



CHILDREN'S AGENDA 2008

Priority Legislative Issues for Children and Families • 25th Release

Investment in Adolescents Preparing for Adulthood

- ❑ Quality placements, transitions and supports for vulnerable populations including abused children, teen parents, youth aging out of foster care, runaway and homeless youth, and youth leaving the juvenile justice system
- ❑ Require State standards, training, and monitoring of quality of service by appointed counsel to youth in family court proceedings.
- ❑ Permit youth sentenced as an adult to a life sentence to be considered for parole after a certain time served.
- ❑ Enact standards for assessing the competency and culpability of youth to participate in juvenile and adult criminal proceedings.
- ❑ Access to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention programs and treatment services.
- ❑ Protection from and prevention of teen dating violence

Opportunities in 2008

- Monitor Life without parole bill in House judiciary for impact on juveniles
- Monitor Quality and accountability of privatization of foster care bill
- Advocate for improvement and centralization and coordination of data on Juveniles
- Improving programs, policies, and services for youth transitioning to adulthood.
- Insuring any legislation addressing criminal penalties for gang involvement be reasonable and address community support services for at risk youth.
- Evaluate the impact and outcomes of the movement of more adjudicated youth to private non-profit services or Department of Correction facilities.
- Advocate for 3% increase in funding for runaway and homeless youth programs.

Contact MCCF members for more information:

Michigan's Children
Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency
Michigan Federation for Children and Families
Michigan Network for Youth and Families





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