



## Have you been involved in the child welfare system and want to improve the system?

Do you want your voice to be heard?

**Become an advocate with Youth Fostering Change!**

**What is Youth Fostering Change (YFC)?** YFC is a group of young people who have been involved with the child welfare/foster care system. YFC works with Juvenile Law Center to create a campaign that improves the lives of youth who have been in the system. **Juvenile Law Center** is the oldest non-profit, public interest law firm for children in the country.



**What does YFC do?** Each year, Youth Advocates learn how the child welfare system works and, based on this information and their own experiences, create a project to improve the system. As part of their campaign, Youth Advocates present their experiences, opinions, and project to different child welfare officials and workers such as judges, lawyers, DHS workers, social workers, and policymakers to promote their ideas for change.

**How often do Youth Advocates meet?** Youth Advocates meet for workshops once a week from October to June and as needed. Workshops last 2 hours and first year advocates are paid \$10.00 per hour. Youth Advocates are required to attend and participate in each session.

**Are Youth Advocates paid?** Yes! Youth are paid for each session and receive stipends for additional work. Each year advocates complete a year they receive a raise.

**How do I become a Youth Advocate?** Fill out the application and drop it off or mail it to Marcia Hopkins at Juvenile Law Center, 1315 Walnut Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107. You can also email your application to [cmoffa@jlc.org](mailto:cmoffa@jlc.org) or [mhopkins@jlc.org](mailto:mhopkins@jlc.org) or fax it to 215-625-2808.



**Applications are due on August 31, 2019**

Please contact Marcia Hopkins at [mhopkins@jlc.org](mailto:mhopkins@jlc.org) or Cathy Moffa at [cmoffa@jlc.org](mailto:cmoffa@jlc.org) or at 215-625-0551 for more information, or go to our website <http://jlc.org/current-initiatives/transition-adulthood/youth-advocacy-programs>

*Please note that you MUST have been involved in the child welfare system in order to*



## Youth Advocate Application

### Final Deadline August 31, 2019

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Gender pronoun(s) \_\_\_\_\_

[Common examples of gender pronouns are: She/Her/Hers; He/Him/His; or

They/Them/Theirs.]

**Additional Contact:** Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently attending school?  Yes  No

If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently working?  Yes  No

If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Have you ever been involved with the child welfare/foster care system (DHS)? **Please note that all YFC members MUST have experience with the child welfare system.**

Yes  No

2. Have you lived in any of these settings? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

Foster Home  Group Home  SIL or SSIL  I have not live in any of these settings

Kinship Care     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why do you want to be in Youth Fostering Change, which is a group that wants to make improvements to the foster care system? *Please write a few sentences or bullet points.*

4. What is something about your experience in foster care that you would like to change for other youth? How would you change it? *Please write a few sentences or bullet points.*

5. Do you have any leadership or public speaking experience? If so, please explain in complete sentences.

6. Do you have any work, volunteer, or extracurricular experience? If so, please explain in complete sentences.

7. Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

Please check ALL of the times and days of the week that you ARE available to meet:

**MONDAYS:** 4-6pm

**TUESDAYS:** 4-6pm

**WEDNESDAYS:** 4-6pm

**THURSDAYS:** 4-6pm

**FRIDAYS:** 4-6pm

Submit applications to: Marcia Hopkins at Juvenile Law Center by e-mail [mhopkins@jlc.org](mailto:mhopkins@jlc.org), or [cmoffa@jlc.org](mailto:cmoffa@jlc.org) or fax (215-625-2808), or mail/in person Juvenile Law Center, 1315 Walnut Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

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