***Campaign to Ensure the Right to Counsel for Children and Youth***

Technical Assistance FAQs

**Who are we?**

Founded in 1977, the National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) is a non-profit professional membership and advocacy organization dedicated to advancing justice for children, youth, and families. Fundamental to our mission is the core belief that young people deserve effective and zealous legal representation to ensure their voices are heard, to advocate for their needs, and to help navigate the processes that shape their lives, safety, and well-being.

**What is the Right to Counsel Campaign?**

NACC is leading a national campaign to ensure the right to counsel for children and youth involved in abuse and neglect proceedings. The campaign will consist of three integrated strategies: national resources and communications; state-level advocacy support and policy reform; as well as federal policy reform.

**What technical assistance is offered?**

To support state-level advocacy and policy reform ensuring the right to counsel for children and youth, NACC offers a continuum of technical assistance (TA) services. Technical assistance services include policy analysis, data review, policy drafting/review, resource development, campaign strategy support, youth engagement, coalition building, and litigation strategies. These services are provided at no cost to selected sites. NACC will also develop fact-sheets, issue briefs, and other resources as part of our national right to counsel communications campaign.

**Who can apply for technical assistance?**

NACC recognizes that a diverse range of stakeholders will lead the state-level policy reform efforts encouraged and supported by this campaign. Technical assistance may be offered to any state advocate or organization seeking to engage in strategic policy reform to ensure the right to counsel for children and youth involved in abuse and neglect proceedings. NACC encourages individuals, groups, and organizations with varying levels of capacity to apply.

**What happens after I submit a request for technical assistance?**

Requests for TA generate exploratory conversations with NACC staff about prospective consultation, resources, and support options. NACC staff will assess campaign readiness and site needs.

**What happens when my site is selected?**

NACC will support your efforts throughout the policy reform process. Selected sites will receive ongoing assistance with research, messaging, campaign strategy, and more. Sites selected for TA may also send representatives to participate in national campaign meetings.

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Request for Technical Assistance

Requestor’s Name       or Requesting Organization

Organization Description (Describe your organization and the core function it provides.)

Point of Contact Name       Title       Email Address       Phone Number

**Request Details**

Describe specifically the right to counsel issue for which you are seeking assistance. What is your goal? How will this help children and youth address other issues or concerns in your jurisdiction?

What type of assistance are you seeking? How might it help achieve your goal?

Provide any relevant background (including prior attempts at policy reform), context or supporting documentation about this issue in your jurisdiction:

Are you currently receiving other technical or grant assistance on this issue? If so, please describe.

**Relevant State Information**

Describe whether legal representation is provided to children and youth involved in judicial proceedings due to allegations of abuse or neglect?       What is the model of representation if known?

Please provide the state statute, court rule, and/or practice standards governing representation of children and youth in abuse and neglect proceedings (citations or verified links permitted).

Are other stakeholder groups joining this application? If so, please describe.

Are you aware of potential partners/ champions in support of youth’s right to counsel policy reform in your state? This may include legislators, judges, advocacy organizations, coalitions. [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

Please provide any additional information to assist us with evaluating your request.

Questions and Requests for TA should be sent via email to Natalece.Washington@NACCchildlaw.org**.**

Please note thisis not a program funding opportunity. It is an opportunity to request limited discretionary TA that may include consultation, support, relationship-building, mentoring, guidance, sharing of resources and information etc.