



Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

RFK National Resource Center
for Juvenile Justice

RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice E-Newsletter

Special Announcement

Sites Selected for New Training and Technical Assistance Project

We are pleased to announce the selection of the initial three jurisdictions (Cohort 1) with which the RFK National Resource Center will partner to conduct the activities of the **Dennis M. Mondoro Probation and Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Project**, funded through the new grant award from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency. The jurisdictions are:

- Clark County, Nevada
- Fairfax County, Virginia
- Lancaster County, Nebraska

These jurisdictions will receive training and technical assistance (T&TA) from the RFK National Resource Center using our seminal Probation System Review Guidebook (new and enhanced Third Edition to be released in February 2019) and an impressive set of TA partners (including National Juvenile Defender Center, National Center for Juvenile Justice, Dr. Keith Cruise as an affiliate to National Youth Screening and Assessment Partners, and the UNC-Chapel Hill Impact Center). Together, the jurisdictions in Cohort 1, the RFK National Resource Center, and our national partners will support both probation and juvenile justice system transformation and subsequent evaluation of those changes to policy and practice. We are thrilled to welcome the impressive leaders and critical stakeholders from each site to this partnership.

The RFK National Resource Center will be adding three competitively selected jurisdictions (Cohort 2) to this project later in 2019. Please keep an eye out on our announcements so that you may submit an application for consideration.

Request for Applications

Apply to Participate in the Juvenile Justice Reform and State Courts Initiative (JJRSCI)

The State Justice Institute (SJI) awarded a grant to the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to provide Technical Assistance (TA) support to state and local courts wishing to undertake or expand juvenile justice reform efforts. The Juvenile Justice Reform and State Courts Initiative (JJRSCI) project intends to build upon and enhance juvenile justice reform efforts identified in the strategic plans developed by states participating in previous regional juvenile justice reform summits and also support innovative new policy and practice

Meet Our Peer Mentors!

The RFK National Resource Center is delighted to offer **Peer Mentorship**, a valuable opportunity for leaders, practitioners, and collaborative teams from sites embarking on reform efforts to learn from the experience and expertise of the RFK National Resource Center's Practice Networks. Members of Dual Status Youth (DSY) and Probation System Reform (PSR) Practice Networks represent communities from across the nation that have championed change, leading to enhanced system performance and improved outcomes for children and families. Practice Network Members have a deep understanding of the processes, challenges, barriers, and benefits of juvenile justice and child welfare reform efforts. With their on-the-ground experience, members of our Practice Networks are uniquely qualified to offer peer-to-peer mentorship, guidance, and support to other communities.

[Click here](#) to meet our Dual Status Youth Peer Mentors!

[Click here](#) to meet our Probation System

changes prioritized by the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) across the 50 United States and territories. The RFK National Resource Center is one of several prominent national organizations selected to provide TA to help state and local courts to implement legal and evidence-based juvenile justice system practices.

Please contact **John A. Tuell** (jtuell@rfkchildren.org) or **Kay Farley** (kfarley@ncsc.org) if you wish to learn how to apply for these TA funds and support.

On the Ground

Dual Status Youth Reform Efforts in Ohio

We are thrilled to announce our new partnership with the Supreme Court of Ohio through the Office of Court Services to provide for *Course Development, Delivery, & Technical Assistance Related to Youth Involved in Both Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Systems* in 2019-2020. The RFK National Resource Center was selected in a competitive process to provide a one-day Dual Status Youth training in four locations (Akron, Columbus, Dayton, and Toledo) during the month of April. We will then partner with the Ohio Office of Court Services to competitively select two county jurisdictions to receive DSY technical assistance using our seminal framework and resource publications (<https://rfknrcjj.org/resources/dual-status-youth/>) during 2019-2020.

We wish to congratulate the Ohio Supreme Court for their focused attention on this challenging and vulnerable population of youth and want to express our gratitude for the privilege of partnering in this exciting venture. We are working to make a difference!

Project Rise

Project Rise was started in 2011 to reform Milwaukee County's youth justice system. To enhance its work, Project Rise partnered with respected local leaders and invited some of the nation's most respected youth justice thought leaders to support the initiative, including the RFK National Resource Center. In this Project Rise Update, you'll learn about a recent visit with members of the RFK National Resource Center team and about the three areas that they are helping to improve to establish Milwaukee County's youth justice system as a best practice system.

To view the Project Rise Update video, please visit:
<https://youtu.be/koLh0EeTIFo>

REWRITING KIDS' FUTURES BY CHANGING OUR APPROACH TO YOUTH JUSTICE.

PROJECT RISE

CHANGING LIVES. CHANGING COMMUNITIES.

 DYFS | Division of Youth & Family Services

A Division of the Department of Health & Human Services

Reform Peer Mentors!

Have You Scheduled an On-Site Training in Your Community?

Contact us now to ensure your jurisdiction has the opportunity to learn how to best address critical topics in juvenile justice.

The **Training Institute** brings experts and experienced facilitators into local jurisdictions, ensuring that all vital leaders, staff, and stakeholders have the opportunity to benefit from the experience. Our curriculum utilizes well-established frameworks for reform that have been applied in numerous jurisdictions throughout the nation, while also incorporating current research and emerging best practices. The training approach balances traditional presentation with dynamic discussions and facilitated activities aimed at applying the information to each individual jurisdiction. As a result, participants leave both well-informed and poised to begin taking action immediately.

The Training Institute includes the following programs:

Dual Status Youth: Improving Outcomes for Youth Involved in Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice ([Learn More](#))

Dual Status Youth: Implementing and Sustaining Reforms ([Learn More](#))

Advancing Best Practices in Youth Justice Seminar ([Learn More](#))

Probation System

From the Field

North Dakota Plans for Rapid Response When Foster Youth are Charged with Crimes

North Dakota has struggled to track and support youth who get in trouble and are the subject of abuse and neglect investigations. This week, it announced a new venture to improve on that measure. Youths involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems will now be supported through the Dual Status Youth Initiative, which will entail the participation of the courts, corrections and family services. The initiative has been created after the culmination of a twelve-month Technical Assistance partnership and subsequent release of a study last year completed by the RFK National Resource Center, which unearthed trends in the state's dual status population. "It took the ability of stakeholders to collaborate on issues such as definitions, data sharing, policies and practice in order to move toward a shared vision," said Cory Pederson, chair of the Dual Status Youth Executive Committee, in a release about the new initiative. [Click here](#) to read the entire article.

"Principles of Effective Juvenile Justice Policy" Helps Guide Legislative Change

The Principles of Effective Juvenile Justice Policy report serves as an important tool to help guide and inform states as they convene for the 2019 legislative session. The National Council of State Legislatures, in partnership with The Pew Charitable Trusts' Public Safety Performance Project, has created a new publication which identifies 12 principles for effective policy-making that are "rooted in research, reflect bipartisan or nonpartisan values, and help states invest in proven methods to put justice-involved youth back on the right track, while keeping communities safe."

The Principles are the result of the work of legislative leaders from 15 states across the country. The report serves as a tool to help states improve juvenile justice policy and invest in programs that are proven to help keep young people and their communities safe. The Principles reflect data-driven approaches. Among the highlights are the value of including stakeholders in the process of creating new policies (Principle 11); the essential role of collaboration (Principle 12); and the urgency to address and end unfair and disparate treatment for over-represented youth (Principle 10). The full report is [available here](#).

New Resource

Coming Soon - Probation System Review Guidebook, 3rd Edition

The RFK National Resource Center is working on the 3rd edition of the Probation System Review Guidebook which will include updates, lessons learned from the diverse array of state and local jurisdictions with whom we have partnered over the past three years, and new resources to support jurisdictions who undertake the Probation System Review process. Please be looking for this important new contribution to the field in February.

The [Probation System Review Guidebook, 2nd Edition](#) is currently available on our website.

[Review Training \(Learn More\)](#)

Multi-System Information & Data Sharing ([Learn More](#))

Our training staff and consultants look forward to talking with you to discuss how we can meet your jurisdiction's unique training needs!

To learn more about the Training Institute, please visit our website: rfknrcjj.org/training-institute/

We're on Twitter!

RFK Children's Action Corps and RFK National Resource Center are on Twitter! [@RFKChildren](#)

[Follow us on twitter](#)

How Can We Serve Your Community?

To find out how the RFK National Resource Center can support reform in your community using proven frameworks for technical assistance, please [Contact Us!](#)

Visit Our Online Resource Library!

All of our publications and tools are made available on our website to support jurisdictions undertaking reform, with or without technical assistance. Our Online Resource Library is designed to provide a user friendly experience for accessing our practical and informative resources, as well as presentations and materials from our events.

To access all of our Resources, please visit: rfknrcjj.org/resources

Support the RFK National Resource Center!

Your valued contribution directly supports the sustainability and expansion of the RFK National Resource Center's positive impact on children and families nationally. To make a donation, please [click here](#) and type in "RFK National Resource Center" in the "My donation is for a specific program" box. **Thank you!**

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About Us

Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, led by Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps, uses proven models, frameworks, tools, resources and the best available research to serve local, state, and national leaders, practitioners and youth-serving agencies to improve system performance and outcomes for youth involved with the juvenile justice system. RFK National Resource Center focuses primarily on youth with prior or current involvement in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems (dual status youth), the review and improvement of juvenile probation systems, and the use of a model framework to address the state and national laws and policies governing the exchange and sharing of data, information, and records for youth and families. To learn more about us and how we can serve your jurisdiction, please visit www.rfknrcjj.org.

Every Child Deserves a Childhood

Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps is a private, non-profit licensed child welfare agency providing community-based services, education, foster care and adoption, residential treatment, and juvenile justice programming to individuals and families in crisis. Our programs are focused on helping children and adolescents deal with past hurts, develop self-esteem, and have a chance for a brighter future as contributing members of society. All that we do at RFK Children's Action Corps is based on the belief that every child deserves the chance to lead a happy, healthy, and productive life. For more information and to get involved, visit www.rfkchildren.org.