



LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF
GREATER CINCINNATI

TeamChild

*An Innovative Partnership to
Achieve School Stability And Success*

(513) 241-9400 or (800) 582-2682

www.lascinti.org



LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF
SOUTHWEST OHIO, LLC

AN AFFILIATE OF THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

TeamChild

The most powerful predictor of juvenile crime is a child out of school.

TeamChild is an innovative partnership between Legal Aid and the Hamilton County Juvenile Court designed to promote success for youth in the juvenile justice system.

- Legal Aid lawyers and paralegals trained in education and children's law work long-term with families to promote school stability.
- Probation officers, magistrates and public defenders can refer families for consultation and advocacy when a student is involved in the juvenile justice system.
- Legal Aid attorneys conduct trainings on education law for magistrates, probation officers and social service agency staff to increase knowledge and awareness of legal issues that arise in school.
- Families can access TeamChild assistance related to other legal issues to support home and community stability.



Why TeamChild?

TeamChild advocacy helps students:

- Avoid school disciplinary removal
- Attend school
- Receive appropriate special education services
- Secure mental health assessments and supports
- Avoid new offenses in Juvenile Court



TeamChild Goals

- Promote school success for youth in the juvenile justice system
- Decrease likelihood of further involvement with juvenile delinquency
- Strengthen school and family stability



TeamChild Services

Legal Aid provides a wide range of legal services for children and youth.

- **Ensure children receive special education services:** Many children are entitled by law to services and are able to improve academic performance once these services are in place.
- **Address health and mental health needs:** Children attend school and make academic progress when barriers are removed.
- **Keep children in school:** Disciplinary removals from school are avoided or mitigated through TeamChild Advocacy.
- **Resolve additional family legal problems:** Legal Aid works to improve family and community stability by preventing a family's eviction from their home, restoring health and welfare benefits, or resolving custody issues, so a child can focus on school without the distraction of other family crises.



TeamChild Outcomes

- Return youth to school
- Prevent school removals
- Obtain special education services
- Secure mental health assessments & services
- Build trust between schools & families
- Reduce likelihood of re-offending

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Make a TeamChild Referral

Students can be referred to TeamChild by the Juvenile Court, the public defender, or a school by email to TeamChild@lascinti.org.

For more information, contact managing attorney and project director, Elaine Fink at (513) 362-2821 or efink@lascinti.org.

Para mas informacion, contacte la gestion de abogado y director del proyecto a 513-362-2821 o efink@lascinti.org.

For over ten years, the Hamilton County Juvenile Court has referred children to Legal Aid's TeamChild Project. This innovative partnership has enabled the Court to help build trust and promote school success for students involved in the juvenile justice system. TeamChild attorneys work to prevent school disciplinary removals, ensure special education services, and assist with enrollment issues so that more students attend school, benefit from needed services, and make academic progress. School attendance and achievement can open critical doors to a child's future and a pathway out of poverty. This program increases valuable opportunities for success for Hamilton County youth.

— John M. Williams, Administrative Judge,
Hamilton County Juvenile Court

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