



## 2005 LOS ANGELES FOSTER CARE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

### *Sponsoring Organizations*



**The Alliance for Children's Rights**  
protecting the future of all children

**The Alliance for Children's Rights** - - The Alliance for Children's Rights is a free legal services organization focused solely on protecting the rights of impoverished, abused and neglected children in Los Angeles County – children in foster care, children with educational disabilities, children who need healthcare or public benefits, and children in need of legal guardianship or adoption. Since its founding in 1992, The Alliance has helped more than 35,000 children get the support and services to which they are entitled.



**The Association of Community Human Service Agencies** -- ACHSA, whose beginnings date back to 1955, today represents more than 70 nonprofit community agencies that provide a wide range of child welfare, mental health, and juvenile justice services for vulnerable individuals and families in Los Angeles County. ACHSA is committed to building healthy individuals, families, and communities through advocacy in pursuit of more effective service delivery systems within Los Angeles County.



**Casey Family Programs** – Casey Family Programs LA County Field Office offers two programs: The Pasadena Alumni Support Center, a transition center that offers services and support to foster youth age 13-25 and the Kinship in Action Program in partnership with the Community Coalition, a community- based advocacy and referral service where relative caregivers learn to navigate public bureaucracies, offer support groups, and obtain needed services.



**Children's Law Center**  
of Los Angeles

**Children's Law Center** - - Children's Law Center of Los Angeles, formerly Dependency Court Legal Services, Inc., is a nonprofit, public interest law corporation created over a decade ago and funded by the Los Angeles Superior Court to serve as appointed counsel for the County's abused and neglected youth. With a dedicated and passionate 180 person staff of lawyers, paralegals and investigator/social workers, Children's Law Center serves as the "voice" in the foster care system for over 20,000 children under the jurisdiction of the dependency court.



**Court Appointed Special Advocates** - - A CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) is a specially trained volunteer, appointed by a judge to gather information about the circumstances of specific children in foster care. A CASA submits written reports and makes recommendations to the court, and advocates in court and in the community in the best interests of the child. CASA of Los Angeles recruits, trains and supervises CASA volunteers in adherence with national standards, state law, and state and local rules of court.



**Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors** - - The Board of Supervisors is the governing body for Los Angeles County, one of the nation's largest counties with 4,084 square miles and a population of 9,902,700 million. The County provides child welfare services for its residents, along with law enforcement, public health protection, public social services, parks and recreation, and diversified cultural activities.



**Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council** -- The Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council - a countywide public/private collaborative - is dedicated to improving the lives of children and families by encouraging partnerships, promoting the use of data, developing resources and tools, and emphasizing the importance of outcomes and results.



**The Los Angeles County Commission for Children and Families** -- The Los Angeles County Commission for Children and Families was created in 1984 to advise the Board of Supervisors on child welfare issues and provide oversight to the Department of Children and Family Services. The Commission for Children and Families is made up 15 Board appointed volunteers to advocate on behalf of all the children under the County's supervision.



**The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services** - - The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, with community partners, provides a comprehensive child protection system of prevention, preservation and permanency to ensure that children grow up safe, physically and emotionally healthy, educated and in permanent homes.



**Los Angeles Superior Court, Juvenile Division**- - The Los Angeles Juvenile Court, Juvenile Division consists of three separate departments. The Juvenile Dependency Court which hears all cases of abused and neglected children consists of twenty full time courts, nineteen of them housed at the Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court in Monterey Park. There are currently approximately 27,000 children under the Dependency Court's jurisdiction. The Juvenile Department also consists of the Juvenile Delinquency Courts and the Informal Juvenile and traffic Courts.



**Public Counsel Law Center** - - Public Counsel is the largest pro bono law office in the nation, serving low-income children, adults, and families. Through its Children's Rights Project, Public Counsel assists children in civil legal matters such as guardianship, adoption, special education, government benefits, emancipation, teen parenting issues, immigration, mental health services, access to education and transitional services upon emancipation from foster care.



**United Friends of the Children** United Friends of the Children is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bettering the lives of foster children and to supporting former foster youth on their journey to become successful, independent adults. UFC provides foster youth with the opportunity to finish high school, find housing, attend college and build the skills necessary to support themselves. Through its programs, advocacy efforts and direct involvement with youth, UFC seeks to be a catalyst for change