

# Newsletter



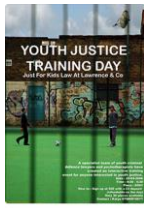
## Welcome

Welcome to the summer edition of the Just for Kids Law Newsletter. If you would like further information about anything featured in this newsletter you can [contact us](#) or view further information at our [website](#).

### Shauneen Lambe receives a Shackleton Leadership Award

Shauneen is honoured to become a 2011 Shackleton Fellow. The Shackleton Foundation supports inspirational leaders wishing to make a difference, in particular to the less advantaged. The charitable grant will be used to support Shauneen in the delivery of the Strategic Litigation Project that we launched in January 2011. We want to challenge the youth justice system as we think there are vast elements of the system that deals with children and young people that is not fit for purpose and is often in breach of the UN Convention on the Rights of the child. Shauneen's work is funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Shackleton Foundation. [Read more.](#)

### Youth Justice Training



Our [Youth Justice Training](#) course covers all major aspects of the youth justice criminal system through a variety of presentations put together and delivered by a specialist team of youth advocates and criminal defence lawyers, as well as interactive workshops with former young clients. The courses carry 5.5 CPD points (SRA accredited). Next dates are Friday 15th July (Manchester), Friday 16th September (Bristol) and Saturday 1st October (London).

Contact [Jasmine Lawrence](#) for more information.

### Henry Smith Charity funds our Youth Advocacy Programme

Our [Youth Advocacy Programme](#) provides advocacy, advice and mentoring support to ensure that children and young people have access to essential services, such as a stable home, a place in education, training or employment. We are delighted to have received funding from [The Henry Smith Charity](#) to match funding we have in place from [Antigone](#). Their commitment will support our Youth Advocacy Programme for the next three years.

### Patience's Story

Patience is 19 years of age and was referred to us when she was pregnant and homeless. Our Youth Advocate attended the housing office with Patience, assisting her to request accommodation from the council. As the council did not accommodate Patience immediately, the Youth Advocate referred Patience to a housing solicitor who provided Patience with supporting documentation and she was able to get temporary accommodation the same day.

Unsurprisingly with all the issues she was facing Patience was very anxious about her pregnancy and the

future. We linked her up with a volunteer mentor who could meet with her on a fortnightly basis and support her throughout the rest of her pregnancy. At the time of referral Patience did not have any income and we supported her to access the relevant benefits and now Patience has a regular income. We were also able to access our Hardship Fund in order to be able to provide Patience with some of the necessities for her upcoming newborn baby.

Please contact [Sabine Larribeau](#) for more information and [read](#) more examples of our work.

### **Launching our Youth Opportunity Project**

Further funding awarded by the Ryvoan Trust has enabled us to launch our new [Youth Opportunity Project](#) that will support young people into education, training and work. Working with our Volunteer Advocates young people will receive the support and guidance they need to enter positive activities.

Please contact [Sabine Larribeau](#) for more information.

### **Support in housing**

Our [Education and Community Care Programme](#) makes sure that children and young people receive the housing, education and support they need including obtaining suitable accommodation and support from social services. We receive many referrals for our support with education but fewer people are aware of the support we can give in housing. Our Community Care Solicitor and Youth Advocate can support young people to ensure that they are provided with suitable accommodation. This can be actioned quickly to ensure that a young person is provided with accommodation on an urgent basis.

Contact [Rachel Knowles](#) for more information or to make a referral.

### **Case study**

Dean is 16 years old and was referred to us by his youth offending team worker. Dean was struggling to live with his family, where he was experiencing emotional and physical abuse. Dean disclosed this to his youth offending team worker, who tried to refer him to social services to obtain accommodation for him. Unfortunately, social services were unwilling to assist and as a result, Dean spent a night in an unsuitable bed & breakfast, which he found quite frightening. We wrote to the local authority and threatened judicial review proceedings if social services did not provide Dean with suitable accommodation. Within 24 hours, the local authority agreed to provide Dean with accommodation and placed him in a suitable placement with support whilst they conducted an assessment of his needs to see how they could best look after Dean.

[Find out](#) more about our housing work.

### **Your Rights training for young people**

Our experience has shown us that most young people are unaware of their rights and lack the right support to then exercise them. Our team of experts are able to deliver free rights based workshops for youth and community groups. The short workshops are suitable for young people who want information about their rights including: rights in education, care, housing and with the police. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

### **Recruitment for a new Chair of Trustees**

We are seeking a Chair of Trustees that can help fulfil the next stage of our ambitious strategy to reach

more children and young people who need our support. The role of the Chair is to provide leadership and direction to the JfK Law board of Trustees. Visit our [website](#) for a recruitment pack or contact [Jodi Manning](#) for more details. The deadline for applications is 1 August 2011.



### Fundraising

Thank you to the individuals and organisations who have pledged their support for our work over the last 6 months. This includes continued support from The Ryvoan Trust and the Taurus Foundation. We are thrilled to have gained the support of a number of new funders who believe, as we do, in the importance of our work. This includes the [Esmée Fairbairn Foundation](#), Dunstone Trust, [Lankelly Chase](#) and [The Henry Smith Charity](#) who have all recently awarded us with funding to continue our work. As a charity we rely entirely on voluntary donations and support from individuals, charitable trusts and foundations to fund our work. If you would like to fundraise for us, or would like to make a donation, please [contact us](#) or visit our [donation page](#).

On the 20th March a team of staff and volunteers successfully ran the Reading Half Marathon. And congratulations to our youngest fundraisers ever, Frankie and Nolly, who then took part in the Crouch End 1 mile fun run in May and raised an impressive £250 for our [Hardship Fund](#). If you are interested in undertaking a similar adventure for JfK Law please [contact us](#). We will provide you with information and support as well as a very much sought after JfK Law t-shirt.

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