

- Almost 70% of all children involved in the juvenile justice system have disabilities.
- Disabilities can include learning disabilities, physical disabilities, mental health and emotional disabilities. Some examples are ADHD, depression, mood disorder, depression, and bipolar disorder.
- Too often, children with disabilities are enmeshed within the juvenile justice system because they have received inadequate education options or other state-related services.
- The Disabilities Law Program (DLP) has a partnership with the Juvenile Public Defenders' office to advocate for diversion programs and address gaps in services and accommodation.

Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.

**A Private Non-Profit Law Firm
Serving Delawareans Since
1946**

**100 W. 10th Street, Suite 801
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-575-0660**



At Risk Youth with Disabilities Project

**Disabilities Law
Program**

**Community Legal Aid
Society, Inc.**

The types of services the Disabilities

Law Program provides are listed below:

Coordination with the Public Defender

We will assist the Juvenile Public Defender's office, Judges, and Commissioners of Family Court by advocating for disability rights and services.

Special Education

Because many children enter the juvenile system as a consequence of school-related problems, DLP advocates for children who have been to excluded from special education services as well as children who have failed to be identified for those services.

We can help by:

- Advocating for special education placement.
- Advocating for specific educational accommodations.
- Assistance with discipline issues such as suspensions and expulsions related to the child's disabilities.
- Assistance with transition from detention back to school or from school to job training and other education programs.

Government Entitlements

We help children access appropriate services and accommodations among various state agencies such as:

- The Division of Child Mental Health
- The Division of Developmental Disabilities Services
- Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Division of Family Services

We can also assist with:

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Public and Section 8 housing
- Disability Discrimination

We will screen all cases to determine whether we can assist a particular child with a disability. When we cannot represent a child and/or parent or guardian, we will provide information and resources if appropriate.

**This brochure is not intended to provide legal advice.*