



Children's Law Center of Los Angeles

Miriam Aroni Krinsky
Executive Director

LISA E. MANDEL FUND for EMANCIPATING YOUTH ***Children's Law Center of Los Angeles***

While the foster care system does its best to ensure that youth leaving foster care as young adults are armed with the tools to survive, the sad reality is that these young people often lack many of the basic necessities needed to succeed in life outside of foster care. Foster youth and former foster youth are frequently sent out into the world without the items and skills that so many young adults take for granted. Items such as computers, resume writing skills, basic household items or even appropriate clothes to wear to an interview too often are lacking for these youth when we send them out on their own.

In an effort to fill the gaps felt by many emancipating foster youth, the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles has created the Lisa E. Mandel Fund for Emancipating Youth to help purchase those items and pay for the special training that these young people all too often lack. Within Los Angeles County, there are approximately 30,000 children living in foster care. Over 85% of those children are represented by the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles. The Mandel Emancipating Youth Fund will be used to pay for things such as clothing, job skills training, household items, transportation, job uniforms and special tools or equipment. The fund will have no overhead costs attached to it and every dollar will be used for the direct benefit of youth emancipating from the Los Angeles County foster care system.

The fund is named for former Children's Law Center Legal Director Lisa E. Mandel. Ms. Mandel worked for the Children's Law Center from its inception as Dependency Court Legal Services until April 2006. During that time, Ms. Mandel worked tirelessly and passionately to improve the lives of children and families in Los Angeles County. Her passion was never more evident than in her ongoing work and successes on behalf of young adults on the verge of aging out of foster care. Ms. Mandel left the Children's Law Center with the well-earned designation as an expert in the area of emancipation and the needs of our most vulnerable teens and young adults.

Through the generosity of private donors, charitable foundations and various corporations the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles hopes to use this fund to open doors to a brighter future for our emancipating youth.

The Children's Law Center of Los Angeles is a non-profit public interest corporation (Federal Tax ID # 95-4252143) and donations made to assist the children are tax-deductible. If you would like more information or would like to make a donation, please contact Princess V.F. Ramey at (323) 980-7744 or rameyp@clcla.org.