

## NEED

18.8 % of those under 18 live below the  
**poverty level**

in Pottawattamie County, Iowa (2014).

2010-2014 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 5-YEAR ESTIMATES

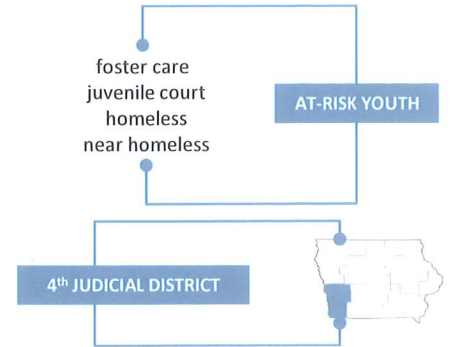
There were **515 youth** in foster care  
in Pottawattamie County, Iowa in 2014.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

## PURPOSE

- 1 help young people to **gain an understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities** so they can successfully navigate future legal issues
- 2 **bring safety and stability** into the lives of young people and their families through legal action
- 3 **introduce the legal system** to youth in a positive way to encourage a connection with their community

## WHO WE SERVE



## WHAT WE DO

### ONE >>> LEGAL EDUCATION



#### COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE) WORKSHOPS & MOCK TRIALS

Staff attorneys lead youth-oriented educational workshops about common civil legal issues and mock trials.



#### LEGAL HEALTH CHECKS

Young adults (16-21) meet one-on-one with a staff attorney to discuss civil legal issues they may have and to learn about how to avoid and address civil legal problems in the future.



#### COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS & MEETINGS

Staff attorneys attend youth-centric community meetings in order to discuss gaps in services for at-risk, homeless, and near-homeless youth and to exchange information about youth services.

### TWO >>> LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Staff attorneys provide legal advice or legal representation to clients.

**2** types of  
**YouthLink**  
clients we  
represent

**Custody issues**  
Parents in a Child In Need of Assistance (CINA) Action or receiving voluntary services from DHS  
*Pottawattamie County*

**21 or younger**  
Applicable civil legal issues  
*4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District*



### THREE >>> LEGAL TECHNOLOGY



Instagram  
@YouthLinkILA



Free *Buying A Used Car* app  
Available for iPhone and Android



YouthLink phone  
(712) 242-7413



YouthLink email  
youthlinkcb@iowalaw.org

## ACTION ITEMS

### REFER

- Young adults (16-21) for a legal health check with a staff attorney
- Clients under 21 or parents with children for legal representation

### SCHEDULE

- A community legal education workshop or mock trial in your classroom, at your school, or at your youth-oriented organization

### EDUCATE

- Yourself about common civil legal issues your clients may face
- Your clients and staff about Iowa Legal Aid's services

## CONTACT US

Attn. YouthLink Project  
Iowa Legal Aid  
532 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 300  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

YouthLink: (712) 242-7413  
[youthlinkcb@iowalaw.org](mailto:youthlinkcb@iowalaw.org)  
Iowa Legal Aid: 1-800-532-1275  
[www.iowalegalaid.org](http://www.iowalegalaid.org)

## GRANT FUNDING

