CHILDREN & YOUTH

BILL OF RIGHTS DEL NORTE COUNTY

A Bill of Rights for Children is a public statement that all children and youth in a community are entitled to certain fundamental elements. It reminds policy makers of the needs of children and youth when decisions are made regarding policies, budgets and government practices.

It is now time for the Del Norte County community to join in a public agreement that all children and youth have a right to:

* A safe, healthy and nurturing environment that includes homes, schools, parks, neighborhoods and communities;
* Freedom from abuse, neglect, prejudice and violence in their homes, schools and neighborhoods;
* Adequate shelter and clothing, and access to nutritious, affordable food.
* Access to a “health home” and quality, affordable preventive services that includes regular health, behavioral health and dental care.
* Affordable quality child care, preschool, early learning opportunities and family support services that promote optimum childhood development and school readiness;
* Educational opportunities that emphasize equity, safety, personal achievement, school success, and meaningful relationships with adults;
* Read and succeed;
* Access to a continuum of recreation and enrichment programs that promote physical activities and healthy lifestyles for all children and youth;
* Access to multiple education and career pathways that offer a wide range of economic and employment opportunities, including adequate preparation for higher education;
* Opportunities that support youth leadership development, healthy choices, and meaningful involvement in community decision-making;
* Confidence in their abilities to create the future.