

Standing up for kids

JUST FOR KIDS



# 2014/2015 Impact Report

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# Costs of Vulnerability

The cost of preventable health and social outcomes faced by young people over a 20-year period has been put at **£4 trillion**

Excluded from school



**£15,000** pa for Pupil Referral Unit, vs. £4000 pa for mainstream school

Estimated lifetime cost of permanent exclusions from school **£650 million**

Mental health problems



**One in ten** children and young people aged 5 to 16 has a clinically recognisable mental disorder

The cost to society of adult mental health problems is currently estimated at more than **£100 billion**

Unstable accommodation



**80,000** under 25s become homeless each year

**£1 billion** spent annually on dealing with homelessness

In care or a care leaver



Estimated **£2.5 billion** was spent on services for looked after children in England in 2013/14

Asylum seeker, refugee or migrant



Many wait 'in limbo' for **5-8 years** for a decision on their application, unable to continue into education

Estimated **120,000** migrant children live in irregular situations the UK

Contact with youth justice system



**Costs £19 billion a year**

Early intervention and prevention for 10% of the young people sentenced to prison **could save over £100 million annually**

# What We Do

**VISION:** To help transform the lives of children and young people from crisis, to stability, towards independence using the rule of law and child centered advocacy.

## HOLISTIC REPRESENTATION

- Youth Justice Law
- Education law
- Community care law
- Youth advocacy
- Youth opportunities
- Young parents
- Ambassadors
- Hardship fund

## ENSURING RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

- Litigation
- Policy work
- Lobbying
- Campaigning
- Direct advocacy
- Advice

## BRINGING ABOUT SYSTEMIC CHANGE

- Youth Justice Legal Centre
- Strategic litigation
- Training
- Policy work
- Campaigning
- Youth participation



**YOUNG PEOPLE**

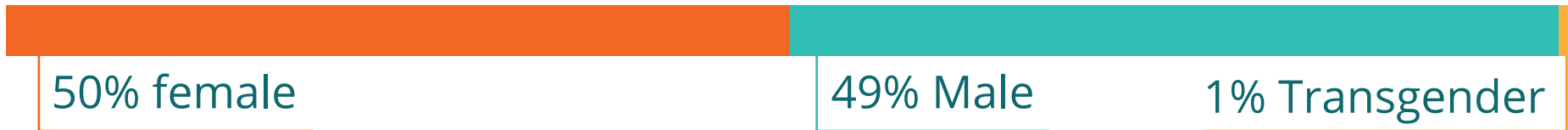


**ORGANISATIONAL STABILITY**

**OUR VALUES**

# Our clients

Number of clients accessing the direct support:



## Issues faced by our clients

*On average each client has 3.31 issues*



22%  
Immigration/  
Nationality



40%  
Housing/  
Homelessness



50%  
Health/  
Social care



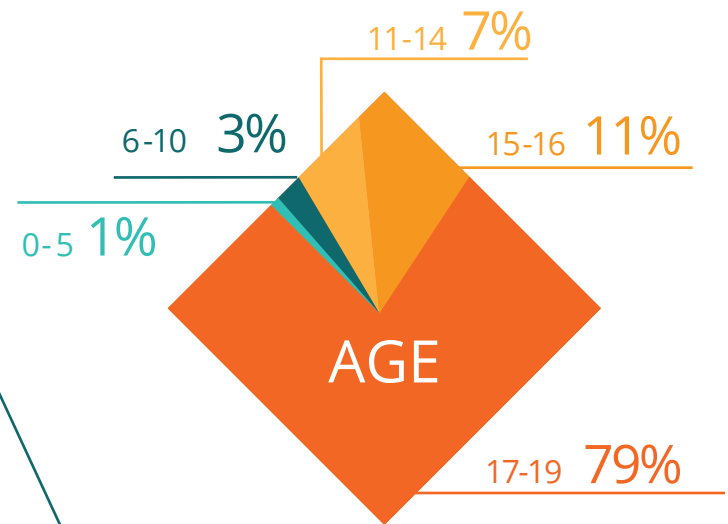
26%  
Unemployment



21%  
Youth  
Justice



37%  
Education



# Our Holistic Representation



We also work for structural change:



Strategic Litigation



Policy Reform

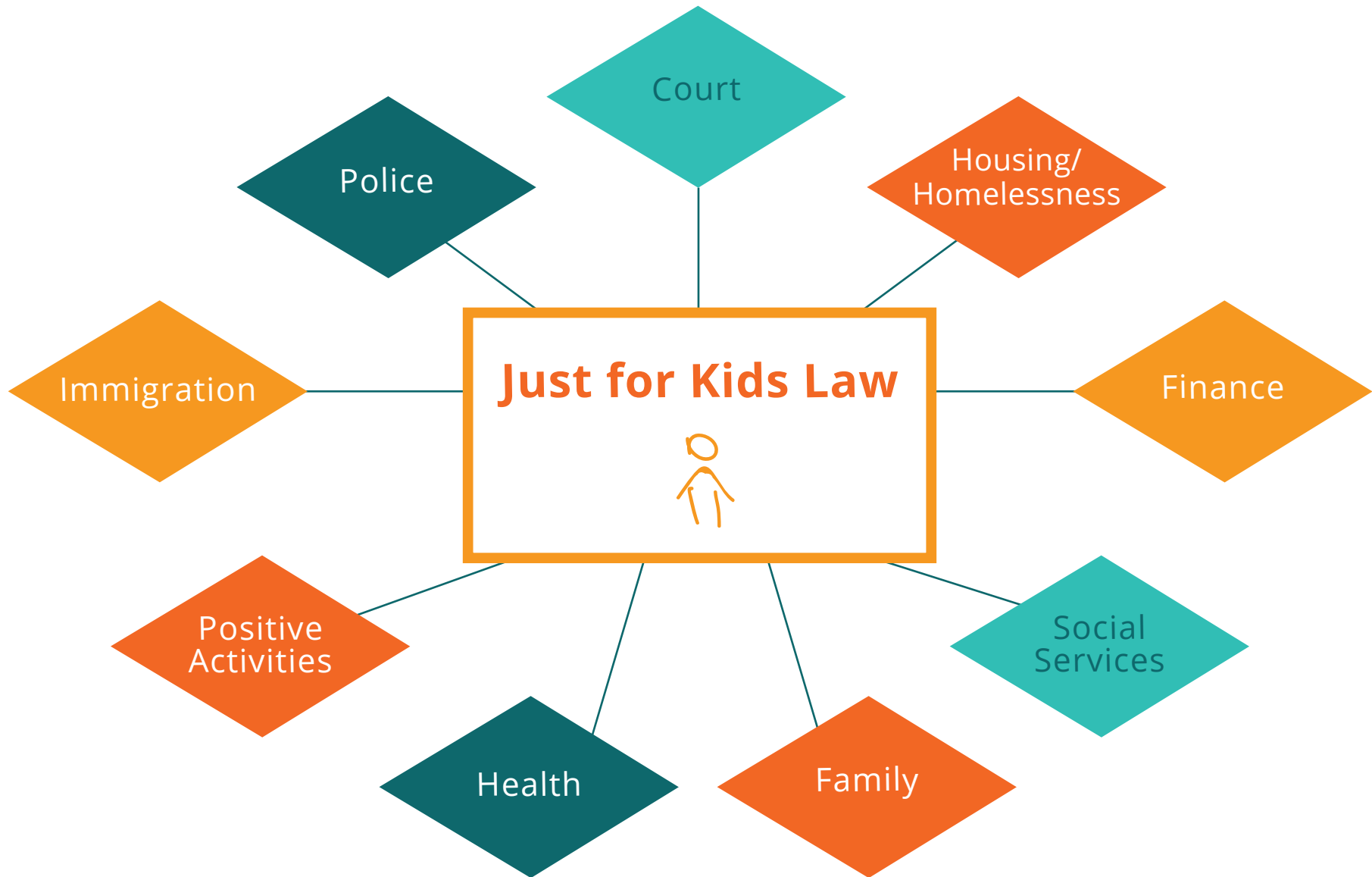


Legal Training & Resources



Campaigns

# We look at the whole person



# Our Work in 2014-15

Handled  
**868**  
CASES



**20%**  
INCREASE  
from 2013-14



DECREASED  
annual cost of  
support by  
**9%**

We worked in  
**31** Greater  
London  
Boroughs

**33** volunteers  
delivered



**3164**  
hours of support  
to our organisation

In kind support to the value of



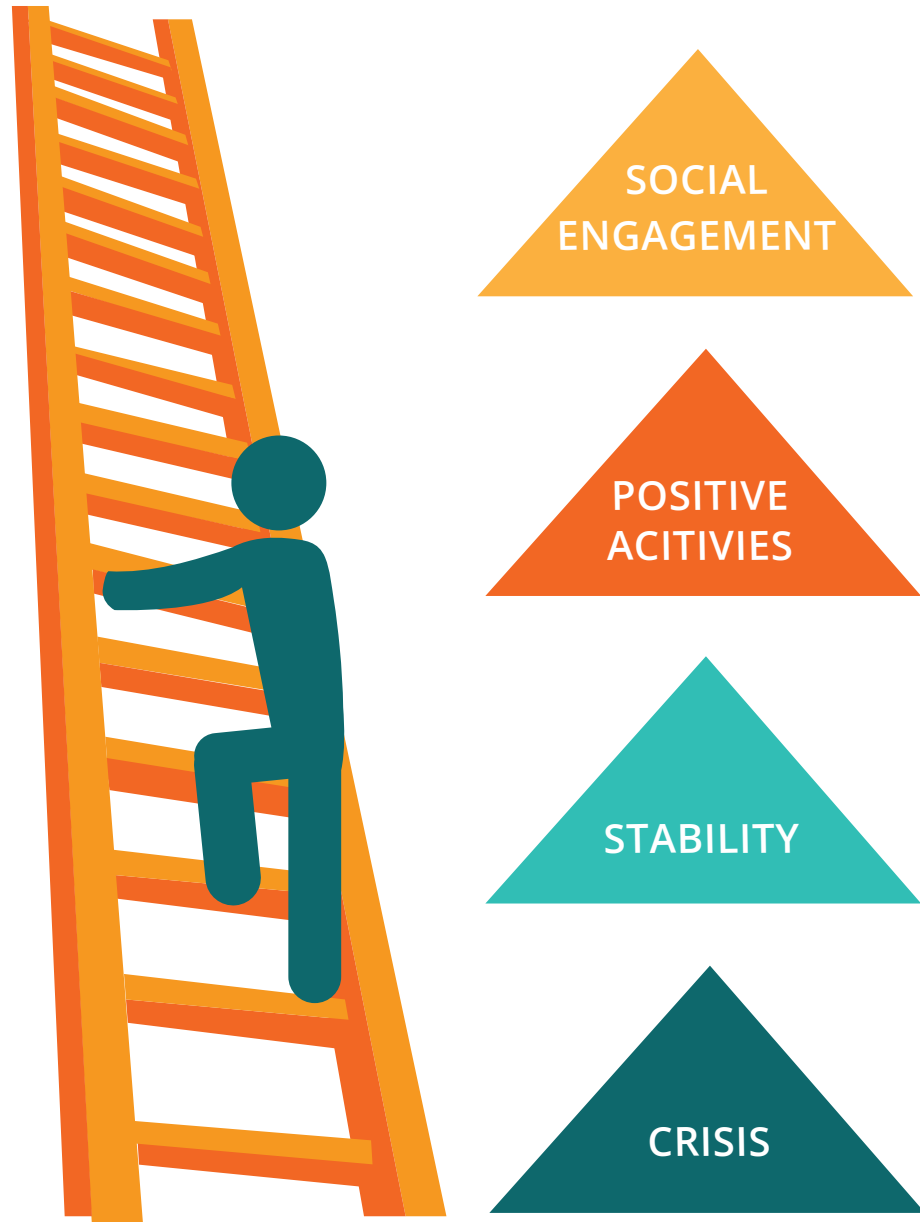
**£190,000**

- Flamingo Communications
- GT Stewart
- Hodge, Jones and Allen
- Saga Centre
- Pro Brono legal support
- Adjust your set





# What success looks like



By 2018 we will...

...have helped an additional **3,000 young people**

...have reached a **new area in East London**

...see the **situation of 95% of our clients improve**, primarily through support with legal representation, tailored support, and help with immigration or physical and mental health issues

...ensure **90% of our clients feel more positive about their future**



# Our Outcomes



92%

EDUCATION  
position improved



83%

EMPLOYMENT  
position improved



72%

FINANCIAL  
position improved



77%

IMMIGRATION  
position improved



77%

HOUSING  
position improved



84%

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE  
position improved

# What our clients say

**96%** were “happy” or “very happy” with our services

**98%** state Just For Kids Law made a positive difference to their situation

**98%** said they would use Just for Kids Law again

## Before contacting Just for Kids Law

**83%** of young people knew “Not much” or “Nothing at all” about their rights

## After contacting Just for Kids Law

**94%** of young people knew “Some” or “A lot” about their rights

**74%** stated the situation was affecting their life “a lot”

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ this is reduced to **19%** after Just for Kids intervention.

## Our clients say

“JFK is like **my second family**. They have helped me so much.”

“You are a god-send... it **really helps to know you are there to help.**”

“I wouldn't have been able to access **opportunities** without you backing me 100%.”

## Their parents say:

“There were times I don't know which way to turn and am **ever so grateful** you were there for us.”

“Just for Kids Law is a brilliant organisation; **once we contacted you we felt at ease and not alone anymore.**”



# Youth Justice Legal Centre



Soft launch of our youth justice legal centre website ([www.yjlc.uk](http://www.yjlc.uk))

**40,000 hits**

YJLC provided expert legal advice in

**90 cases** in 2014/15



Just for Kids Law acted as legal intervenors on youth justice issues in

**4 cases**

in High Court, Court of Appeal, and Supreme Court

## TRAINING

Youth justice training feedback

**100%**

of participants



said they **would recommend the training** to others

thought the workshop provided them with **new perspectives from young people and tools to support young people** outside of their criminal cases

### Education and Community Care training feedback

**96%**

felt it provided them with an improved ability to use legislation and guidance to support young people

**100%**

stated they would recommend the training



### Training participants said:

“I feel much more able to help 16/17 year olds myself without needing to pass work to JFK.”

“It was fantastic information and very relevant to my day to day practice.”





# Let Us Learn Campaign

Campaigning for the right of all young people with limited or discretionary leave to go to university and to access student finance.

Directly Supported  
**300**  
young people

Engaged with  
**10**  
schools

Ran fortnightly  
**Youth campaign meetings**

Media Coverage: *BBC Newsnight, the Guardian, the Daily Telegraph, the Daily Mail*

**July 2015: Successful intervention in the Supreme Court.**  
Government amended policy as a result

Supported by UK Members of Parliament:  
Rupa Huq, David Lammy, Diane Abbott, Peter Kyle

## Feedback:

"Thank you soooo sooo much for all your support. Without Let us Learn and you I literally wouldn't be where I am now." - *young person*

"I am so pleased that there is an organised campaign to tackle this extremely unfair anomaly in the education system." - *Member of Parliament*



# Still a child @17 Campaign

## Timeline on the progress of our work:

**2012 Nick Herbert - Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice:** 'Having carefully weighed up the arguments on both sides, I have decided that it would not be appropriate to treat 17-year-olds held in police custody as children at the present time. I am sorry if my answer comes as something of a disappointment to you.'

**2013 Lord Justice Moses in High Court:** 'I conclude that it is inconsistent with the rights of the claimant and his mother, enshrined in Article 8, for the Secretary of State to treat 17 year-olds as adults when in detention.'

**October 2014 House of Lords: Lord Ashton on behalf of the Government:** 'This amendment is laudable in its aims but, in our opinion, represents a too-hurried and partial approach to the issue of how we treat young people at the age of 17 at the front end of the criminal justice system.'

**November 2014 House of Lords: Lord Faulks on behalf of the Government:** 'I am pleased to inform the House that the Government have listened to his plea and the passionate collective voice of the families of loved ones who are tragically no longer with us. The Government have now concluded their review and have arrived at a very clear conclusion: the provisions in PACE that relate to the treatment of 17 year-olds should be amended as soon as possible so that they are treated as children.'

**May 2015 Queens Speech:** 'The government is creating legislative consistency within the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) to ensure that 17 year olds are treated as children under all its provisions.'

**October 2015**

**Definition of a 'juvenile' in police custody includes 17 year old children.**

# Children's Rights Alliance For England



Children's  
Rights Alliance  
for England



In August 2015, the Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) merged into Just for Kids Law.



CRAE seeks the full implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child in England through strategic litigation, policy reform, public affairs and research. CRAE believes human rights are a powerful tool to make life better for children.



The merger strengthens Just for Kids Law's policy and public affairs work, giving a national and international presence.



# Key achievements in 2015



CRAE worked in partnership to convince the Government to drop its plans for a giant children's prison. Our campaign was jointly nominated for a Liberty Human Rights Award.

Represented the children's sector at an oral evidence session at the UN on children's rights and supported 17 children to attend.



Had a private meeting with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on child rights breaches in the UK youth justice system.



Co-ordinated the civil society submission to the UN as part of the UK examination on its child rights obligations.  
**76 organisations endorsed it.**



Successfully supported children to submit their own report to the UN. We engaged with **1,000 children** through our child-led project *See it, Say it, Change it.*



Mobilised the children's sector on reform of the Human Rights Act.



# Our Awards



Award	Category / Individual	Status
Power Part Time Awards	Aika Stephenson, Programmes Director	Winner
Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year Award	Rachel Knowles, Senior Solicitor	Finalist
Halsbury Legal Awards: Law in the community	Just for Kids Law	Winner
London Legal Support Trust 'centre of excellence' kitemark	Just for Kids Law	Winner
Eisenhower Fellowship	Shauneen Lambe, Executive Director	Winner
London Leadership and Peace Awards	Chrisann Jarrett, Let us Learn	Winner
Change Makers: London Southbank Festival of Love 2015	Shauneen Lambe and Aika Stephenson	Winner