



**Robert F. Kennedy
Children's Action Corps
RFK National Resource Center
for Juvenile Justice**

RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice E-Newsletter

Save the Date!

Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium & Training Institute

December 2020 | Nashville, Tennessee

Registration is opening SOON! [Click here to learn more!](#)

The RFK National Resource Center is excited to announce that it will host a two-day Symposium and supplemental half-day Training Institute in the vibrant heart of Downtown Nashville at the Doubletree Hotel. We encourage you to save the dates for these two events:

December 9-10, 2020:

**2020 Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium:
*Expanding Knowledge, Changing Practice, Achieving
Outcomes***

December 11, 2020:

Transformation of Youth Justice Training Institutes

**Participants who attend the two-day symposium may also register to attend the half-day Training Institute for a small additional cost.*

2020 Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium: *Expanding Knowledge, Changing Practice, Achieving Outcomes*

On December 9-10, 2020, in heart of Downtown Nashville, the RFK National Resource Center will host a one-of-a-kind Symposium for multi-disciplinary professionals and youth-serving stakeholders seeking to learn, network, and become part of the nationwide movement to effectively transform youth justice and improve outcomes for children and families. The Symposium will feature research-based, evidence-informed, practical field-based reforms that can be replicated and applied by participants within their state and local jurisdictions. The event will also emphasize the importance of peer-to-peer learning and collaboration to identify common challenges and solutions that lead to meaningful, sustainable and measurable policy and practice change.

Transformation of Youth Justice Training Institutes

Participants who attend the two-day symposium can enhance their learning experience by participating in a half-day Training Institute session on Friday, December 11. The Training Institutes will offer five intensive and interactive sessions to provide a deeper dive

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!

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

into targeted areas of juvenile justice transformation. The Institutes will feature innovative leaders, practitioners, and your peers to ensure a dynamic and practical approach designed to provide specific strategies and action steps that can be replicated in your jurisdiction.

To learn more about these events, please visit our website:

<https://rfknrcji.org/events/transformation-of-youth-justice-learning-events-2020/>

On the Ground

Dual Status Youth Technical Assistance Initiative Launched in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

We are pleased to announce a new partnership with Lancaster County, Pennsylvania to provide intensive Dual Status Youth technical assistance in 2020. This training and technical assistance initiative will follow the framework outlined in the [*Dual Status Youth Technical Assistance Workbook*](#) and engage key leadership and practitioners from Court Administration, Judiciary, Children and Youth Agency, and Juvenile Probation to shape a best-practice approach to serving multi-system involved youth and their families. The RFK National Resource Center consultant team launched the initiative with an inaugural meeting in Lancaster on January 23-24. With the committed leadership, experience and expertise of social workers, probation officers, attorneys for youth, families and the youth themselves, we believe there will be an exciting outcome from this systems enhancement initiative.

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Technical Assistance Initiative Launched in Delaware

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a partnership with the state of Delaware to create effective and consistent best-practice approaches on behalf of youth at-risk or victims of commercial sexual exploitation. This project will use the seminal framework detailed in the RFK National Resource Center's [*Dual Status Youth Guidebook, 3rd Edition*](#), which was already successfully employed in San Diego, California. Multiple youth-serving agencies in Delaware are coming together to expand upon existing statutory guidance and the Delaware Human Trafficking Interagency Coordinating Council report of recommendations published in September 2019 to build system and community responses on behalf of these vulnerable youth that incorporate evidence-based prevention and early intervention. The initial site visit is scheduled for February 25-26 in Wilmington, Delaware.

UPDATE: Dennis M. Mondoro Probation and Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Project (OJJDP funded)

The RFK National Resource Center, with our outstanding project technical assistance partners and team of consultants, continued site-based partnerships with "Cohort 1" jurisdictions during the month of January and set out our continued plan of support for 2020. In January, our team conducted site visits with Clark County, Nevada; Fairfax County, Virginia; and Lancaster County, Nebraska. With our previously announced identification of sites competitively selected for participation as part of "Cohort 2" (Dutchess County, New York; Greene County, Missouri; and King County, Washington), we are now poised to launch on-site partnerships with visits to each of these sites in February and March. The progress being made by Cohort 1 sites in the areas of planning, implementation, sustainability and measurement of

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 Resources, please visit:**](#)
[**rfknrcji.org/resources**](https://rfknrcji.org/resources)

Quick Links

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

transformative practices is likely to provide an impressive set of replicable lessons learned in system performance and youth outcomes in the coming year. We will be anxious to feature these practical and replicable policies, procedures, and reforms throughout the year - and particularly at our [2020 Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium](#) in Nashville in December 2020.

Contact Us



Coming in the next Newsletter

The RFK National Resource Center is finalizing several new state and local initiatives featuring technical assistance partnerships focusing on probation system reform implementation, commercially sexually exploited children and youth, dual status youth reform, and youth facility and service reviews. Our reach is expanding and positively impacting more youth and families across the country!

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.rfknrcj.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.