



PTI Center & Foster Youth Resources for Education

DREDF PTI CENTER

DREDF runs a Parent Training & Information (PTI) Center serving Alameda, Contra Costa and Yolo counties. Funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), PTIs serve families of children with disabilities, from birth up to age 22. PTIs assist millions of families and supporting professionals each year through one-on-one assistance, trainings and workshops.

FOSTER YOUTH RESOURCES for EDUCATION

DREDF also runs a first-of-its-kind program, Foster Youth Resources for Education (FYRE), to ensure that foster youth with disabilities have comprehensive education supports in Alameda County. Although 40% of foster youth qualify for special education, they often lack effective educational advocacy and support.



Some reasons why we do what we do.

- Prior to IDEA, U.S. schools served only 1 in 5 children with disabilities.
- Only 56% of CA children enrolled in special education graduated with a diploma in 2005.
- Only 85% of the services specified in Individualized Education Plans are being provided.
- Children who have consistent, knowledgeable advocates are most likely to receive appropriate services and supports.



Advocating for disability civil rights since 1979

DISABILITY RIGHTS EDUCATION & DEFENSE FUND
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Website: www.dredf.org

Your tax deductible gift to DREDF furthers this important work. DREDF is a 501(c)3 non-profit.



DREDF Children & Family Advocacy Program

Each year, thousands of parents struggle to secure appropriate school services for their children with disabilities. The Children & Family Advocacy Program of the Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund helps families understand the laws that apply to their children, and provides information and options for obtaining the educational help to which their children are entitled.

WHO IS DREDF?

Founded in 1979 by a unique alliance of people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities, DREDF is a non-profit national law and policy center dedicated to protecting and advancing disability civil and human rights.



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DISABILITY RIGHTS EDUCATION & DEFENSE FUND



DREDF Mission & Vision Include Rights for Children

The Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund mission is to advance the civil and human rights of people with disabilities through legal advocacy, training, education and public policy. DREDF envisions a just world where all people, with and without disabilities, live full and independent lives free of discrimination.

Disability rights are civil rights. Children with disabilities should be fully included in schools and in their communities.

Information is power. With information, families can take control of their children's education. They can work with teachers and administrators to participate knowledgeably and effectively in guiding their children's future. With knowledge, families, educators and community members have the power to improve educational results and personal and civic success for children with disabilities.



About DREDF Education Advocacy

The DREDF PTI Center and Foster Youth Resources for Education (FYRE) are staffed by Education Advocates who are parents of children with disabilities. They assist families of the nearly 46,000 children in special education in the counties we serve.

In addition, DREDF Education Advocates serve families of children with disabilities who do not qualify for special education under IDEA, but who qualify for protections under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Education Advocates also train professionals who serve children. Services are provided at no cost.

FOR ASSISTANCE OR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact DREDF or visit the web.

Phone/TTY: (510) 644-2555

Toll free: (800) 348-4232

Email: info@dredf.org

www.dredf.org/programs/family_advocacy.shtml



DREDF Education Advocacy Services

Education Advocacy empowers families and caregivers (and the people families work with) so that they:

- Become effective advocates on behalf of their children with disabilities.
- Better understand their children's disabilities.
- Effectively negotiate the special education process to ensure a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) for their children.
- Understand the law, special education, 504, and disability-related topics.
- Exercise productive options to resolve problems between families and schools.
- Connect to community resources that meet the needs of their children with disabilities.
- Boost the success of children and youth with disabilities as they make their way in the world.