

Recommendations

1. Empower Youth to be Meaningfully Engaged in Court

Youth should be given opportunities to communicate their concerns by: allowing youth to speak up, having their lawyer to speak on their behalf, or by sharing a written statement.

2. Judges, Attorneys and Case Workers should remove barriers to older youth attending court.

Ensure youth can attend court by providing transportation, making sure youth are aware of their court date, and major decisions being made.

Schedule court hearings that work with the youth's schedule.

3. Provide Youth with Opportunities to Prepare for Court

Older youth should be given a court room tour and introduction.

Attorneys should use the Youth Fostering Change Court Prep Form to help youth identify their needs and successes before court.

Youth should be given the Youth Fostering Change Court Empowerment Card which provides youth with information about their rights and tips for participating in court.

