

A Message from our Associate Executive Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As we continue to face these difficult and uncertain times, we want to take a moment to acknowledge the unique challenges you have faced as leaders within the fields of juvenile justice and child welfare. Neither of these systems stop due to an international pandemic. Youth still struggle. Families still struggle. And they continue to need your support during this chapter of our nation's history – perhaps even more than ever. We know all of you have had to make difficult decisions about how to balance the weight of responsibility to youth, communities, your staff, and your own families.

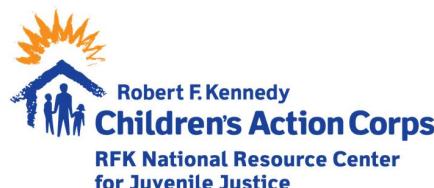
Just as first responders and medical personnel are being thanked, we want to thank you and your staff and agencies for the unsung work you continue to do 'behind the scenes' and out of the media. You are also keeping youth and communities safe, and for that we praise you and extend our deepest gratitude and respect. Thank you for all you do. We are proud of this field and the passion and dedication exhibited by child welfare and juvenile justice professionals like you every single day – pandemic or not. There are many heroes in this story: you and your staff are among them.

Wishing you strength, courage, and hope as you enter this week.

With sincere gratitude,

Kari L. Harp

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Associate Executive Director of the
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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.rfknrcji.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.