

FLORIDA STATE SUPPORT NETWORK

Substantive Expertise 03-2009

	Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center	Florida Institutional Legal Services	Florida Justice Institute	Florida Legal Services	Southern Legal Counsel	Florida's Children First
CHILDREN & JUVENILE JUSTICE	Juveniles in INS detention and children who are eligible for special immigrant petitions	Juvenile conditions of confinement litigation and policy Advocacy	Juvenile conditions of confinement issues only	Administrative & legislative advocacy and impact litigation on issues relating to children's access to health, public benefits and educational services. Emphasis on children with disabilities, in foster care and children in the juvenile justice system.	Education services in adult and juvenile facilities	Focus on systemic reform of the Dependency system, with some work for youth In delinquency
CIVIL RIGHTS	For Immigrants	All issues for Prisoners, jail detainees, children/youth in juvenile facilities, adult prisons and other institutional settings, sex offenders and immigration detainees.	Prisoners & Fair Housing Matters, Constitutional rights and institutional reform, disability discrimination, and other matters on an ad hoc basis	5 th and 14 th amendments, disability, discrimination, procedural due process, fair housing	Constitutional Rights, institutional reform, Discrimination, Right to treatment, Disability, Procedural Due Process, Fair housing	For children in the care of custody of the State
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					Protection or development of affordable housing involving state and local funding programs.	
CONSUMER				Predatory lending, payday loans, title loans, fraud, unfair and deceptive trade practices, banking and financial institution regulation		Provide some education on consumer rights to youth transitioning to adulthood

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DISABILITY	Immigrants with disabilities	ADA/Section 504 of Rehab. Act for civilly committed prisoners, detainees, and children/youth in juvenile facilities or adult prisons. Social Security Disability as part of re-entry for releases prisoners. Rights of Persons with developmental disabilities in the criminal justice system.	Prisoners with disabilities, The Disabled & Fair Housing Act cases; Zoning Challenges	Application of the ADA to Medicaid, public benefits, DCF and DJJ services, fair housing SSI/SSDI	ADA, Fair Housing, Federal Rehabilitation Act, Medicaid Waiver	Access to services for children in the care or custody of the State. Systemic reform of child-serving agencies
EDUCATION	Related to immigration issues	Special education and general education for children/youth in juvenile facilities or adult prisons	Educational Reform litigation	Administrative and legislative advocacy relating to interruptions in education for children with disabilities, children in foster care & children referred to the juvenile justice system .	Special Education, General & Special Education discipline, Educational reform litigation	Systemic reform concerning the provision of educational services to children in the care or custody of the State
ELDERLY		Related to prisoners and the institutionalized	Nursing home abuse/ neglect/ wrongful death cases for individuals and their estates; publishes <i>The Older Floridians Handbook: Laws and Programs Affecting the Elderly</i>	Health care and consumer fraud issues	Medicaid waiver	Some policy advocacy concerning the legal rights of relative caregivers
EMPLOYMENT	Related to Immigration issues	Barriers to employment for ex-offenders	Limited experience in the employment area, particularly as it pertains to the First Amendment; barriers to employment for ex-offenders	Employment law generally; Special expertise: Fair Labor Standards Act, Agriculture Worker, Protection Act, Labor Pool Act, Unemployment Compensation	Systemic issues related to First Amendment and the ADA	Systemic reform concerning employment opportunities for youth transitioning out of State care

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FAMILY	VAWA and other immigrant laws protecting rights of families.	Parental Rights Manual for prisoners available upon request		Policy advocacy &, representation of victims of domestic violence but primarily in policy advocacy and advice and counsel through the statewide domestic violence hotline	Problems re: distribution of child support payments collected by the state on behalf of custodial parents	Provide some education on family law matters to youth transitioning to adulthood
HEALTH	Related to immigration issues such as health benefits for immigrants	As it pertains to denial of medical care and mental health care to inmates and children/youth in the juvenile or adult prison system Treatment issues for sex offenders	As it pertains to denial of medical care and mental health care to inmates	Medicaid, Medicare (limited), children's health programs, hospital indigent care responsibilities, public health programs, prescription drug coverage, managed care	Medicaid waiver , Mental health	Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance, Medicaid Waivers primarily for children in State care or custody
HOMELESS		Criminalization of homelessness issues arising from jail and prison and homeless cycle	Impact litigation	Impact litigation and policy advocacy	Impact litigation And Criminalization of Homelessness	Systemic reform related to the educational rights of youth in State care using federal homelessness legislation: McKinney Vento
HOUSING		Fair Housing Housing restrictions for ex-offenders	Fair Housing, Limited federal housing programs	Fair housing, public housing, HOPE VI and loss of subsidized units, Florida private landlord-tenant law, Affordable housing development and financing, foreclosures	Fair housing Litigation support on challenges to policies or systemic practices of public housing authorities	Systemic reform related to availability of housing for youth transitioning out of State care

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IMIGRANTS	Full scope of substantive legal service for low income immigrants	As it relates to incarceration and detention	Conditions of confinement issues, only	Primarily in the areas of public benefits and employment protections	As it relates to constitutional rights	Systemic reform related to rights of immigrant youth in State care of custody
MIGRANTS	As it relates to immigration issues Trafficking issues with migrants, Harassment of day laborers			Extensive, nationally prominent expertise		
PRISONER	Immigrants in detention (including children)	All prisoner issues, except criminal defense and criminal appeals	All prisoner issues, except criminal defense and criminal appeals		Limited at this time to special education and provision of mental health services	Interest in the legal rights of children who are declared dependent but residing in jails, prisons and DJJ facilities
PUBLIC BENIFITS	Public benefits for immigrants	Public benefits applications and appeals as part of re-entry for current and released prisoners VA advocacy for currently incarcerated		Cash benefits , food stamps, TANF/Workforce issues, privatization/modernization, disaster services		Systemic reform on benefits available to youth in State care and custody: Medicaid, Independent Living Benefits, APD Waivers, SSI/Master Trust

Explanation of the charts:

The attached charts are a snapshot of the types of work state support programs are currently engaged in. They are also intended as an initial guide for the field on who they can call within the state support network for help on particular substantive and/or advocacy skills issues. The charts include an addendum of state support staff who serves as the initial point of contact on particular issues. Persons in the field can also call each state support offices' main office to be routed to the appropriate initial contact person. This includes requests for assistance on issues not listed on these charts.

The state support programs are intended to be a system that will not be limited by existing "expertise" but will be sufficiently flexible to respond to requests for assistance - whatever the substantive area.