

In 2022 Children's Rights continued to break down government barriers to the medical, educational, and support services children need for a safe and healthy childhood. We are helping to create more just systems for children and families, especially for children of color, immigrant children, LGBTQ+ youth and older youth—those most marginalized and overrepresented in our government systems.

27

years with landmark legal victories and our most expansive advocacy docket in Children's Rights' history

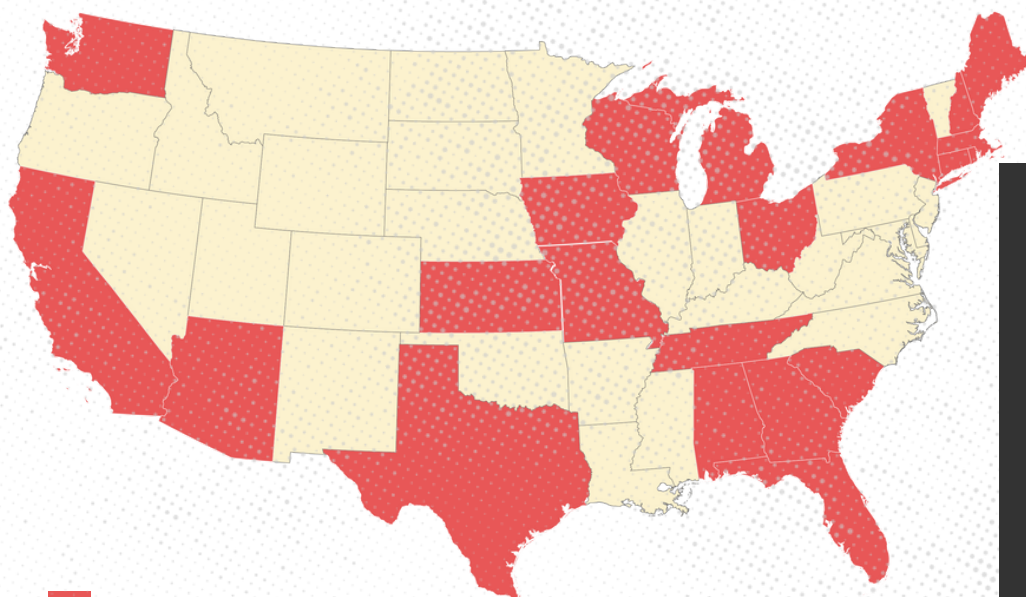
1.7M

children positively impacted through our legal action

20+

states fundamentally transforming child-serving systems thanks to our aggressive advocacy

**WITH THE LARGEST LEGAL DOCKET IN OUR HISTORY,
OUR REACH IS GROWING TO IMPACT MORE CHILDREN.**



States with legal action

Children's Rights legal footprint as of December 2022

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Child welfare is heart work. When organizations listen to people like me there is a shift in power and dynamics at that table. We can't afford to get it wrong anymore, these our children's lives we are talking about.

Alexandria Ware
Advocacy & Policy
Fellow



**Read Alexandria's blog
on the CR website!**



OUR ADVOCACY

Children's Rights is a national organization that employs a unique blend of litigation and policy advocacy to achieve systemic change for kids impacted by government systems. Through the force of law, we transform systems, pushing for changes to laws and policies that harm children and families and compelling states and the federal government to protect the rights of children.

IN 2022, WE ADVOCATED FOR

CHILD HEALTH

In New York, we filed a suit to demand community mental health services for Medicaid-eligible children, who cycle in and out of emergency rooms and languish far from home in residential facilities because they cannot access the mental health services they desperately need to heal from the trauma they have experienced.

FAMILIES TOGETHER

We filed a lawsuit in North Carolina to end the harmful, unlawful warehousing of children in the foster system with disabilities in dangerous, prison-like psychiatric institutions.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Thanks to our advocacy over many years, Connecticut exited court oversight after cutting in half the number of children in its foster system by prioritizing community supports that preserve families.

IMMIGRATION RIGHTS

Our legal action against the US government exposed horrendous conditions for child refugees in federal custody, leading to the closure of multiple sites and improved conditions at others.

LGBTQ+ RIGHTS

We spoke out in the media against anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination targeting children in foster systems and adults who wish to foster or adopt them.

RACIAL JUSTICE

Our voice was heard at the United Nations, which thanks to our advocacy last year publicly acknowledged the discriminatory harms perpetrated by the US child welfare system on Black children and families—and called on the US to amend or repeal unjust laws.

YOUTH JUSTICE

19 people, as young as 20 years old, died in the Rikers jail complex in 2022—the most since 2013. We joined fellow advocates in demanding that NYC close the notorious island jail, and begin to invest in our youth.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

In the courts and through our advocacy, we are engaging the public as never before in joining a movement to end our nation's indifference to the rights of children.

The time is now. Join the human rights movement for kids at childrensrights.org.