

## RFK National Resource Center Welcomes Jodi Martin and Michelle Darling

The RFK National Resource Center is thrilled to announce the addition of two outstanding youth justice professionals and recognized leaders to our staff. Jodi Martin and Michelle Darling will begin work as our new Senior Program Directors & Senior Consultants on July 12. Jodi and Michelle each bring an outstanding record of commitment, dedication, achievement, leadership – and passion – from their extensive experience in Clark County, Washington Juvenile Court and the Delaware Department of Youth and Rehabilitative Services (DYRS), respectively.

Both Jodi and Michelle have led significant reform initiatives and are highly regarded by their peers and juvenile justice stakeholders with whom they have worked and collaborated throughout their careers. They join the RFK National Resource Center team with enthusiasm for advancing the positive transformation of youth justice and are excited to support communities throughout the country, as well as partner and collaborate with other dedicated youth-serving professionals and leaders.

Please join us in welcoming Jodi and Michelle to our team!

**Jodi Martin**  
Senior Program Director & Senior Consultant

Jodi Martin has 30 years of experience working in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Jodi began her career working as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and a youth counselor in a community-based residential program. Jodi has dedicated 25 years to juvenile justice in Clark County, Washington where she has served as a Juvenile Probation Counselor, Program Coordinator, and Program Manager. Jodi helped develop Clark County's truancy workshop, mentoring program for truants, and juvenile detention alternatives. As Program Manager, she has overseen court intake, truancy, diversion, detention alternatives, and victim outreach. Jodi has presented at numerous conferences and consulted with many jurisdictions to provide information and assistance in reforming truancy processes, implementing restorative justice practices, and improving information-sharing practices for youth. Jodi also has served as a peer partner for the RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice. She received her bachelor's degree in Child and Family Studies from Washington State University in 1992.



**Michelle Darling**  
Senior Program Director & Senior Consultant

Michelle Darling has dedicated the last 20 years of her professional life to serving youth in the juvenile justice system, beginning her service to youth, families, and the community as a probation officer. As the Chief of Juvenile Probation for Delaware, she infused the concepts of evidence-based decision-making into everyday practices and interactions with youth and families. She accomplished this by leading a group of stakeholders in the implementation of statewide bifurcated sentencing, incorporating a risk and needs assessment to individualize case planning, creating training curriculum for probation, developing a field training manual, creating a culture of change agents versus compliance monitors, developing protocols to meet the needs of dual status youth, and fully incorporating a dispositional matrix and behavior response grid matrix. Michelle also developed the first quality assurance unit for juvenile probation in Delaware. Through her qualitative analysis, detention populations were reduced as she focused on reducing technical violations for youth, and caseload sizes were reduced as best practices were implemented with fidelity. She expanded risk-and-needs assessments to include a trauma screening, implemented processes to evaluate service delivery using standard protocols, and incorporated data to inform decision-making. Michelle earned her bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Delaware. She is inspired by her daughter who currently attends Bryn Mawr College and plays on their field hockey team.



### Meet the Team in Nashville!

*The Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice is hosting a two-day Symposium and supplemental half-day Training Institutes in the vibrant heart of Downtown Nashville.*

**September 8-9, 2021:**  
**Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium: Expanding Knowledge, Changing Practice, Achieving Outcomes**

Additional information about these events, as well as other important logistical details (including hotel information), are available on our website ([www.rfknrcij.org/events](http://www.rfknrcij.org/events)). **Quick Links:**

SYMPORIUM

TRAINING  
INSTITUTES

HOTELS

REGISTER  
ONLINE

*The Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium is supported by grant number SJI-19-N-052 from the State Justice Institute (SJI). The points of view expressed during the event and in event materials do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of SJI.*

The RFK National Resource Center provides support to state and local jurisdictions by offering training, presentations, and consultation using proven frameworks, tools, and resources. [Contact us](#) to learn how we can support your community!

**Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice**  
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### About Us

Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice 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.rfknrcij.org](http://www.rfknrcij.org).

### Every Child Deserves a Childhood

Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps, an affiliate of Doctor Franklin Perkins School (Perkins), is a private, non-profit licensed child welfare organization 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](http://www.rfkchildren.org).