Know Your Rights and Responsibilities...

- We care about you and want to help you however we can.
- Use this information for important numbers to call.
- Save this information in case you ever need it, or to give to a friend.
- If there is something you don't understand, call your caseworker or supervisor.

Caseworker Name & Number:

_____

_____

Supervisor Name & Number:

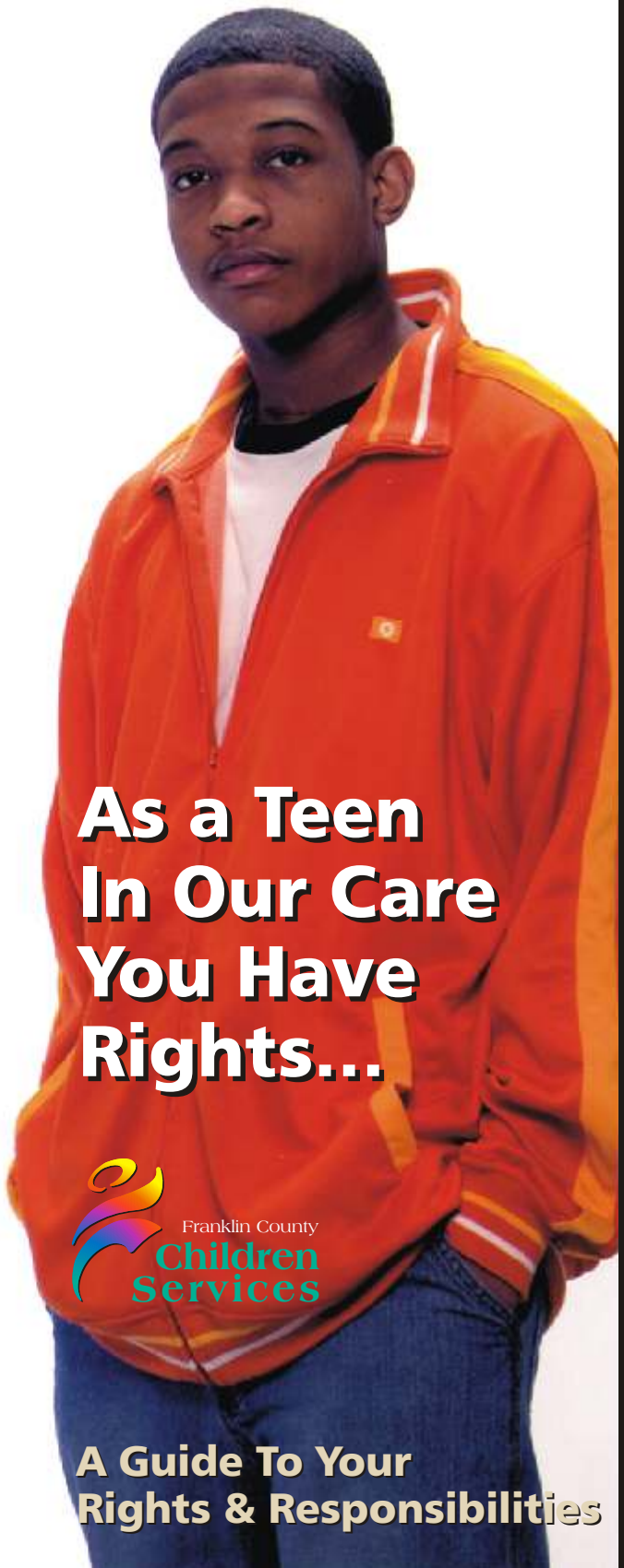
_____

_____

Franklin County Children Services

855 West Mound Street
Columbus, Ohio 43223
www.co.franklin.oh.us/children_services

(614) 275-2621
(614) 229-7000 (24 hrs.)



As a Teen In Our Care You Have Rights...

Franklin County Children Services

A Guide To Your Rights & Responsibilities

You Have Rights...

You have the right to...

- be free from harassment or discrimination because of your race, ethnicity, religion, sex, culture or sexual orientation*
- be safe...to be free from physical and sexual abuse
- live in clean, safe surroundings
- have adequate and appropriate food and clothing
- receive guidance, support and supervision from adults who care about what is best for you
- receive adequate and appropriate medical care and be free from unnecessary or excessive medication*
- attend school or participate in an education program
- enjoy freedom of thought and religion
- enjoy a reasonable amount of privacy
- be free from unnecessary restraint or seclusion*
- have your opinions heard and included – to the greatest extent possible – when decisions are being made about your life
- participate in and have a copy of your case plan.

Depending upon what it says in your case plan, you may also have the right to...

- have your own money and personal things
- communicate, via private telephone conversations and letters, with family and friends from whom you are living apart*

* The source for these rights are the Board Policies of Franklin County Children Services.

The other rights are granted through the Ohio Revised Code and the Administrative Code.

You Also Have Responsibilities...

With rights come responsibilities.
Some of your responsibilities are to:

- treat everyone with respect regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, culture or sexual orientation
- be gentle with yourself and others...don't hurt yourself and don't hurt other people
- help keep the place you live safe and clean
- make good choices about what you eat and drink, and learn how to cook for yourself
- take pride in how you look...keep yourself and your clothes clean...learn that clothes are a cover – they don't make who you are
- show respect to adults who are giving you support and guidance – even when you disagree with them
- make choices that will keep your body and mind healthy
- get the best education you can...learn skills that will help you get a job you enjoy
- choose a religious path that is right for you or choose not to be involved in religion...show respect for other people's religious choices
- learn to balance private time with social time
- learn how to share your opinions in ways that are respectful...learn to change your opinions, even when others disagree...learn to change your opinions when you learn new information

If you have any questions about your rights and responsibilities, we are here to help. Call us anytime.

Franklin County
Children Services

There are People Who Care...

The people who work at Franklin County Children Services care about you. If you have questions or need help, call your caseworker. If you cannot reach your caseworker, call his or her supervisor. If you feel that your rights have been violated call **Children Services**:

OFFICE OF CLIENT RIGHTS:
(614) 275-2621 (Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5pm)

ABUSE AND NEGLECT HOTLINE:
(614) 229-7000 (Available 24 hours)

Here are some other places you can call if you ever need help:

National Runaway Switchboard

Help with figuring out what to do next; for places that can help you; a free bus ride home if you want it.

1-800-621-4000 (1-800-RUNAWAY)
TDD: 1-800-621-0394

Huckleberry House Urgent Care for Kids (HUCK HOUSE)

24/7 Crisis assistance for 12 - 17 year olds who have run away, are homeless, or are having family problems. Call or walk in for help.

1421 Hamlet Street• Columbus, Ohio 43201

(614) 294-5553

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

24/7 Talk with someone who will help you sort through your feelings and put you in touch with other people who can help you.

1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK)
1-800-784-2433 (1-800-SUICIDE)

Franklin County Teen Suicide Prevention Hotline

24/7 Get help if you feel like you can't go on.

(614) 294-3300

Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN)

24/7 Help connects you to the nearest rape crisis center

1-800-656-4673 (1-800-656-HOPE)

Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio

24/7 Talk with someone who will help you if you have been raped or sexually assaulted; will help you get medical treatment and counseling.

(614) 267-7020

Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope Youth Center serves gay, lesbian, transgender and questioning youth and their allies under the age of 21.

(614) 294-7866

IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION