



# OUR RIGHTS MATTER

MISSION, GOALS, &  
MATERIALS

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Powered by:

Legal Aid Justice Center

Rise For Youth

Peter Paul

RICHMOND, VA

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# ABOUT

**Mission:** To educate, engage and empower youth and young adults on what to do when they interact with law enforcement.

**Goals:**

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| <b>1</b> Equip youth and young adults with information and skills.                  | <b>2</b> Advance the well-being and promote equity within at promise communities. |
| <b>3</b> Build youth agency and self-confidence when engaging with law enforcement. | <b>4</b> Create a tool kit for widespread dissemination.                          |

## About The Partnering Organizations



**Peter Paul** serves Richmond's East End to empower community change through education and engagement.



**RISE For Youth** is a nonpartisan campaign committed to dismantling the youth prison model by promoting the creation of community-based alternatives. Their work centers the voices of impacted youth and communities and challenges racial injustice in Virginia..



**Legal Aid Justice Center** partners with communities and clients to achieve justice by dismantling systems that create and perpetuate poverty.

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# THE MATERIALS

**Our Rights Matter** materials include a wallet sized note card and wristband that reads:

**BREATHE  
LEAVE?  
SILENT  
NO SEARCH!**

WHEN STOPPED BY POLICE

**Breathe**

FEEL YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND

**ASK** “Am I free to go?”  
“Am I being detained?”

**SAY** **I choose to remain silent**

**SAY** **I DO NOT CONSENT TO ANY SEARCHES**

WHEN STOPPED BY POLICE



[www.justice4all.org/OurRights](http://www.justice4all.org/OurRights)

*\*Spanish translated materials are available upon request.*



## **The Strategy:**

To equip gatekeepers and stewards of youth with information and resources to empower young people to assert their rights during interactions with law enforcement .

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## FAQ

**Q: How much does it cost to purchase the wristbands and notecards?**

**A:** We use [MSP Design Group](#) for wristband printing and distribution. The total cost is approximately \$180 for 300 1/2" debossed ink filled wristbands. The notecards are ordered through [Overnight Prints](#) and cost approximately \$50 for 500.

**Q: How do I bring Our Rights Matter to my school, youth group, community organization, athletic team, neighborhood, shelter, or program?**

**A:** Contact Kim Young with Peter Paul at [kyoung@peterpaulrva.org](mailto:kyoung@peterpaulrva.org) to discuss the options and best next steps.

**Q: I know a young person or I am a young person who believes their/ my rights were violated by the police, what should I do?**

**A:** If the incident occurred in Richmond, VA and you would like help with filing a complaint contact Cassie Powell at [cassie@justice4all.org](mailto:cassie@justice4all.org) or (434) 328-0515. If the incident occurred outside of Richmond, VA research how to file an administrative complaint with the police department in the city and/or county where the incident occurred.

**Q: How do I receive wristbands and notecards or learn more about Our Rights Matter?**

**A:** Contact Kim Young ([kyoung@peterpaul.org](mailto:kyoung@peterpaul.org)) or Cassie Powell ([cassie@justice4all.org](mailto:cassie@justice4all.org))

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# SHOUT OUTS

**Our Rights Matter** is supported by staff from Peter Paul, Legal Aid Justice Center (LAJC), and RISE For Youth as well as committed community partners. The Steering Committee members include:

James Braxton- RISE for Youth

Cory Jones- RISE for Youth

Elaine Minor, M.Ed - Community Partner

Brionna Nomi, PhD.- Legal Aid Justice Center

Cassie Powell, MSW, Esq- Legal Aid Justice Center

Wyatt Rolla, Esq- Legal Aid Justice Center

Yohance Whitcker, M.Div- Legal Aid Justice Center

Kim Young, MSW, LCSW- Peter Paul



## Contact Information

Legal Questions or Issues

Rachael Deane

[Rachael@justice4all.org](mailto:Rachael@justice4all.org)

Our Rights Matter

Programing

Kim Young

[kyoung@peterpaulrva.org](mailto:kyoung@peterpaulrva.org)

Youth Advocacy

Cory Jones

[cory@rise4youth.org](mailto:cory@rise4youth.org)

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