



Positive Change in Child Welfare

About NEYC:

The New England Youth Coalition (NEYC) is youth led and adult supported. We've been meeting since 2008. NEYC is supported by and works closely with child welfare Commissioners and Directors in each of the New England States. Members include Youth Advocates and adult supporters who are chosen to represent their state. We meet in person 2-3 times a year. One of these meetings includes a Regional Youth Leadership Conference that equips Youth Advocates with valuable skills in the area of professional development. In between these in person meetings, NEYC members participate in committees by working virtually with one another.

Youth Commitment	Three NEYC Committees	Accomplishments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Advocate Application <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in Monthly Conference Call + Monthly Committee Call <input type="checkbox"/> Meet in Person 2-3 Times a Year <input type="checkbox"/> Prep calls - rotated Facilitator responsibility <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities to present at regional and National Conferences 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Normalcy Implementation 2. Driving to Success – Focused on Driver's license for youth in NE 3. Project Story – Focused on telling stories of youth to assist in Foster Parent Recruitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sibling Bill of Rights • Normalcy Bill of Rights and Normalcy Definition • Education PSA and Education video encouraging current and former foster youth to pursue higher education



N O R M A L C Y B I L L O F R I G H T S & D E F I N I T I O N

Summary: Creation and Approval Process

2013 - Commissioners and Directors (NEACWCD) of child welfare agencies in New England asked the New England Youth Coalition to develop a regional definition of Normalcy for youth in out of home placement. NEYC asks youth to work with youth advisory boards in New England to gather information on two questions from youth in foster care - What is Normalcy? What is not Normalcy? (ie. This took place in Maine during an annual youth conference) The Normalcy Committee takes over development of Normalcy definition.

2014 - The Normalcy committee works with all the information gathered from the states. NEYC uses Gradients of Agreement to revise document drafts and come to consensus on content and formatting.

2015 - NEYC presents Draft of Normalcy Definition to Commissioners and Directors and is asked to create Normalcy Bill of Rights

2016 - Normalcy Bill of Rights and Normalcy Definition further refined. Documents approved by NEYC and the Commissioners and Directors. States schedule signings of the Normalcy Bill of Rights and begin to distribute documents.