

Educational Advocacy



Justice Resource Institute Educational Advocacy program provides a service to parents and guardians of children with disabilities that assist in securing the appropriate individualized education program and setting. Our Educational Advocates work collaboratively with the youth, families, school districts and other collaterals to identify the educational strengths and needs of students who are experiencing difficulties in the educational setting.

APPROACH: Educational Advocates understand the process, the school districts, and the right language to effectively engage schools and parents in working together to achieve appropriate supports, services and settings for students with unmet needs. As a team, our Educational Advocates help develop educational goals, review and gather records, and provide training and written materials to the families regarding the Special Education process and Individualized Education Process (IEP). The overarching goal through our intervention and identification of school issues is that children remain with their families and in their communities.

SERVICES: The aim of the Educational Advocacy program is to ensure that children with disabilities receive the appropriate services and accommodations necessary to participate in the least restrictive public education setting and receive equal educational opportunities. Our Advocates offer consultation, advocacy, parent training and direct advocacy services during Team meetings, transition planning meetings, disciplinary hearings, mediations, as well negotiating for IEP's, 504 Plans and other educational supports.

EXPERIENCE: Our Educational Advocate team consists of Master's level staff, a special educational professor, a former principal, a paralegal, an attorney, and professional staff with 10+ years of experience. Our staff specializes in Trauma Informed treatment, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Sensory Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, Social/Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities, as well as Health/Medical Disabilities. We also have the availability to service the Spanish speaking population.

REFERRALS

Educational Advocacy accepts private pay referrals as well as state social service, youth service, and mental health agency placements. We serve students ages 5-21 years old throughout Southern Massachusetts. Many of our students have challenges with Learning disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Sensory Disabilities, Serious Emotional Disturbance, Social/Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities, Health/Medical Disabilities as well as traumatic experiences and disciplinary issues at school.

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