

# 2013 Advocacy Agenda

**Support our most vulnerable children, youth and families!**

<b>Lead Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Expand the <b>Extended Foster Care Program</b> to allow ALL youth aging out of foster care to have access to safe housing until age 21</li><li>* Prevent <b>sibling visits</b> for youth in foster care from being restricted for inappropriate reasons</li><li>* Reinstate the <b>72-hour notification</b> rule for homeless youth shelters working to serve vulnerable youth and safely reunite them with their families</li></ul>
<b>Supporting Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Ensuring youth have the opportunity to have their <b>juvenile records</b> sealed upon turning 18</li><li>* Guarantee the <b>right to legal counsel</b> for youth in foster care</li><li>* Improve <b>Educational Outcomes</b> for youth in foster Care</li></ul>
<b>Budget Priorities</b>	<p><i>Protect the safety net for children, youth &amp; families!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Housing Trust Fund</li><li>* Home Security Fund</li><li>* Temporary Aid for Needy Families</li><li>* Street Youth Programs</li></ul>
<b>Watchdog</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Ensure Washington maintains strong policies concerning the use of anti-psychotic and psychotropic medications in foster care</li><li>* Monitor major child welfare reform efforts, including the Title IV-E Waiver, Family Assessment Response, and Performance Based Contracting</li></ul>



**The Mockingbird Society**

Building a world-class foster care system

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