



2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA IN SUPPORT OF TEXAS YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Join our campaign to create a better Texas for young people!

Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS) is a network of organizations and professionals that serve our state's most resilient young people and their families. The mission of TNOYS is to strengthen, support, and protect critical services. We have designed an advocacy campaign for the 86th Texas Legislative Session that invites policymakers to join us in our work to recognize the strengths of young people and provide them with the resources and support they need to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. Below are the guiding principles behind our campaign, which are informed directly by our experience with young people and those who serve them.

1. Prevent homelessness and system involvement by investing in proven **prevention and early intervention programs**.
2. Promote **a strong foster care system** that includes a full continuum of safe, nurturing foster care placements to meet the needs of young people who cannot remain safely at home with their parents.
3. Continue **juvenile justice reform** to ensure that youth involved with the justice system have opportunities for success.
4. Provide services and supports to **address homelessness among youth and young adults** and meet the unique needs of this population.
5. Support the **preparation of youth in at-risk situations for adulthood** to encourage stability and independence.
6. Ensure that services for youth and families incorporate principles of **trauma-informed care**.
7. Facilitate **opportunities for youth to have a voice** in decisions impacting their own lives and work in partnership with adults.

THEIR FUTURE IS OUR BUSINESS.