



Greetings to everyone and Happy New Year!

We usher in 2017 with thanks for your support and partnership with us at the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice. We celebrate our three year anniversary this month and look ahead with eager anticipation to our new partnerships, projects and initiatives, many of which are to be launched in early 2017. We are grateful for the level of interest exhibited from an ever-expanding number of local, state and federal agencies and organizations which has resulted in a plethora of partnership opportunities to improve the lives of children and families. We are proud to say that the tools, resources and technical assistance approaches that the RFK National Resource Center has developed to support enhanced outcomes and improved system performance on behalf of our nation's youth are producing the results we all seek.

It is worth noting a number of the new projects and initiatives that reflect our strong commitment to partnering with you in the field - in your jurisdictions and among your stakeholders - and continue the steadfast advance toward improved practice. These efforts provide replicable lessons for us all to implement on behalf of our youth and families:

- [Dual Status Youth](#) field-based training for eight deserving and committed jurisdictions
- [Probation System Review](#) (PSR) projects in Milwaukee County, WI; El Paso County, TX; and Clark County, NV; which follow the completion of PSR efforts in two sites in Idaho, three sites in Arkansas, and the Territory of Guam in 2016
- Continuation of our partnership with the Council of State Governments in providing technical assistance in 5 states through the OJJDP *Smart on Crime: Community Supervision and Reentry* grant and in presenting the 3rd annual Juvenile Probation Reform Academy
- Partnering with the Judicial Council of California to facilitate the efforts of the legislatively established Dual Status Youth Data Standards Committee, charged with identifying common outcomes and standardized definitions for California's dual status youth
- Launch of the RFK National Resource Center's Juvenile Justice and Education Partnership Initiative with the counsel of an extraordinary Advisory Group (initial meeting occurred in December 2016)

In addition to the ongoing Dual Status Youth training, the RFK National Resource Center will also be introducing in early 2017 an exciting new site-based interactive seminar entitled *Advancing Best Practices in Youth Justice* and a field-based training opportunity featuring curricula focusing on local capacity to conduct the Probation System Review process.

Our staff, expert consultant pool, and experienced and devoted Practice Networks and Advisory Groups look forward to new opportunities to support and work with you in 2017 and beyond.

Our best wishes to you for a positive and productive 2017!



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