the power to change the system. You have the power to make the system better. It's up to you to speak out so that your rights are protected.**

**If you think something isn't right, you should contact FYJP.**

### **Do you have a legal question?**

There are three ways to ask FYJP a question:

- Visit our web site at [www.texasfosteryouth.org/ask\\_legal\\_question.html](http://www.texasfosteryouth.org/ask_legal_question.html);
- E-mail us at [info@texasfosteryouth.org](mailto:info@texasfosteryouth.org); or
- Call us at (877) 313-3688.

