## <u>Help I Need an ID!</u> <u>Materials and Handouts</u> <u>TNOYS 2021 Conference</u> Speaker: Mary Christine Reed, Texas Foster Youth Justice Project

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Without a birth certificate, Texas ID card or license, and Social Security card you cannot function in our society. But many youth experiencing homelessness and foster care enter adulthood without their critical documents. The requirements and processes to obtain these documents is overwhelmingly complex and many have difficulty providing the needed items to obtain these documents.

A new 2019 law provides that young people who are experiencing homelessness or are in foster care can get a free Texas birth certificate, state ID or driver's license and encounter less restrictive requirements about proof of residency and not need a parent to obtain to obtain their birth certificate. The *Help I Need and ID!* presentation will highlight these new provisions, the basics requirements for applying and what supporting documents might be most readily available to a youth, the procedures at agencies, how to help youth prepare to apply, and how youth can apply on their own.

For the session *Help I Need and ID*! You can find many additional materials and handouts, including the presentation slides, in this Dropbox folder <u>here</u>.

If youth or advocates still need assistance with obtaining their Identification documents, or have other general questions about the process, please reach out to us at the Texas Foster Youth Justice Project at our (toll free) hotline 1-877-313-3688 or you can email us at info@texasfosteryouth.org.