



A project of the University of Pittsburgh:
PA Child Welfare Resource Center

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Dear YAB Members and Supporters,

It is with great excitement to announce that the youth-friendly flyers about the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act and the Reasonable Prudent Parent Standard are ready for distribution! We will be sharing the electronic version to stakeholders this week! CWRC is currently working on distributing hard copies of the posters to all counties through their assigned Practice Improvement Specialist or the county administrator. We want to apologize if you receive this information electronically twice, as we wanted to be sure that YAB Supporters and youth received it first. You can find the copies on the YAB website under our new slide show! Please distribute and display wherever youth will have access to them.

Developmentally appropriate freedoms are important to older youth in the child welfare system. They aid in the process of guiding a foster care youth toward a happy, healthy adult life. Here are some other reasons why participating in these activities benefit youth:

- It helps them feel normal.
- It builds their self-esteem and can help them cope with stress.
- It prepares them for adulthood by giving them access to safe experiences and decision making.
- Increases interactions with friends.
- Connects them to a more natural support system.

Ways to support this work!

- Train youth on the Developmentally Appropriate Freedoms Recommendations and their new rights!
- Explore the Advocacy Toolkit!
- Distribute these documents to your youth members and staff supporters.
- Coordinate opportunities to share your stories about normalcy: panels, presentations and meetings with community members.
- Share about resources with #Normalcypa from the YAB Facebook Page!

The final documents are attached!

- **Youth-Friendly Flyer Summarizing P.L. 113-183 and Act 75**
- **Youth-Friendly Flyer Summarizing the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard**

We are distributing these materials in an effort to be a part of the conversation and to be a part of youth experiencing normalcy through the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act implementation. We look forward to working and speaking with counties and organizations on this work. Please feel free to contact Barbara Huggins at bmh75@pitt.edu for more information. We look forward to working with you to achieve your goals for your regional and county YABs!

Thank you,
Barbara Huggins

The Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board (YAB) is made up of current and former substitute care youth. The purpose of the YAB is to educate, advocate, and bring about positive change in the substitute care system.