



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF CHILD ADVOCATE E-News

OCA/FATALITY REVIEW PANEL

Public Health Alert

- [In April, CFRP and OCA issued a Public Health Alert regarding child fatalities associated with unsafe sleep conditions for infants—the leading cause of preventable infant death in Connecticut.](#)
- [In June, OCA issued a Public Information Bulletin regarding child fatalities in Connecticut from January 1 to May 31, 2014.](#)
- OCA is finalizing a 2013 Connecticut report on causes and prevention of infant-toddler fatalities.

OCA ADVOCATES

[To Eliminate Unnecessary Restraint and Seclusion of Children with Disabilities in Schools](#)

Children were restrained and secluded more than 33,000 times last year in school, 400 times in pre-school. OCA is advocating for reforms that will better meet the needs of our vulnerable young children.

OCA COMMUNITY ACTION

OCA met with youth in hospitals, juvenile justice facilities, adult corrections and mental health facilities.

OCA is working to ensure that these youth have access to visitors, appropriate education, age appropriate and high quality rehabilitative services.

OCA RESPONDS TO CALLS FOR HELP

January to May: OCA Responds to Hundreds of calls for Help with the following:

- Children involved with the Child Welfare System.
- Finding Services for Children with Autism or Developmental Disabilities
- Appropriate Education for Children with Special Needs.
- Finding mental health services for children.
- Concerns about state-licensed or state-run child serving treatment or juvenile justice facilities.

OCA provides advice and referral to all callers. OCA opens certain cases for direct advocacy. OCA is reviewing conditions and outcomes for youth in state-funded facilities.

OCA ADVOCATES

[For Transgender Youth in Adult Prison.](#)

OCA is working with colleagues and advocacy organizations to ensure that Jane Doe – a transgender youth who has been placed in adult prison without being charged with an adult crime— will be provided help and support. OCA is also advocating for continued reforms and transparency to benefit children involved in the juvenile justice system.