

Understanding the Kindergarten IEP

for families of children born in 2021



Advocates for Children of New York
Protecting every child's right to learn



Transition to Kindergarten

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- All children born in 2021 have the right to a public-school kindergarten seat in September 2026
- Two processes for families of children with disabilities:

Kindergarten
IEP

Special Education
Program and Services

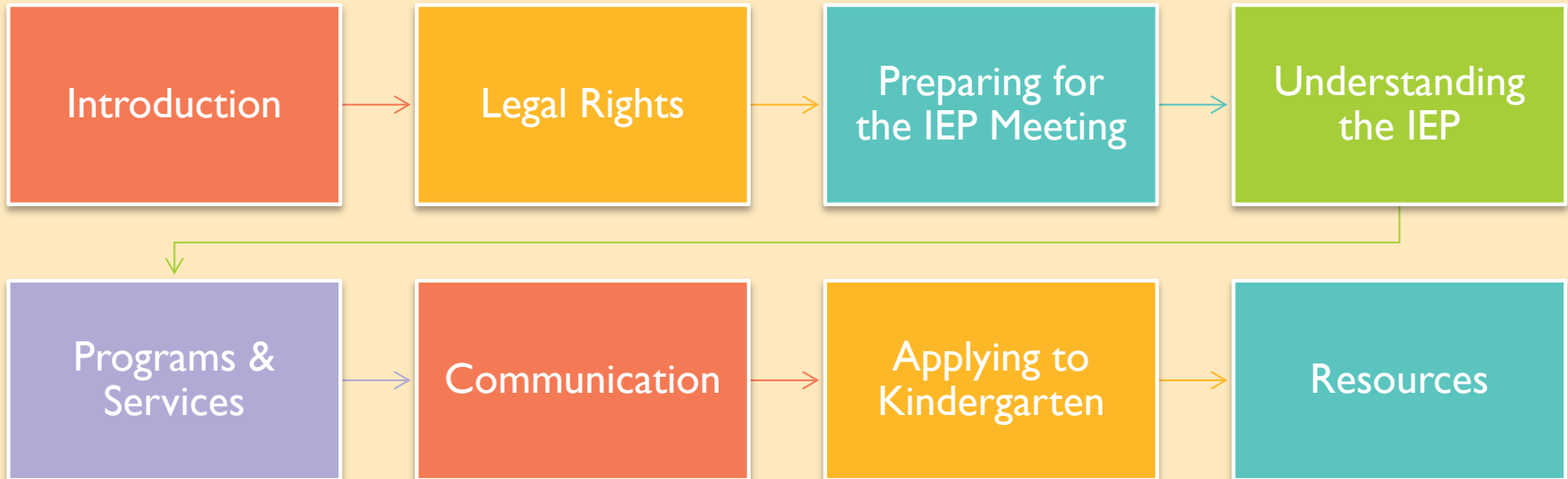
Kindergarten
Admissions

Applying to DOE
Schools



Today's Training

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**Advocates
for Children
(AFC)** is an
independent
agency that
protects the
rights of all
NYC
students.



Helpline: **1-866-427-6033**
(Mon-Thurs, 10am – 4pm)



Free legal services to low-income
families



Guides and resources:
www.advocatesforchildren.org



Workshops and trainings



Policy Advocacy and Impact
Litigation



The Law for Students with Disabilities

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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

6

IDEA: All children (through age 22*) with a disability...

Have the right to a

Free

Appropriate

Public

Education

FAPE

In the

Least

Restrictive

Environment

LRE



Trivia

An
“appropriate”
education
means one that
allows a
student to...



- a. reach their full potential**
- b. make meaningful progress**
- c. make at least some progress**
- d. attend their local school**



What is an Individualized Education Program?

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- For each student

- By the parent and professionals

Individualized

Created at meeting

Legally binding

Valid for one year

- Everything on IEP must be provided

- Reviewed annually



Preparing for the IEP Meeting

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DOE

Communication

Evaluations

Schedule
meeting

Preschool

Prepare
progress
reports

Assist families

Parents

Consider
program options

Gather records

Advocate for
child



Questions?

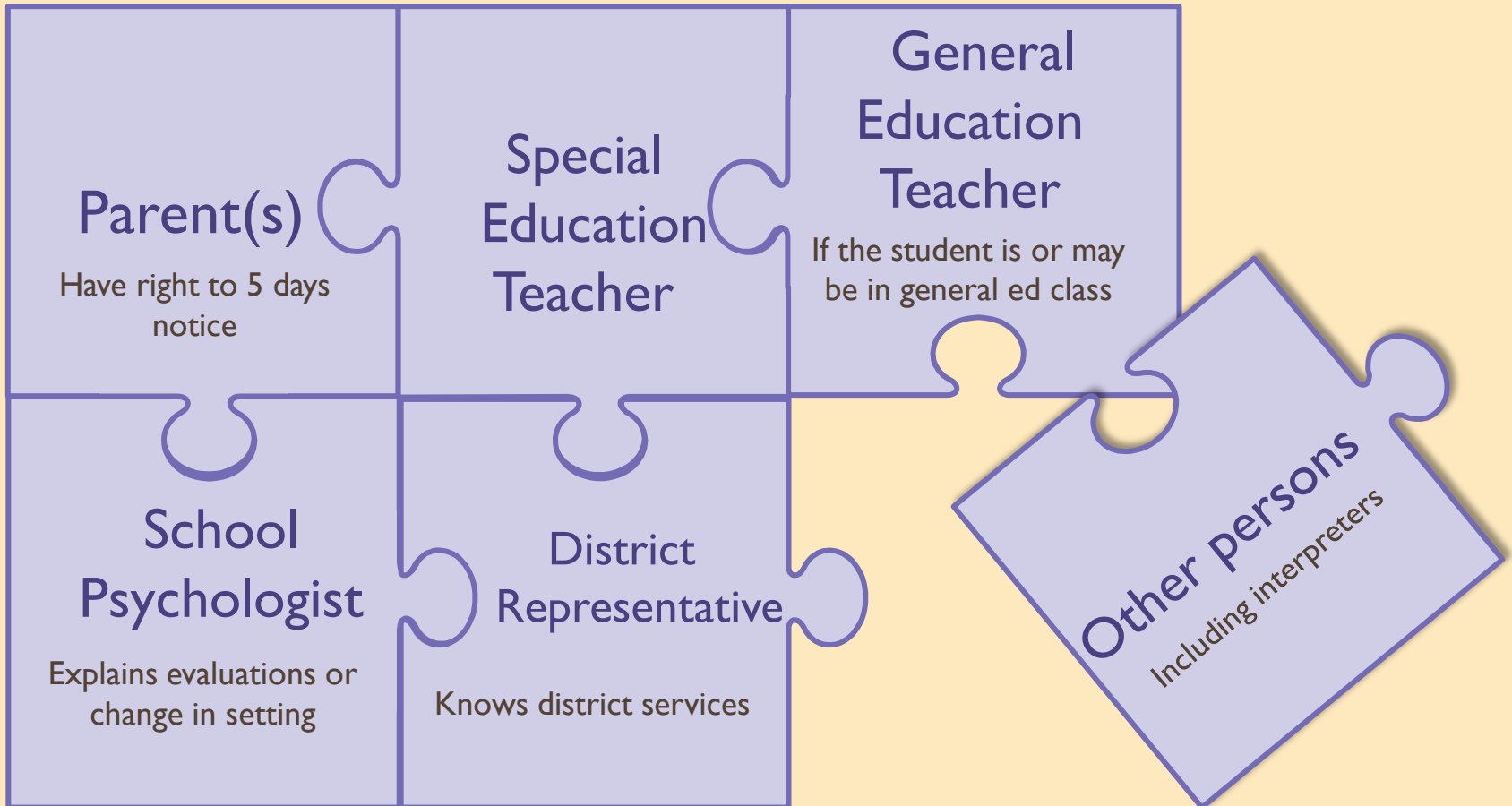




The IEP Meeting



Who is at the meeting?





Trivia

Who is not a required member of the IEP team?



- a. the parent
- b. the child's special education teacher
- c. the child's pediatrician
- d. the DOE district representative



Classifications

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Classifications of disability...

- Autism
- Deafness
- Deaf-Blindness
- Emotional Disability
- Hearing Impairment
- Learning Disability
- Intellectual Disability
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment





Important Sections in an IEP

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Present Levels
of
Performance

Annual Goals

Recommended
Program

Related
Services/
Supports

Parent
Concerns



Continuum of Services:

Programs in District 1-32 Non-Specialized Schools

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Least
Restrictive

- General Education with Supports/Services

- Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT)

More
restrictive

- Special Class in Non-Specialized School
– (self-contained) - 12:1+1; 12:1



Continuum of Services

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Getting
restrictive

- Special Class in a Specialized School (District 75)
- 12:1+1; 8:1+1; 6:1+1; 12:1+4

- State Approved Non-Public School (NPS)

- Residential Placement

More
restrictive

- Home Instruction



Trivia

If a child's preschool IEP recommends a special class, then the DOE must recommend a District 75 kindergarten placement...



- a. true
- b. false



Specialized Programs

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Bilingual ICT or
Special Class

ASD Nest &
Horizon
(Autism)

AIMS (Autism)

ACES
(Intellectual
Disability/Multiple
Disabilities)

I READ

Path (Behavior)

Barrier Free/
Accessible





Questions?





Supports & Services

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Assistive
Technology (AT)

Paraprofessionals

Counseling

Nursing

Occupational
Therapy (OT)

Physical Therapy
(PT)

Speech Therapy
(ST)

Special Education
Teacher Support
Services (SETSS)

Behavioral
Intervention Plan
(BIP)

Specialized
Transportation

Students can get these in any school setting!



Monitor Your Mail!

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Welcome Packet

(yellow)

- Fall

Notice of Referral

- January and later

Notice of Case Reassignment (pink)

- Only if case is reassigned

Prior Written Notice & IEP (white)

- After IEP Meeting

School Location Letter (green)

- Postmark by June 15

Specialized Programs Acceptance (purple)

- Only if accepted



Prior Written Notice & School Location Letter

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2/27/2017

Prior Notice Package for Placement for John Doe (123456789)



PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE (NOTICE OF RECOMMENDATION)

Date: 00/00/2018

Dear Parent or Guardian of JOHN DOE

Date of Birth: 00/00/2013 Local ID: 123456789

The purpose of this notice is to inform you, in writing, of the school district's recommendation(s) regarding the identification, evaluation, educational placement and/or provision of special education services to JOHN DOE.

SUBJECT OF THIS NOTICE: Continued Eligibility for Special Education Services and Recommended Special Education Services

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION PROPOSED OR REFUSED:

The Committee on Special Education recommends that your child be identified as having an educational disability, specifically: Speech or Language Impairment. The Committee recommends that your child receive the following educational program:

10 Month School Year

Placement
NYC DOE School Non-Specialized (District 1-32)

Special Education Services
Integrated Co-Teaching Services

Related Services / Supplementary Aids and Services / Assistive Technology
Occupational Therapy (Individual), Physical Therapy (Individual), Speech-Language Therapy(Group)

EXPLANATION OF WHY THE ACTION IS PROPOSED OR REFUSED:

At the IEP meeting held on 03/18/2018, to which you were invited, the assessments and materials identified below were reviewed and discussed and it was determined that your child meets the eligibility criteria for an educational disability as defined in Part 200 of the regulations of the Commissioner of Education. In addition, an Individualized Educational Program was developed recommending the special education services that will meet his/her educational needs.

DESCRIPTION OF EACH EVALUATION PROCEDURE, ASSESSMENT, RECORD, OR REPORT USED IN THE DECISION TO PROPOSE OR REFUSE THE ACTION:

Evaluation Procedure/Assessment/Record/ Report	Date
Classroom Observations	03/16/2018
Social History Update	03/03/2018
Psychological Update	03/01/2018

DESCRIPTION OF ANY OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND THE REASONS WHY THOSE OPTIONS WERE REJECTED:

- Options Considered:**
- General Education
 - Related Services Only



PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE (NOTICE OF RECOMMENDATION)

Dear Parent or Guardian of JOHN DOE

Student's DOB: 00/00/2013 Local ID: 123456789

Date: 06/15/2018

The purpose of this notice is to inform you, in writing, of the school district's recommendation(s) regarding the identification, evaluation, educational placement and/or provision of special education services to JOHN DOE.

SUBJECT OF THIS NOTICE: School Location

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION PROPOSED OR REFUSED:

The Committee on Special Education recommended that your child be identified as having an educational disability, specifically: Speech or Language Impairment

The Committee recommended that your child receive the following educational program.

10 Month School Year
Placement
NYC DOE School Non-Specialized (District 1-32)

Special Education Services
Integrated Co-Teaching Services

Related Services/ Supplementary Aids and Services/ Assistive Technology
Occupational Therapy(Individual), Physical Therapy(Individual), Speech-Language Therapy(Group)

You may bring your child to the following school on 09/04/2018 where he/she will receive these services:

Name: P.S. 117 J. Keld / Briarwood School
Address: 85-15 143 STREET, QUEENS, NY, 11435
Telephone Number: 718-526-4780

You may also visit this school by contacting the people listed below for assistance in arranging a visit:

Before 6/28/2018, Contact: Devoard Owens **Telephone Number:** 718-526-4780
Address: 85-15 143 Street, Queens, NY, 11435

On or after 6/28/2016, Contact: Fabiana Czemerinski **Telephone Number:** 718-557-2553
Address: 90-27 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY, 11435

EXPLANATION OF WHY THE ACTION IS PROPOSED OR REFUSED:

At the meeting held on 03/18/2016, to which you were invited, the assessments and materials identified below were reviewed and discussed and it was determined that your child meets the eligibility criteria for an educational disability as defined in Part 200 of the regulations of the Commissioner of Education. In addition, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) was developed recommending the special education and related services that will meet his/her educational needs. The school listed above was chosen because it can provide the program and services on your child's IEP.

DESCRIPTION OF EACH EVALUATION PROCEDURE, ASSESSMENT, RECORD, OR REPORT USED IN THE DECISION TO PROPOSE OR REFUSE THE ACTION:



Share Your Contact Information

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If you aren't getting mail

- Contact your CPSE Administrator or [CPSE Support Inbox](#)
- Contact your child's preschool
- After February 15th, contact KindergartenIEPPProcess@schools.nyc.gov

To request documents by email

- Share your email address and consent
- Create a NYC Schools Account when you receive the code
- Ask your DOE Representative



Language Access Rights: Translation & Interpretation

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You have the right to receive translation and interpretation services in NYC Public Schools

Spanish

French

Arabic

Chinese

Bangla

Urdu

Russian

Korean

Haitian-
Creole

Uzbek

Ukranian

Albanian

Concerns or complaints regarding language access? 📞 718-935-2200

You can also submit a complaint by completing the online form [here](#).

+ More
Languages



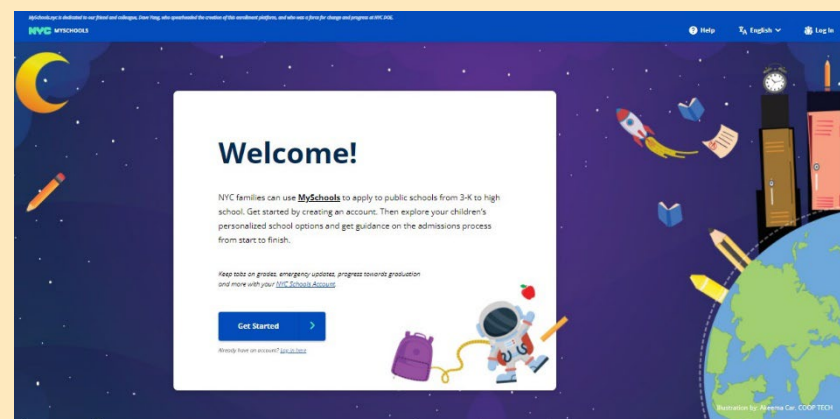
Questions?



Applying to Kindergarten

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- Apply by January 23, 2026:
 - Online at [MySchools.nyc](https://www.myschools.nyc.gov)
 - Call 718-935-2009
(Monday-Friday, 8am-6pm)
 - Visit a [Family Welcome Center](#)
- You can apply in your preferred language!





Trivia

You should apply to schools after the DOE holds your child's kindergarten IEP meeting.



- a. true
- b. false



IEP + Placement

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Check to make sure the school on your School Location Letter (SLL) can give your child their IEP services and program!





Getting Help

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DOE Representative



DOE Special Education Office

kindergartenIEPprocess@schools.nyc.gov
(can copy kindergarten@afcnyc.org)

718-935-2007



DOE Office of Student Enrollment

ESEnrollment@schools.nyc.gov

718-935-2009



Request mediation, impartial hearing, or file formal complaint

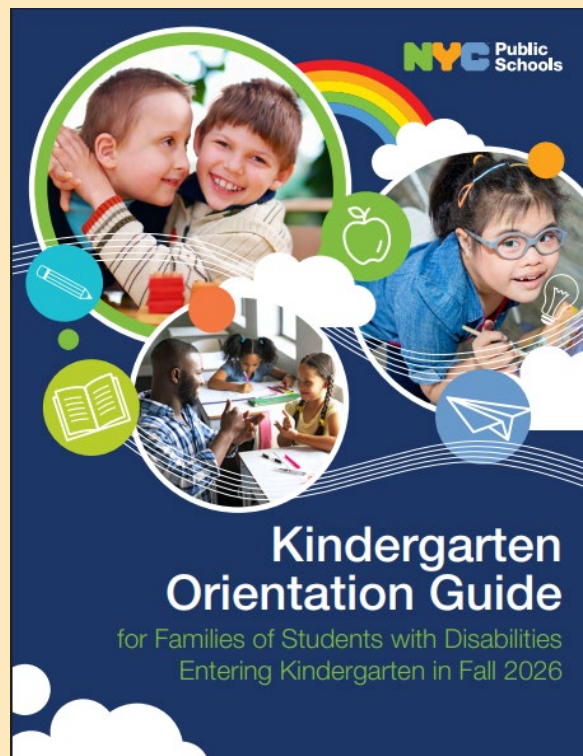


Special Education Resources

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- AFC's [Transition to Kindergarten Guide](#) & [Transition to Kindergarten Fact Sheet](#)

- DOE Resources
 - [Kindergarten Special Education](#)
 - ✦ Kindergarten Orientation Guide
 - [District 75](#)
 - [Specialized Programs](#)





Special Education Resources

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- DOE Kindergarten Orientation Meetings
 - [Live Sessions](#)
 - [Pre-recorded sessions](#)

Kindergarten Orientation Meetings

for Families of Students with Disabilities Born in 2021

LIVE WEBINAR (Online)
Please register in advance by using the registration link for the day you would like to attend.

NOV 13	DEC 2	DEC 4
THURSDAY 6:00pm—7:30pm Meeting ID: 280 804 861 892 7 Passcode: VX9Tu9ft Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/Nov13KOM	TUESDAY 9:30am—11:00am Meeting ID: 244 006 133 324 5 Passcode: kr98rf2s Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/Dec02KOM	THURSDAY 6:00pm—7:30pm Meeting ID: 284 984 923 539 3 Passcode: z8xA9Gg9 Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/Dec04KOM SPANISH ONLY

JAN 8	JAN 27
THURSDAY 9:30am—11:00am Meeting ID: 266 501 423 274 7 Passcode: Uz9Va72b Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/Jan08KOM SPANISH ONLY	TUESDAY 9:30am—11:00am Meeting ID: 222 695 244 182 3 Passcode: c8br7YM2 Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/Jan27KOM

To join the webinar using the Meeting ID and Passcode, scan the QR code or visit:
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>



Please join us to learn more about a Kindergarten Individualized Education Program (IEP), special education services for school-age students, and applying to Kindergarten!

- All meetings cover the **same** information. Families are welcome to attend any meeting that is convenient for them. **We encourage you to register in advance.**
- Meetings will begin promptly. Please log in 15 minutes early prior to start time.
- If you need interpretation for Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, or Urdu, please visit schools.nyc.gov/KindergartenSpecialEducation to view our webinar with provided closed captioning.



NYC Public Schools



Application Resources

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- AFC's [Applying to Kindergarten Guide](#)
- DOE Resources
 - [MySchools.nyc](#)
 - [schoolsearch.schools.nyc](#)
 - [schools.nyc.gov/K](#)
 - How Students Get Offers Video ➡





Advocates for Children of New York
Protecting every child's right to learn

Call us with questions!



Helpline: 866-427-6033 (toll free)
Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm

info@advocatesforchildren.org