

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada

Volunteer Opportunities for Non-Lawyers

Education Advocacy Program

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada needs volunteers for its **Education Advocacy Program**. The program trains and mentors non-lawyer volunteers (age 18 and up) to be a voice for foster youth in need of education advocacy. Volunteer Education Advocates take on this important role because foster care case workers are prohibited by law from doing so. Volunteering involves interacting with the student's school to ensure the student is provided with the support they need to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education. Currently, twenty-five children are on the waiting list to be matched with volunteers who will help bolster their success in school. The commitment is approximately 1 - 2 hours per month. Contact Ilka at Edadvocate@lacs.org or 702-386-1446 to discuss. Additional information can be found at https://www.lacs.org/images/LACSN_Vol.Edu.Advocate_Bch_finlo.pdf.

Educational Surrogate Parents

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada provides training and support to volunteers who are willing to become **Educational Surrogate Parents** for children with educational needs in the foster care system. Educational Surrogate Parents represent children in all matters related to identification, assessment, educational placement, and provision of free appropriate public education (FAPE). This advocacy includes attending Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, disciplinary meetings, and due process hearing pertaining to the child. Without Surrogates, these children's educational needs may get lost and misrepresented in such a large school district. To find out more about the Educational Surrogate Parent Program or to sign up for the next training session, contact Legal Aid Center at 702-386-1070 ext. 1446 or at surrogates@lacs.org, or you can visit our web, www.lacs.org, for more information.