



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

Request for Applications: Comprehensive Probation System Review

We are excited to invite jurisdictions to apply to become one of three selected sites to receive consultation and technical assistance to undertake a comprehensive Probation System Review. The competitively selected jurisdictions will partner with the RFK National Resource Center, as part of its *Dennis M. Mondoro Probation and Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Project*, in federal fiscal years 2020-2021. This opportunity is made possible through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Second Chance Act award entitled *Ensuring Public Safety and Improving Outcomes for Youth in Confinement and While Under Community Supervision*.

Ready to Apply?

[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

**Welcome (Back),
Jessica Heldman!**



Update From Our Practice Networks

We are thrilled to add a new - yet familiar - member to our Dual Status Youth (DSY) Practice Network. Please join us in welcoming back Jessica Heldman, who had served as our Associate Executive Director from 2013 - 2018. Currently, Jessica holds the position of Fellmeth-Peterson Professor in Residence in Child Rights at the University of San Diego School of Law and its Children's Advocacy Institute. In this capacity, Professor Heldman remains closely involved in work that impacts dual status youth, and brings historical and present experience and expertise to our dynamic DSY Practice Network. It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome back Jessica as a partner with the RFK National Resource Center and our DSY Practice Network!

Through a dedicated two-year partnership with selected jurisdictions, the RFK National Resource Center will conduct a comprehensive analytic review and examination of current probation and juvenile justice system practices, followed by the delivery of technical assistance support to implement the recommendations offered within the final Probation System Review report. This project will provide selected jurisdictions with extensive support to: create or enhance a comprehensive juvenile justice system improvement plan; identify opportunities for improved community supervision/probation performance based on best practice standards that address the needs of youth both with and without trauma and behavioral health diagnoses; and implement a tailored improvement plan with the endorsement of local leadership, thus ensuring sustainable and measurable practice enhancement.

Applications are due on or before **October 11, 2019**.

Quick Links

- **Project Overview & Application:**
<https://rfknrcjj.org/initiatives/apply-for-probation-system-review/>
- **Letter of Interest (Optional):**
<https://rfknrcjj.org/initiatives/apply-for-probation-system-review/loi/>

- **Learn More - Probation System Review:** <https://rfknrcjj.org/our-work/probation-system-review/>
- **Have Questions or Want Additional Information?**
Contact Kari Harp: kharp@rfkchildren.org

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Upcoming Event

Join Us in San Francisco at APPA's Training Institute!

We invite you to join the RFK National Resource Center and the Council of State Governments for a special session on juvenile probation taking place on Sunday, August 18 at the American Probation and Parole Association's [44th Annual Training Institute](#) in San Francisco. John Tuell, Kari Harp, and Josh Weber will be providing a four-hour intensive session entitled ***Rethinking Juvenile Probation: Three Key Lessons Learned from a Decade of Systems Reform and How to Apply Them to Getting Improved Youth Outcomes for Your Agency.*** This session will challenge juvenile probation leaders, managers, and staff to consider the need to not simply tweak their approaches, but to institute fundamental changes in three key areas of policy, practice, and funding: diversion, instituting and enforcing probation conditions, and the role of the probation officer. We look forward to seeing you in San Francisco!

For more information about the event, please visit:
<https://www.appa-net.org/institutes/2019-San-Francisco/attend/>

On the Ground

Competitive Technical Assistance Scholarship Awarded to Two Counties in Ohio

We are pleased to announce that, in coordination with the Ohio Supreme Court, Office of Court Services, Clark County and Knox County have been selected to receive a competitive scholarship for intensive Dual Status Youth technical assistance. This training and technical assistance initiative, following the four regional training events convened in Ohio in April 2019, was greeted with significant enthusiasm by Ohio's youth-serving professionals. We are thrilled to launch our field-based partnership with Clark and Knox counties and conduct on-site technical assistance over the next twelve months. We believe both counties will realize tremendous benefit for their youth and also learn invaluable lessons that can be replicated in other counties throughout Ohio. Again, congratulations to Clark and Knox Counties!

Arkansas Juvenile Probation Training Curriculum

The RFK National Resource Center continues its partnership with the Supreme Court of Arkansas through a grant from the State Justice Institute. In June, our Executive Director, John Tuell, launched a field-based partnership with an impressive committee of multi-disciplinary professionals (Arkansas Juvenile Probation Training Curriculum Advisory

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 the 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 Reform Peer Mentors!

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

Group) to examine current hiring qualifications, certification standards, and training requirements. These activities served as a preamble to developing best practices in these areas and developing a comprehensive Training Manual, as well as plan for compliance with new certifications and requirements. Our next two site visits take place during August and October in Little Rock and will lead to final product delivery by the end of the calendar year.

Santa Clara County, California Dually Involved Youth (DIY) Initiative

The RFK National Resource Center is proud to announce an extension to our longstanding relationship with Santa Clara County to provide consultation and technical assistance during county fiscal year 2020. The DIY Unit and DIY Initiative were created nearly six years ago when Santa Clara was selected to receive Dual Status Youth technical assistance through a competitive selection process. The multi-disciplinary leadership in Santa Clara County has remained steadfast in their commitment to serve challenging and vulnerable dually involved youth in their county and remains focused on their quest to create community engagement/response that will improve the opportunities and outcomes for this population. We are proud to continue our professional partnership with these dedicated youth-serving professionals again this year.

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!**

Donate Now!

**Resources, please visit:
rfknrcj.org/resources**

Quick Links

[Who We Are](#)
[Our Work](#)
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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.