

YOUTH JUSTICE PROJECT

Disability Rights NJ works to “decriminalize disability” for youth in underserved communities by ensuring their educational and community needs are met through direct legal representation, community advocacy, and self-advocacy training. Our staff work with the courts, prosecutor’s office, and public defender’s office to ensure that services are provided to affected youths and their rights to education are upheld.



EXAMPLES OF THE WORK WE DO

- Assist in reintegrating students into school and the community
- Advocate for appropriate programs and services
- Review evaluations and documents to complete education disability report
- Request evaluations and eligibility meetings
- Request and attend IEP meetings
- Enforce the rights of classified students involved in school discipline
- Represent students at Due Process hearings

LEARN MORE



WHO WE ARE

Disability Rights NJ is a private, nonprofit organization, designated as the state’s Protection and Advocacy system for people with disabilities, under federal law.

WHO WE SERVE

Students with disabilities in Mercer County and Essex County, New Jersey who are impacted by the Juvenile Justice System.

WHAT WE DO

Help students get special education services and supports that will improve their opportunities for success and a brighter future.

HOW TO MAKE A REFERRAL

Once a referral is received, you may be asked for additional information before Youth Justice staff attorney contacts the youth or the youth’s family. Disability Rights NJ retains the right to determine whether or not the youth is eligible for services after the required intake interview is completed.