



Friends,

Though summer is often a time of rest and relaxation, our efforts to obtain safety and justice for vulnerable girls continue in full force. Check out what we've been up to these last few months:

Legislative Updates

Great News! In June the House passed the **SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act** (H.R. 6), which contains needed healthcare protections for system-involved youth. Importantly, the legislation includes Reps. Tony Cárdenas (D-CA) and Morgan Griffith's (R-VA) **At-Risk Youth Medicaid Protection Act**, which ensures children do not lose healthcare coverage if they have been involved in the juvenile justice system. The legislation also contains Congressman Karen Bass' (D-CA) **Health Insurance for Former Foster Youth Act** which extends healthcare coverage to age 26 for former foster care youth who have aged out of the system.

Inspiring the Next Generation of Advocates

As part of our longstanding commitment to uplifting youth voices, we had the privilege of training youth advocates from D.C. and from around the country:

- In June, we hosted the final workshop in the **Protect Our Youth** series with our partners Black Swan Academy and Melanin Uprising. This final workshop equipped D.C. youth with tools to advocate for themselves, their peers and their communities.
- In June, in partnership with the Georgetown Juvenile Justice Initiative, we took our **L.O.U.D. Brown Girls** workshops to D.C. Public Schools' *We the Girls Conference* where we taught girls how to use their voices to become powerful advocates as well as the importance of self-care techniques.
- In July, we participated in a panel discussion on **ending racial profiling and the criminalization of women and girls of color** at the Platform Convention, attended by young women from across the country who are interested in advocating for policy reform.

- In July, we presented to an audience of teens and young adults at the World Without Exploitation Youth Summit in NYC on how a legacy of **sexual exploitation and racial violence funnels young women and girls of color into the Abuse to Prison Pipeline.**



R4G's Rebecca Burney presenting at the WorldWE Youth Summit in Brooklyn.



Our Staff Attorney, Cherice Hopkins, sitting on a panel at the Platform Convention.

Girls at the Margin National Alliance

Our Girls at the Margin (G@TM) website is [now live!](#) G@TM is a national alliance of over 200 girl-serving organizations led by Rights4Girls and National Crittenton to connect organizations and advocates from across the country who are working to address the complex issues that push girls and young women to the margin. Visit our [new website](#) to learn more about the Alliance and to sign up for updates.

Girls @ the Margin
NATIONAL ALLIANCE

R4G in Virginia

We are excited to join the Trauma-Informed Care for Children Working Group under Virginia's Children's Cabinet to help advise on the important issues faced by marginalized girls and youth in the juvenile justice system and to help disrupt the Abuse to Prison Pipeline for girls in Virginia.

R4G in the News

We are honored to be named to the [National Advisory Committee on the Sex Trafficking of Children and Youth in the U.S.](#) alongside several leaders across the country including Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton and Arizona Governor Doug Ducey. The Committee will advise the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on the nation's response to trafficking.

In addition, word continues to spread about our [Beyond the Walls](#) report which details the unjust and alarming overcriminalization of Black girls in Washington, D.C. Read more about our report and the need to include Black girls in D.C.'s juvenile justice reform efforts [here](#).

Rights4Girls Welcomes Katherine Taylor: Program Assistant



Rights4Girls is excited to welcome Katherine Taylor to our team! Katherine is a D.C. native and joins our team as our new Program Assistant where she provides administrative and logistical services in support of Rights4Girls' advocacy efforts. You can learn more about Katherine by visiting our website.

Judicial Institutes

In August, we held our National Judicial Institute on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking in Portland, Oregon with our partners at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and OJJDP. The institute is a crucial part of our continuous efforts to increase the judiciary's understanding of child sex trafficking and to improve the justice system's response to children at risk of trafficking and exploitation.

As always, we thank you for your continued support of our work to defend the rights of our most vulnerable girls and young women.

[Donate to Rights4Girls](#)