HLS Child Advocacy Hub
by the Child & Youth Advocates

What is the Child Advocacy Hub?

The Child Advocacy Hub (the “Hub”) at Harvard Law School is an initiative by the Child & Youth Advocates (CYA) meant to connect community organizations working for children, and in need of law student support, to Harvard Law School students. A primary goal of the Hub is to provide additional resources to organizations in the form of assistance with short-term projects pertaining to children.

Who is the Hub for?

Host organizations: Through the Hub, organizations may be able to receive quick temporary support on legal projects primarily in the form of research, analysis, and writing in connection with areas such as legislative reform, policy advocacy, and litigation. To most efficiently utilize the Hub, the requests would ideally be in the form of a research question that the organization either wants answered for a current project or in anticipation of future projects.

Students: Any student is invited to conduct volunteer work in his/her/their individual capacity with the host organizations according to the Hub’s specified requirements. They will build substantive skill sets and gain a broader exposure to various fields of child advocacy, while expanding career connections and networks.

What is the process like?

Host organizations:
1. Complete host organization sign up form: This is a short online form to indicate interest in participating in the Hub.
2. Sign the Terms of Agreement: CYA will then send a ToA to be reviewed and signed.
3. Submit the project support request form: Once the ToA is received, CYA will send a personalized online form to the organization that can be used to submit project support requests at any time, specifying details such as the research question or project description, expected deadline, and other relevant information.

Students:
1. Check the e-mails and master spreadsheet: Once a project support request is received, CYA will disseminate information both through an online master spreadsheet and through weekly e-mails sent out on Wednesdays (exceptional e-mails may be sent on other days for urgent tasks).
2. Submit the student sign up form: Interested students will complete a short online form to claim a project, and CYA will then conduct the matching process with the organization.
3. Complete the project work and receive pro bono hours: Upon completion of the project, the student may receive pro bono hours if desired. CYA will facilitate the process.

Any questions can be directed to cya@mail.law.harvard.edu.