

# DO YOU KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AS A KANSAS FOSTER YOUTH?

## YOU HAVE SCHOOL RIGHTS:

- to have all appropriate school supplies, services, tutoring, extra-curricular, cultural, and personal enrichment activities
- attend school daily
- receive your high school diploma if you have earned the 21 standard credits

## YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR PRIVACY PROTECTED AS LONG AS IT'S SAFE:

- to send and get unopened mail and phone calls (unless court ordered)
- have regular contact from and access to case managers, attorneys, and advocates and be allowed private conversations with such individuals
- workers and foster parents should share information about you that is accurate and necessary for your well being

## YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- few changes in workers as possible
- contact your worker's supervisor if you have a conflict with your worker that can't be worked out between the two of you

## YOU HAVE RIGHTS IN COURT, YOU CAN:

- when age or developmentally appropriate, be notified of all hearings
- attend all court hearings
- if you are less than 10 years old, attend all court hearings if deemed appropriate by case planning team
- go to court and tell the judge what you think about any placement or placement change that is proposed
- have your "best interests" represented in court by a GAL
- ask for a lawyer who will tell the court what you want, not necessarily your "best interest"

## WHEN AGING OUT OF CARE, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- be an active participant in developing a transition plan
- have services and benefits explained
- have a checking or savings account (when appropriate)
- learn to manage money (if right for your age, development level, and it's in your case plan)
- learn job skills for your age
- be involved in life skills training and activities

## YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN A SAFE, COMFORTABLE PLACEMENT:

- where you live in the least restrictive environment
- where you are treated with respect, have a place to store your things and where you can receive healthy food, adequate clothing and appropriate personal hygiene products
- with siblings when possible unless ordered by the court
- with a relative that should be the first placement to be investigated and considered. If family is not an option then you may request that someone from your community with similar religion or ethnic heritage be investigated and considered for placement
- to have visits with family unless ordered otherwise by the court
- with few moves as possible
- to make a list of items you want to take with you when you are placed out of home and give to your case manager
- to have all your belongings move with you
- where your belongings are packed in a suitcase or duffle bag if moved or going on a visit

## DO YOU THINK YOU ARE BEING TREATED DIFFERENTLY?

If you feel you are being harassed or treated differently for any reason that has nothing to do with your care or safety, you should call your provider's constituency services person \_\_\_\_\_ for assistance.