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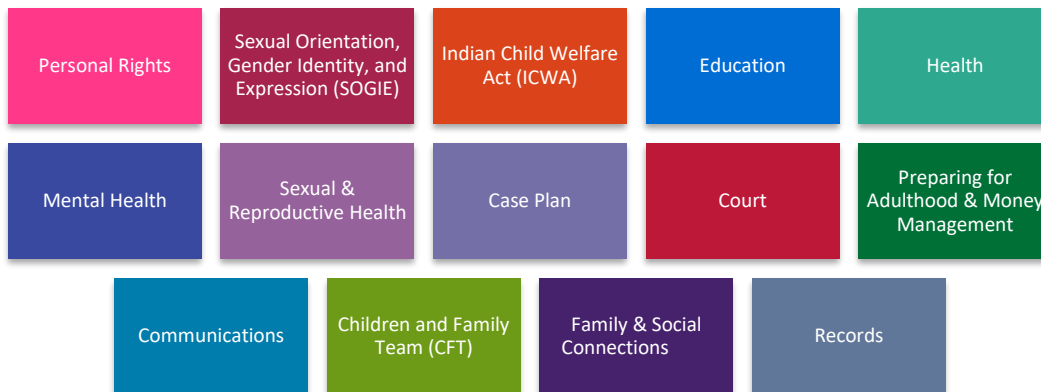
December 8, 2022

TO: Supervisor Janice Hahn, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

FROM: Arlene Barrera
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **OMBUDSPERSON FOR YOUTH IN STRTPs SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT –
JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022**

This report summarizes the Los Angeles County (County) Auditor-Controller’s Ombudsperson for Youth in STRTPs¹ (Ombuds) Program activities for the period of January 1 through June 30, 2022. We updated our report format and metrics to align with the California (CA) Foster Youth Bill of Rights (FYBoR), which became effective in January 2020.² The FYBoR (Attachment I) includes more than 40 rights in various areas impacting youth in foster care. The rights are grouped into the following 14 categories:



¹ Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs are residential facilities that provide an integrated program of specialized and intensive care and supervision, services and supports, and treatment to youth and non-minor dependents.

² FYBoR was codified CA Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 16001.9.

Summary of Activities

The Ombuds conducted in-person outreach to **212 youth**, ages **9 to 18**, during **74 site visits** at **35 agencies** and **2 school site visits**. This includes all **59 STRTP sites** that housed youth placed by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), as well as Community Treatment Facilities (CTFs), non-contracted Group Homes (GHs), and schools. Five (**17%**) of the 29 visits to STRTP-contracted agencies were conducted in partnership with the Probation Department Ombudsman (Probation Ombuds).

We also received and addressed **128 requests for assistance** during in-person visits and via the helpline (i.e., calls and e-mails). We identified common occurrences within these requests which fell in the categories of Preparing for Adulthood & Money Management, Personal Rights, and Education. We collaborated with child welfare partners to identify and apply best practices for addressing these issues in our service to the youth.

Background

In October 1998, the Board of Supervisors established the Office of the Children's Group Home Ombudsman (now known as the Ombudsperson for Youth in STRTPs) at the recommendation of the Grand Jury and Commission for Children and Families, to provide advocacy and a confidential, independent, and informal process to help youth under DCFS oversight resolve issues while in group home (GH) placement. To ensure independence from DCFS as the placing agency, the Ombuds since its inception has resided in the Department of Auditor-Controller.

How We Connect With Youth

A primary Ombuds responsibility is to meet with youth placed by DCFS in STRTPs (including CTFs) and non-contracted GHs, talk to them about their rights, and provide them the opportunity to share concerns or needs they may have, and to ensure they are aware of the Ombuds as a resource. Visits are planned so that each agency site is visited at least once every six months. Site visits are typically scheduled but may also be unannounced. If an agency does not have any DCFS youth at the time a visit is scheduled, we will reach out again before the end of the reporting period to see if any new youth have been placed by DCFS. We verbally provide youth and STRTP staff with information about the Ombuds function and the FYBoR. We also distribute age-appropriate FYBoR handbooks or coloring books and highlighters (materials) with the Ombuds helpline number printed on them.

The Ombuds also conducts visits to youth placed in non-County contracted GHs from a list provided by DCFS. DCFS relies on these GHs to place youth who have developmental disabilities or other unique needs when other County-contracted placement options have been exhausted. These youth tend to be non-verbal or have limited communication skills. The non-County contracted GHs are approved as service providers by the Regional Centers, which are community-based, non-profit agencies that contract with the CA Department of Developmental Services to provide or coordinate services and support for individuals with developmental disabilities. For these visits, we speak to those who can communicate, and leave materials for all DCFS youth.

How We Assist Youth With Their Concerns

The Ombuds receives requests for assistance through in-person visits, a confidential helpline/direct staff line, and e-mails. During this reporting period, most requests were received during in-person outreach visits. Upon receiving a request, the Ombuds interviews the youth/requester to understand the situation and to determine an appropriate response and/or course of action.

The Ombuds categorizes requests based on initial information shared by the youth/requester. The Ombuds' goal is to be accessible and to assist all requesters and youth during outreach visits, and accordingly, presumes all requests to be factual until proven otherwise through follow-up.

To properly address and resolve requests within the purview of the Ombuds, we communicate with and make referrals to DCFS, including but not limited to Children Social Workers (CSWs) and their supervisors (SCSWs), the Child Protection Hotline (CPH), Out-of-Home Care Management Division (OHCMD), Contracts Administration Division, Youth Development Services, and the Public Inquiry Unit. In addition, we collaborate with the Probation Ombuds and Placement Permanency and Quality Assurance Unit to resolve issues. We may contact attorneys, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), and entities such as STRTP/CTF/GH staff and management, Community Care Licensing (CCL), CA Office of Foster Care Ombudsperson (OFCO), school personnel, Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), and if needed, other counties, to ensure youth's requests are addressed.

We ensure youth are informed once we have discussed their request with the appropriate parties. Time frames for follow-up vary as the requests may be part of a larger or more complex issue that is not wholly within the Ombuds' purview, but all requests regardless of the duration to resolve them receive follow-up.

Outreach Activities

During this reporting period, the Ombuds conducted **74** in-person **outreach visits to 212 youth** in STRTPs, CTFs, non-contracted GHs, and schools. The youth ranged in age from **9 to 18** years old. In total, this comprised outreach to **71 sites** (three STRTP sites were visited twice), operated by 35 agencies and 2 schools as follows:

- **59 STRTP and 2 CTF sites** operated by 29 agencies
- **8 GH sites** operated by 6 non-contracted agencies
- **2 school sites** in different school districts

We visited **5 (17%)** of the 29 STRTP-contracted agencies in coordination with the Probation Ombuds.



We visited all the currently contracted STRTP agencies housing youth placed by DCFS and conducted all outreach visits in person while adhering to public health guidelines.

In addition, we expanded our outreach to two high schools in two different school districts. We selected these schools based on the number of youth placed in STRTPs enrolled in the schools. We coordinated visits with each school's Foster Youth Liaison (FYL) who informed the youth and provided a designated private room on campus for those who wanted to meet with us. These outreach visits were scheduled during times the FYL recommended to minimally disrupt, if at all, the student's classroom instruction. This allowed the youth to meet us in a setting outside of their residential placement and provided an additional opportunity to connect with us in person. The two school visits were effective and will be incorporated, along with other schools, in our future visit schedule. Frequent and consistent interactions are essential for rapport-building with the youth, as well as to help them retain information about and exercise their rights.

Attachment II details the summary of Outreach Visits Conducted.

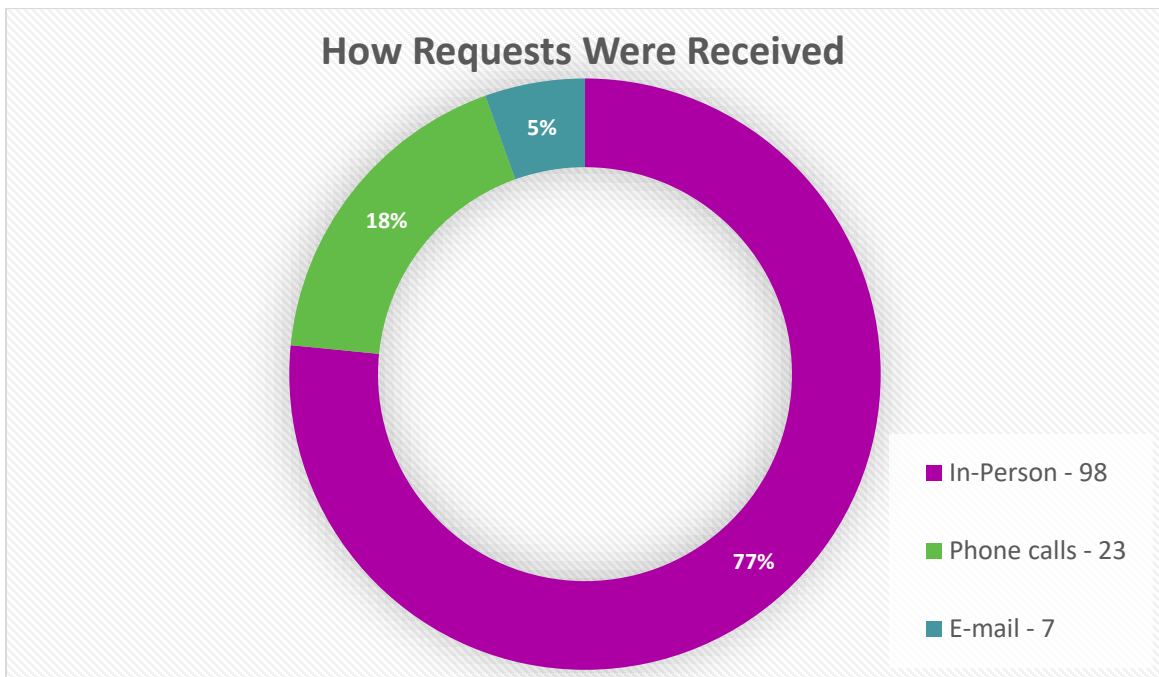
Additional Outreach Request by DCFS

DCFS requested that the Ombuds conduct outreach visits to youth placed in a Transitional Housing Placement Program – Non-Minor Dependent (THPP-NMD) agency. DCFS wanted a neutral contact for the youth to share any concerns, and this aligned with the Ombuds function. The Ombuds scheduled visits with some THPP-NMD youth that were in close physical proximity to STRTP visits already calendared. However, not all scheduled visits were realized as unexpected circumstances arose for some youth (e.g., work schedule change, medical care, conflicting plans). The Ombuds made contact (i.e., phone calls, texts, visits) with some youth and provided help and answered questions as needed. To conclude this, the Ombuds met with and reported back to DCFS Supportive Housing Division about the requests and for any further action needed.

Requests for Assistance Activities

The Ombuds received a total of **128 requests for assistance**. In speaking with youth about their rights during our outreach visits, some requests were prompted by a new or better understanding of their rights. Requests for assistance arose from the following interaction types:

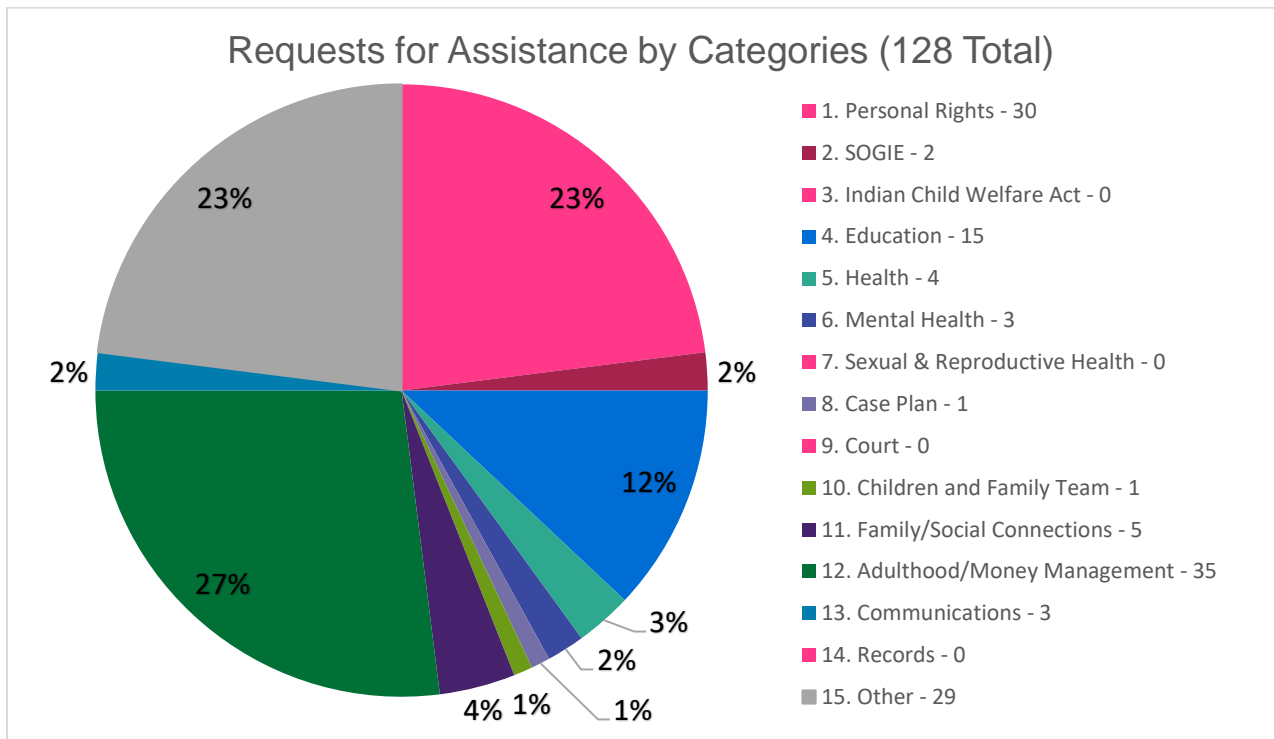
- 98 during in-person visits (77%)
- 23 by phone calls (18%)
- 7 via e-mails (5%)



Most requests were from in-person visits, and some youth had multiple requests:

- 92 requests were made by 70 youth during in-person visits to agencies
- 6 requests were made by 5 youth during in-person visits to schools

The chart below details requests received in each category:



The three categories associated with the FYBoR with the most requests for assistance were:

\$ Preparing for Adulthood & Money Management (27%)
 In this category, examples of requests included:

Needing Vital Documents	Opening a Bank Account	Connection to Independent Living Program (ILP)	Status of ILP Check
Status of Transitional Housing Application	Referral to Job Program, Individualized Transition Skills Program	Assistance with Free Application for Federal Student Aid	

We received 35 requests related to Preparing for Adulthood & Money Management. For example, 12 requests were about obtaining vital documents (e.g., birth certificates, Social Security cards, and Identification cards) and opening a bank account. The Ombuds began to gather information from youth and agencies, and several reported youth did not have all their vital documents due to some barriers (e.g., obtaining birth certificates from other counties, states, or countries, banks not opening accounts to minors without an adult co-signer, and varying practices to initiate the process). We partnered with DCFS, STRTPs, and other agencies to assist youth in this area.

These requests highlight the ongoing need to ensure youth in foster care have access to vital records to support their transition to adulthood. In support of Board of Supervisors' motions from August 10, 2021, and January 11, 2022, ensuring youth in foster care have access to identifying documentation, our partnership with DCFS will continue to ensure youth in STRTPs, CTFs, and non-contracted GHs have their vital documents and have the ability to open bank accounts.



Personal Rights (23%)

In this category, examples of requests included:

Receiving
Allowance

Having
Enough
Clothing

Being Treated
with Respect

Having
Emotional
Safety

While agencies and staff generally provide trauma-informed care and provide supportive homes for the youth, there were eight (8) reported instances of a lapse in these practices. Specifically, these youth shared occasions when staff made disparaging comments to them, used profanity towards them, or implied the youth's own behavior is why they are in foster care. The comments or actions of one staff can change the environment and affect the youth's sense of emotional safety. Some youth expressed being comfortable reporting this to us and sometimes felt they would not be believed if they shared this information with other adults.

For these requests, our office reported the allegations to CPH, CCL, and DCFS per established protocols. We also followed up with the youth to see if the environment improved and if they had any other concerns. In addition, we followed up with the respective agencies about the outcomes and shared information with the necessary partners as well as with the youth.



Education (12%)

In this category, examples of requests included:

Attending School
Of Origin (SOO)
or New School

Transportation
to School

Education Rights
Holder (ERH)
Information

Best Interest
Determination
Meeting

We received 15 requests relating to education, which included a variety of topics. Some youth wanted to attend their SOO after their placement changed, but were told there was no transportation available or the school was too far. Attending the SOO is a youth's right if their ERH agrees. Some youth missed days of school when they changed placements, rather than being transported to SOO until a meeting was held to determine what school is in the best interest of the youth. Some youth wanted to change schools but were unaware of how to accomplish this. Also, there were youth who did not know who their ERH was, so they requested assistance with obtaining this information.

With each of these requests, the Ombuds informed youth about their education rights, the related processes, and approvals needed to change schools. We explained the ERH's role and authority over education decisions so they would be able to have informed conversations about their education or school placement. In addition, the Ombuds contacted youth's attorneys from Children's Law Center and/or their CSWs to discuss these concerns so that they could also follow up in court hearings or team meetings respectively.

Other Requests

There were 29 (23%) requests made by youth that were not related to the FYBoR. Examples of such requests include:

- Assistance retrieving personal belongings from prior placement
- Status of their placement change
- Request to change their attorney, CASA, or CSW
- Issues with other residents

Attachment III details all the Requests for Assistance Received By Type.

Requests Seeking Information Only

Our office also receives inquiries from individuals seeking information not related to the Ombuds function. Based on our "no wrong door" policy, we documented the requests, provided an answer, or directed the requester to an appropriate party to address their inquiry. These requests are only noted here, and not included in the statistical data.

Youth Voice

Each youth residing in an STRTP, CTF, or GH has a unique personal experience. Their requests may be reflective of a challenge they are facing in any aspect of their life, including within their current placement, at school, with the child welfare system in general, or relating to something else.

During an outreach visit, one youth approached us with multiple requests for assistance. He was newly placed with the agency and was trying to navigate what he needed. First, he stated he did not want to attend his CFT because there were too many people in the meeting. He understood they were all part of his support team, but it made him uncomfortable.

The Ombuds explored options with the youth and the STRTP, and they agreed the best solution was to have only one or two people present during the CFT with the youth. He could discuss what he wanted and then leave the meeting. After, other support team members could join the meeting. This was an effective way to conduct the CFT that best met the youth's needs.

In addition, the youth wanted to attend continuation school, receive a list of doctors who could prescribe testosterone to transgender youth, and learn about placements with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and/or Questioning (LGBTQ+) caregivers. These additional requests were shared with the agency, the youth's CSW, and DCFS' Office of Equity for further discussion and necessary referrals.

Collaboration for Improved Practices

We continued to expand awareness of our Ombuds program by reaching out to child welfare partners inside and outside the County. We met with individuals from the following agencies to discuss ways to collaborate and better serve youth in STRTPs:

- DCFS Deputy Directors over Regional Offices
- DCFS Education Section
- DCFS Housing Division
- Child Welfare Policy Associate Director from Children Now about the Family Urgent Response System
- LACOE Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program

We also partnered with the Alliance for Children's Right's Education Section (Alliance). The Alliance began to conduct outreach visits to STRTPs to talk to the youth about their Education Rights. We joined them on their first visit in May 2022, and plan to conduct more joint visits together in the future.

In addition, since Ombuds work is specialized, strengthening partnerships with those in the same field is invaluable. During this reporting period, we regularly communicated with the OFCO to address specific or overlapping requests and discussed themes in our work. On a broader scale, we participated monthly in the United States Ombudsman Association (USOA)'s Children and Families Chapter Meetings. These led to individual meetings with other jurisdictions and being part of the USOA Mentorship Program. This forum provides an opportunity to learn about Ombuds work with child welfare agencies across the country, and increase knowledge about best practices, trends, tracking, and reporting etc. that may be incorporated in our work.

Index of Attachments

- Attachment I:** Foster Youth Bill of Rights
Attachment II: Outreach Visits Conducted
Attachment III: Requests for Assistance Received by Type

Acknowledgment

We thank management and staff from the various STRTP, CTF, and GH agencies, schools, the Probation Ombuds, DCFS, and other child welfare partners, for their cooperation and assistance in helping us address the needs of youth served by the Ombuds.

If you have any questions or need additional information please call me, or your staff may contact Michelle Day, Ombudsperson, at (213) 253-0117 or via e-mail at mday@auditor.lacounty.gov.

AB:OV:RGC:GH:MD

Attachments

c: Fesia A. Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
Celia Zavala, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Brandon T. Nichols, Director, DCFS
Honorable Michael Nash, Executive Director, Office of Child Protection
Dr. Adolfo Gonzales, Chief Probation Officer
Dr. Erica Reynoso, Acting Director, Youth Commission
Special Audit Committee
Children's Deputies
Commission for Children and Families
Board and Commission Relations/Public Inquiry, DCFS
Contract Administration Division, DCFS
Out-of-Home Care Management Division, DCFS
Placement Permanency and Quality Assurance, Probation
Probation Ombudsman
CA Office of Foster Care Ombudsperson
Countywide Communications

FOSTER YOUTH BILL OF RIGHTS



Personal Rights

You have the right to live in a safe, comfortable home where you are treated with respect and to have:

- enough clothes and healthy food
- clothing, grooming, and hygiene products that respect your culture and ethnicity
- a private place to keep your things
- a phone you can use to make private calls (unless a judge says you cannot)
- a caregiver that has special training on trauma and ways to help you

You have the right to:

- go/not go to religious services and activities of your choice
- participate in cultural, racial, ethnic, personal enrichment, and social activities
- fair and equal access to all available foster care services, placements, care, and benefits

No one can:

- lock you in a room or a building (unless you are in a community treatment facility)
- make you stay in juvenile hall because they can't find you a home
- use law enforcement as a threat or retaliation
- abuse you physically, sexually, emotionally, or exploit you for any reason
- punish you by physically hurting you for any reason
- look through your things unless they have a reasonable or legal reason
- treat you unfairly because of your race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental or physical disability, HIV status, or membership in a federally recognized Indian tribe



Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression (SOGIE)

You have rights to protect your SOGIE. You have the right to:

- live in a home or STRTP based on your gender identity
- be called by your chosen name and gender pronouns
- see a doctor or counselor who is gender affirming
- have clothing, grooming, and hygiene products that respect your gender identity and expression
- have a caregiver, social worker/probation officer, and lawyer that have been trained on SOGIE and how to care for LGBTQ+ youth
- keep your SOGIE information private



Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

Are you a member, or could you be a member, of a federally recognized Indian tribe?

You have the right to:

- live in a home or STRTP that maintains the social and cultural standards of your Tribe and tribal community
- live in a home of your relatives or extended family or a home that is licensed, approved, or specified by your Tribe
- live in an Indian foster home that is licensed or approved, or a facility that is approved by your Tribe or an Indian organization that meets your needs
- live in a place that reflects and keeps you connected to the cultural and social standards of your Tribe and/or tribal community
- contact your ICWA advocate and have them attend court
- contact your Tribe, tribal members, and Indian community
- have a social worker/probation officer, and lawyer who is trained in ICWA
- participate in traditional Native American religious practices
- get help becoming a member of an Indian tribe or Alaskan village
- get all the benefits that come from being a member of an Indian tribe or Alaskan village
- be free from discrimination and be recognized for your relationship with an Indian Tribe or Alaskan village
- have protections for your tribal relationship in your case plan



Education

You have school rights. You have the right to:

- go to school every day
- get help with school
- stay at your same school if it's best for you
- enroll right away at a new school
- get partial credits for all classes you were passing if you change schools
- go to after-school activities
- have priority enrollment in pre-school and after-school programs
- have priority enrollment at California State Universities and community colleges
- access information about college and career education programs



Health

You have health rights. You have the right to:

- see a doctor, dentist, eye doctor, or talk to a counselor when you need to
- see a doctor who is gender affirming
- refuse to take any medicines, vitamins, or herbs, and no one can punish you for it
- keep your medical records private
- have the risks/benefits of treatment explained to you in a way that is easy to understand



Mental Health

You have mental health rights too. You have the right to:

- keep your mental health records private
- get gender affirming mental health treatment
- work with your doctor to safely stop taking psychotropic medication
- refuse to take psychotropic medication, and no one can punish you for it
- know about your diagnosis and understand treatment options
- get help with an alcohol or drug problem without permission
- get mental health services in a place that meets your needs
- if you are 12 years or older, choose your own doctor or counselor and make decisions about your mental health treatment



Sexual & Reproductive Health

You have sexual health rights too. You have the right to:

- get information about your sexual health in a way that you understand
- use or refuse services for birth control, condoms, other types of protection, and pregnancy care, including abortion, without telling an adult
- get healthcare services for sexual assault without telling an adult
- if you are 12 years or older, choose your own doctor or counselor and make decisions about preventing, testing, or treating STIs and HIV without permission from any adult



Case Plan

You have the right to:

- help create your case plan
- have a case plan within 60 days of being in foster care
- have your case plan updated at least every 6 months
- be told of any changes to your case plan
- get a copy of it if you are age 10 and older
- have your Tribe involved in case plan decisions

Your case plan will have:

- health and education plans
- the best place for you to live
- the services you need
- a long-term plan for where you will live
- gender-affirming healthcare plans
- plans for visitation with your parents and siblings
- transition to independent living plan (TILP), if you are 16 or older



Court

You have rights at court too. You have the right to:

- be told about court hearings in writing
- go to court and talk to the judge
- tell the judge what you want to have happen in your case
- tell the judge how you feel about your psychotropic medications
- ask the judge for visits with your siblings
- request a hearing if you feel like your lawyer is not acting in your best interest
- ask for people to be in the courtroom or ask for people to leave
- keep your court records private (unless the law says otherwise)
- tell the judge how you feel about your family, lawyer, and social worker/probation officer
- a lawyer, separate from your parents and the county

Your lawyer must:

- keep what you tell them private
- have special training on ICWA and SOGIE
- make sure you are safe and have the services and supports you need
- tell the judge what you want to have happen
- answer questions you have about court, foster care, and other laws



Children and Family Team (CFT)

You have the right to a CFT. You have the right to:

- request CFT meetings
- have support people at your CFT meeting
- talk about your needs in the CFT meeting
- a CFT meeting within 60 days of entering foster care
- a CFT meeting every 6 months
- a CFT meeting at least every 90 days if you are in an STRTP or in a therapeutic foster home
- a CFT meeting at least every 90 days if you are getting certain types of services
- a CFT meeting when any changes are going to be made to your case plan



Family and Social Connections

You have the right to:

- visit and contact your parents, siblings, and other family members in private (unless a judge says you cannot)
- contact people who are not in the foster care system (like friends, church members, teachers, and others), unless a judge says you cannot



Preparing for Adulthood and Money Management

You have the right to do some things on your own. You have the right to:

- have an allowance
- your own bank account (unless your case plan says you cannot)
- learn job skills for your age
- work (unless the law says you are too young)
- earn, save, and manage your money (unless your case plan says you cannot)
- go to Independent Living Program (if you are old enough)
- beginning at age 14, get a credit report every year from 3 major reporting agencies and have help fixing any issues



Communications

You have the right to:

- use a phone to make and get confidential (private) calls
- use a computer and the internet
- privately use email, text messages, or other electronic communication
- send and receive unopened mail

These rights can be changed if there is a safety concern. Only a judge can take these away or stop you from communicating with certain people.

You have the right to contact the following people in private, and no one can stop you or punish you for speaking with them:

- your social worker/probation officer
- your lawyer
- service providers
- foster youth advocates and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs)
- Education Rights Holder
- Tribe (if you have one)
- Office of Foster Care Ombudsperson (OFCO)
- Community Care Licensing Division (CCL)



Records

You have the right to see and get a free copy of the following until you are 26:

- medical records
- child welfare records
- juvenile court records
- educational records

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY OMBUDSPERSON FOR YOUTH IN STRTPs
OUTREACH VISITS**

January 1 through June 30, 2022

Agency Visited	NC	JO	SCH	Site Location(s) Visited
1st Supervisorial District				14
Bella Vista at Taylor Group Home	X			•Montebello
Eggleston Youth Center				•Baldwin Park (2) •Pomona ¹
Garces Residential Care				•Claremont
Heritage				•Phillips Ranch •West Covina (2)
Hope House	X			•El Monte (2)
Luvlee's Residential Care, Inc., dba New Dawn				•Walnut
San Gabriel Children's Center		X		•Azusa (2)
St. Anne's Family Services ²		X		•Los Angeles
2nd Supervisorial District				21
Dangerfield Institute of Urban Problems				•Los Angeles (4)
Dream Home Care, Inc.				•Carson (2)
Fleming & Barnes, Inc., dba Dimondale Adolescent Care				•Carson •Gardena •Hawthorne
Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys				•Compton (2)
Humanistic Foundation, Inc. dba New Concept				•Los Angeles
I am Safe	X			•Los Angeles
Mindful Growth Foundation				•Los Angeles
Virtuous Woman, Inc./Project Destiny Home of Hope				•Los Angeles (2)
Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services STRTP				•Los Angeles
Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services Community Treatment Facility				•Los Angeles
Wayfinder Family Services	X			•Los Angeles (3) ³
3rd Supervisorial District				3
Optimist Boys Home & Ranch, Inc.		X ⁴		•Mission Hills •Van Nuys
Rancho San Antonio				•Chatsworth
4th Supervisorial District				5
Dream Home Care, Inc.				•Torrance
Fleming & Barnes, Inc., dba Dimondale Adolescent Care		X		•Long Beach
Rite of Passage Adolescent Treatment Center, Inc.				•San Pedro •Torrance
Starview Adolescent Center Community Treatment Facility				•Torrance
5th Supervisorial District				19
Bourne, Inc.		X ⁵		•Altadena (3) •Pasadena
Five Acres				•Pasadena (2)
Fleming & Barnes, Inc., dba Dimondale Adolescent Care				•Lancaster (4)
Hathaway-Sycamores Child & Family Services dba The Sycamores				•Altadena
Haynes Family of Programs				•La Verne
Heritage				•La Verne •San Dimas
Hillsides Home for Children				•Pasadena
McKinley Children's Center/McKinley Boys Home				•La Verne
Pasadena High School			X	•Pasadena
San Dimas High School			X	•San Dimas
Zoe International dba Zoe Home for Youth				•Acton

Agency Visited		NC	JO	SCH	Site Location(s) Visited
Out of County	County				9
Mary's Shelter dba Mary's Path ²	Orange				•Santa Ana
Rite of Passage Adolescent Treatment Center, Inc.	Orange				•Placentia
Boys Republic	San Bernardino				•Chino
Eggleston Youth Center	San Bernardino				•Upland
Fields Comprehensive Youth Services	San Bernardino				•Rancho Cucamonga •Upland
Shirley's Home	San Bernardino	X			•Ontario
Small Steps	San Bernardino	X			•Rialto
Trinity Youth Services	San Bernardino				•Apple Valley

TOTAL 71

Footnotes:

NC = Non-Contracted Group Home Agency/Regional Center Providers

JO = Joint Outreach Visit with the Probation Ombuds

SCH = School Outreach Visit

¹ Visited twice; once with the Alliance for Children's Rights about Education Rights

² Visited twice

³ Includes distribution of materials even if youth unavailable to meet/non-verbal

⁴ Van Nuys site only

⁵ Pasadena site only

LOS ANGELES COUNTY OMBUDSPERSON FOR YOUTH IN STRTPs
REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE RECEIVED*
BY TYPE

January 1 through June 30, 2022

Foster Youth Bill of Rights (FYBoRs)

	1. Personal Rights	30
	2. Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression (SOGIE)	2
	3. Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)	0
	4. Education	15
	5. Health	4
	6. Mental Health	3
	7. Sexual & Reproductive Health	0
	8. Case Plan	1
	9. Court	0
	10. Children and Family Team (CFT)	1
	11. Family & Social Connections	5
	12. Preparing for Adulthood & Money Management	35
	13. Communications	3
	14. Records	0
	FYBoRs Total	99
	15. Other	29
	Total Requests Received by Ombudsperson	128

**Requests are categorized based on the initial allegation as described by the youth/caller.*