

Support Summer: Help us raise \$50K to support children this summer



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Think back to your own fond summertime memories—the smell of fresh grass, ice cold lemonade, drippy popsicles. For many of us, summer reminds us of playing outside with our friends, visiting the beach or lake with family, or just a chance to relax and be kids outside of school. Sadly, that is not always the reality for many of the children we serve. **To ensure our community's children feel safe, secure, and supported this summer, we are setting a goal to raise \$50,000 by the end of June.** All donations during this time will go directly to Council's work protecting and advancing the rights of our community's children.

Support Summer Today

For the hundreds of children in foster care in our community, school can be one of the few mainstays in their routine. Summer can often be a time of unpredictability for children in foster care, many of whom don't know where their next home will be or whether they will be returning to the same school in the fall with their friends. Complications with the courts and a backed-up system can also make it difficult for foster parents to give these children normal summertime experiences, like vacations or summer camps. To support these children, **Council just launched a three-year project aimed at improving education outcomes of youth in foster care.**

For children experiencing a difficult home life, the end of the school year can feel like the end of their only relief from a stressful home. Losing the structure that school provides can dysregulate those struggling with mental health, and less supervision can result in an uptick in juvenile crime rates. **Our Children's Defense Team holistically supports these children and serves as a model for how children should be treated with respect and care when their lives intersect with the juvenile justice system.**

For children whose parents are going through a complicated divorce, it can mean even more stress in the home. Arguments over which parent they will stay with or whether mom can take them to visit her family out of state can complicate an already tense living situation. **Council's Custody Advocacy Program works with families to represent the best interests of the children in these cases and finds solutions that help get kids back to enjoying what should be carefree summers.**

Council's special legal and advocacy teams have worked for decades representing youth at the intersection of these systems, and we serve thousands of children each year. **We offer these services at no cost to children or their families, and so we rely on our generous community to make our work possible.** This June, we're asking you to help bring stability, safety, and respect to our community's children and keep summer fun by donating today:

Donate to Council

Please contact our Advancement Director Amy Vavra at amyv@cfcrights.org for more information on ways to donate and to get involved.



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