

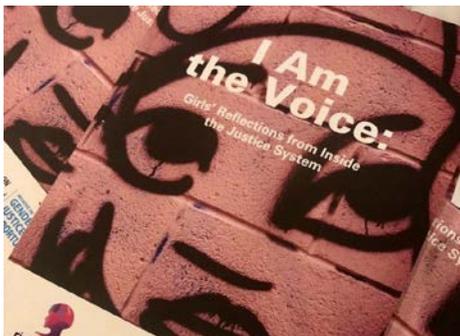


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Season's Greetings from Rights4Girls! This fall, we've been working hard to obtain safety and justice for all vulnerable young women and girls. As we go into the holiday season, we hope you'll consider supporting our ongoing efforts to [protect our girls](#).

Artbook Release: I Am the Voice

This fall Rights4Girls took steps to center girls' voices and experiences in the juvenile justice system by releasing a new compilation of visual and written work created by justice-involved girls from across the nation. [I Am the Voice: Girls' Reflections from Inside the Justice System](#), launched in partnership with the Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality, reflects our philosophy that in order to truly support girls, we must let them lead: we must hear their stories, respect their perspectives, witness their brilliance, heed their creativity, and recognize their resilience.



Rights4Girls in the News: Girls' Justice Day

So thrilled that Jackson, Mississippi adopted our Girls' Justice Day Resolution and [officially declared October 25, 2018 Girls' Justice Day!](#) Rights4Girls established Girls' Justice Day to raise awareness about the rising share of girls in the juvenile and criminal justice systems during National Youth Justice Action Month. We're grateful to Mayor Chokwe Lumumba for acknowledging the injustice girls face via the Abuse to Prison Pipeline and calling for the City of Jackson to diminish the abusive environments that young women and girls encounter daily. Read more about the proclamation [here](#).

Legislative Wins

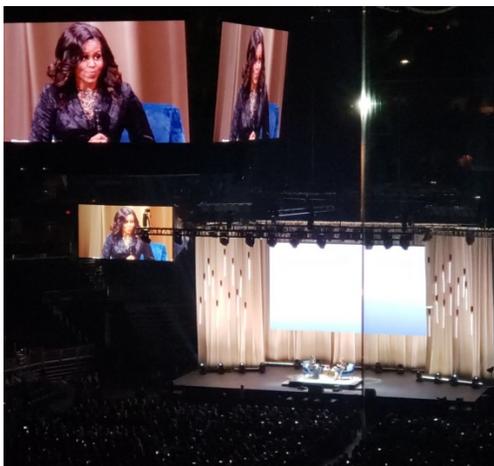
Success! The *SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act* (H.R. 6) has been signed into law! The legislation includes important language that provides critical healthcare protections for vulnerable youth. Too often young people lose their healthcare coverage if they enter the juvenile justice system. As a result of this legislation, youth will no longer face an interruption in their healthcare if they touch the juvenile justice system. The legislation also allows former foster care youth continued access to many of the services they need by extending their healthcare coverage to age 26.

More progress! After several years of working with local advocates and state legislators to emphasize the need to decriminalize survivors of child sex trafficking, we are so pleased to see the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania officially declare that [there is no such thing as a 'child prostitute'](#)! Pennsylvania recently enacted a safe harbor law that provides minors immunity from prosecution for prostitution offenses and requires law enforcement to receive specialized training to identify and assist survivors.

Supporting Local Youth

This fall, we continued our support of youth in the DC metro area by conducting several trainings and workshops for young people on a variety of topics from leadership skills to juvenile justice reform. In September, in partnership with Women Who Boss, we taught youth about girls' pathways into the juvenile justice system. In November, we took our L.O.U.D. Brown Girls cohort to see former First Lady Michelle Obama speak and attend a career workshop co-hosted by PepsiCo.

Below: L.O.U.D. Brown Girls cohort preparing to see Michelle Obama at the Capital One Arena and attending a career workshop with PepsiCo.



Other News

- In September, Rights4Girls and NCJFCJ took our Judicial Institute on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking to Houston, Texas where we trained Texas judges on how to improve their response to domestic child sex trafficking.
- In September, we presented at the Free Her National Conference on dismantling the abuse to prison pipeline that criminalizes survivors of violence and trauma.
- In October, we presented on the importance of decriminalizing survivors of child sex trafficking and sexual exploitation at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference.



R4G's Rebecca Burney and fellow advocates at the Free Her National Conference in Tulsa, OK.

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

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