Probation System Reform Symposium: *Advancing Practice, Changing Lives*



April 7 - 8, 2016 | Omni Parker House Hotel | Boston, MA

Speaker and Staff Biographies

Plenary Speakers & Panelists

Staff bios provided below.

Thursday, April 7 – Opening Plenary

Laurie Garduque, PhD

Director, Justice Reform Program, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Laurie joined the Foundation in 1991 after serving as Director of the National Forum on the Future of Children and Families, a joint project of the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine. From 1984 to 1987, she was the Director of Governmental and Professional Liaison for the American Educational Research Association in Washington, D.C. This position followed the year she spent, from 1983 to 1984, as a Congressional Science Fellow in the U.S. Senate. From 1980 to 1985, Garduque held a faculty position as an Assistant Professor in Human Development at the Pennsylvania State University. Garduque previously served on the boards of the American Psychiatric Association Foundation, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy, Grantmakers for Children Youth and Families, the Youth Transition Funders Group Juvenile Justice Working Group, and on the federal Center for Mental Health Services National Advisory Council, under Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. She currently serves on the Federal Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. She received her bachelor's degree in Psychology and her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Congressman Joseph Kennedy III

US Representative of Massachusetts; Member, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps Board of Directors

Joe Kennedy III is proud to serve the Fourth District of Massachusetts in Congress. Currently in his second term, he represents a diverse district that spans from the suburbs of Boston to the more industrial towns of Massachusetts' South Coast. As member of the influential House Energy & Commerce Committee, Joe has prioritized economic opportunity for working families. A vocal advocate for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education, vocational schools and community colleges, he has authored several pieces of legislation in Washington aimed at improving access to our modern economy, including the Perkins Modernization Act and STEM Gateways Act. Inspired by the manufacturing traditions that drive many of the communities he represents, Joe also introduced the Revitalize American Manufacturing (RAMI) Act during his first term, which will help fuel innovation and new technologies throughout our manufacturing sector. After a year of building broad bipartisan and industry support, RAMI passed the House of Representatives and was signed into law by President Obama at the end of 2014. From his spot on the E&C Committee, Joe has emphasized issues of critical importance to Massachusetts. Whether leading efforts to combat opiate abuse or working with federal regulators to tackle the rising cost of energy across New England, his legislative agenda is driven by the communities back home. Deeply dedicated to being as accessible as possible to his constituents, Joe has launched creative efforts to consistently visit every city and town in the 4th District, from "Tour 34" to "District Days." Whether at home in the Commonwealth or down in Washington, Joe has become a powerful voice for social justice, championing issues like employment non-discrimination, pay equity, marriage equality and comprehensive immigration reform. Prior to being elected to Congress, Joe served the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an Assistant District Attorney in both the Middlesex County and Cape and Island's District Attorneys' Offices. Before that he served as a member of the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic where he designed and implemented an economic development project near Puerto Plata. Born and raised in Massachusetts, Joe is fluent in Spanish and holds a bachelor's degree in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University as well as a J.D. from Harvard Law School. He lives with his wife, Lauren, a health policy expert, their daughter, Eleanor, and their dog, Banjo, in Brookline, Mass.

Senator Stanley C. Rosenberg

President of the Massachusetts Senate

Senator Rosenberg was elected 93rd President of the Massachusetts Senate by his colleagues in January, 2015. Throughout his career in public service, Stan has remained steadfastly committed to Massachusetts values – like supporting working families, protecting our environment, increasing government transparency, and ensuring all students have the opportunity to succeed. Stan is 1977 graduate of UMass Amherst. He won his first election for the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1987. Since 1991, he has represented the Hampshire, Franklin, and Worcester District of Western Massachusetts in the Senate. In his first year as Senate President, Stan has reformed the culture of the Senate by empowering and engaging his fellow Senators in a model he calls "Shared Leadership," which encourages cooperation and democracy. He remains focused on ensuring Massachusetts has an economy that works for everyone. From partnering with business leaders to create stable jobs that pay a living wage, to fighting for an increase in the minimum wage and Earned Income Tax Credit, Stan strives to assist working families by fostering shared prosperity and growing our economy from the bottom up.

Thursday, April 7 – Lunch Plenary

Gene Siegel, MA

Consultant, GCS Consulting, LLC

Gene Siegel has been a private consultant since 1991. He has gained a strong national reputation working with a wide range of public and private organizations involved in juvenile justice, child welfare, law enforcement, mental health, and substance abuse treatment, for almost 25 years. In 2014, Gene became the lead data consultant for the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice. Since 2013, Gene has also served as a consultant for the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps' Dual Status Practice Network and Probation System Review Practice Network projects. As project consultant, Gene is helping the network and initiative sites improve their data, identify performance indicators and outcomes measures, and develop appropriate automated data system options for collecting and tracking data. Gene is also the author of two articles for the RFK practices networks that present a suggested framework for planning and prioritizing dual status youth and probation data. For many years, Gene served as a senior research consultant for the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ). He provided field research and technical assistance to juvenile courts and other agencies/organizations involved in child welfare and/or juvenile justice in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington State, and Wyoming. From 2005-2014, Gene was NCJJ's lead site liaison in Louisiana and Washington State for the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change juvenile justice reform initiative. Gene has also been a key participant and/or author of a number of nationally recognized research projects, system reform efforts, and professional publications. Specifically, and most recently (January 2016), Gene was a member of the team that studied the possible impacts of raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction in Louisiana (see A Legislated Study of Raising the Age of Juvenile Jurisdiction in Louisiana). Other recent efforts have resulted in the following research monographs: When Systems Collaborate: How three jurisdictions improved their handling of dual status cases (co-authored with colleagues at NCJJ); Promising Practices in the Diversion of Juvenile Domestic Violence Cases (co-authored with Gregg Halemba); and, Becoming a Data-Driven Juvenile Justice Organization: The Calcasieu Parish Experience.

In 2011, Gene co-authored (also with Gregg Halemba) the landmark study of the prevalence of dual system youth in King County (Seattle, WA) entitled *Doorways to Delinquency*. This study contributed to important changes in the ways the juvenile court, child welfare, and other partner agencies handle dual system/dual status youth. Before his work for the *Models for Change* initiative, Gene was the project director for the *Arizona Dual Jurisdiction Youth Study*, which added to the growing body of research that documents the detrimental effects that prior child maltreatment and dual system involvement have on young people. Gene was also the primary author of the OJJDP Special Project Bulletin entitled *When Systems Collide: Improving Court Practices and Programs in Dual Jurisdiction Cases*, which represented the first attempt to identify how juvenile courts can improve practices with regards to youth who have overlapping involvement in the court's delinquency and dependency systems.

Gina M. Vincent, PhD

Associate Professor, Law & Psychiatry Program, University of Massachusetts Medical School; President, National Youth Screening & Assessment Partners

Gina Vincent is an Associate Professor, Co-Director of the Law & Psychiatry Program in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and is on the faculty of the Massachusetts Center of Excellence for Specialty Courts. She also is President of the National Youth Screening and Assessment Partners (NYSAP), a MacArthur Foundation Models for Change technical assistance center for assisting juvenile justice agencies with the selection and implementation of mental health and risk assessments. Dr. Vincent has a young investigator's award from NIDA to conduct neuroimaging on youth with substance abuse problems. She also has received funding from NIMH and the MacArthur Foundation for studies relevant to risk for reoffending and the implementation of risk assessment tools, mental health problems, and substance abuse among youth involved in the juvenile justice system. She has published, lectured, and presented research at over 100 international and national conferences and juvenile justice facilities in the areas of risk/needs assessment, adolescent substance abuse, and mental health symptoms in juvenile justice. She is author of the recent publication *Risk Assessment in Juvenile Probation: A Guidebook for Implementation*.

Friday, April 8 – Town Hall Plenary: Engaging Leadership

Honorable Mark A. Ingram

Magistrate Judge, 5th Judicial District for the State of Idaho; Statewide Juvenile Justice Judge, Idaho Supreme Court's Administrative Office of the Court

Hon. Mark A. Ingram has been a Magistrate Judge in the 5th Judicial District of the State of Idaho since 2001. Since 2006 he has specialized in juvenile justice cases working in five counties in his judicial district. In 2014 he was appointed as the Idaho Court's Director of Juvenile Justice within the Idaho Supreme Court's administrative office. Judge Ingram serves as the chairman of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Team composed of those judges in Idaho who work primarily with juvenile justice cases; the Idaho Juvenile Training Council, a body charged with the training of juvenile probation and detention officers; and, is a member of the Idaho Juvenile Justice Reform Diversion Capstone Project and is a member of the CJJR Fellows Network. Judge Ingram's judicial career has been marked by his advocacy for evidence-based interventions for juvenile offenders and his support for the employment of restorative practices both in and out of the court system.

Robert "Bob" Bermingham

Director, Court Services, Fairfax County Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

Robert Bermingham is the Director, Court Services, Fairfax County Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court in Fairfax, Virginia. He has dedicated his 28 year career to the juvenile justice field, in both community based and residential settings. Currently, he is the Director of Court Services for the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court in Fairfax, VA. The Court Service Unit is the largest organization of its kind in the Commonwealth of Virginia and manages a twenty-one million dollar budget, consists of 356 employees, a 121 bed detention center, a Shelter Care facility, two therapeutic group homes and a Transitional Living Program. The organization also includes juvenile and adult probation services, juvenile and adult domestic relations intake and pre-trial release services. Bob represents the Court Service Unit on several cross jurisdiction teams and initiatives, including: the Fairfax County Human Services Leadership Team; Fairfax County Diversion First Initiative; Systems of Care Governance Team; and, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Oversight Committee. He also serves as a member of Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice's Probation System Review Practice Network. In his previous position, Bob served as Fairfax County's first ever Gang Prevention Coordinator and was responsible for coordinating all gang prevention and intervention services for the county. During his five year tenure in this role, Fairfax County enjoyed a significant drop in juvenile gang activity as a result of the effective collaboration between the government and local, regional and federal law enforcement, nonprofit organizations, faith-based organizations and the community. Prior to his most recent appointments, Bob also served as: counselor for a local juvenile detention center; administrator for a therapeutic group home for boys; a filed probation officer; intake officer; emergency services probation officer; truancy reduction coordinator; and, probation unit supervisor. He was also the President and Legislative Liaison for the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association, Chairman of the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force – Intervention and Prevention Committee, and conducted international training in partnership with USAID in Honduras. Bob has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Marymount University and a Master of Public Administration from George Mason University.

Elizabeth Fritz

Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania

Elizabeth Fritz is the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Lehigh County where she has served in that capacity since 2009. Ms. Fritz began her career with Lehigh County in 1983 as an Intake Probation Officer. In 2000, Ms. Fritz became a Supervisor, followed by the Deputy Chief in 2007. Ms. Fritz has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Kutztown University and, a Master of Science Degree in the Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University, Currently Ms. Fritz serves as the President of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and co-chairs the Chiefs' Assessment/Case Planning Committee. Ms. Fritz serves on the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy Leadership Team, where she oversees Stage Two- Initiation. This includes implementation of statewide initiatives such as structured decision-making tools, motivational interviewing, and case planning. In Lehigh County Ms. Fritz co-chairs the Lehigh County Youth Collaborative, which brings together many disciplines to look at issues pertaining to youth crime and violence, and is the steering committee which oversees the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative efforts within the County. She also chairs the Racial and Ethnic Workgroup; which falls under the JDAI initiative. She also serves on several subcommittees for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Recently Ms. Fritz was appointed to The Joint State Government Commission's Juvenile Act Advisory Committee. Ms. Fritz is involved with the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, Systems of Care Initiative and the Children's Roundtable. With the assistance of the Children and Youth Administrator, Ms. Fritz initiated a Shared Case Responsibility Protocol within Lehigh County, for cases jointly involved with CY and JPO. This provides direction on how to handle joint case supervision, requires team meetings, joint case planning, and joint field visits. These protocols have contributed to a more effective and healthy relationship among systems. Ms. Fritz was recognized as the Pennsylvania Chief Juvenile Probation Officer of the year in 2012, and Supervisor of the Year in 2002.

Adolphus Graves

Chief Probation Officer, Fulton County Juvenile Court

Adolphus Graves is a committed public servant with over 15 years of management experience in Juvenile Court and Probation systems. He is currently the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Fulton County Juvenile Court which encompasses the City of Atlanta and surrounding municipalities. His areas of expertise include juvenile justice organizational reform, multi-system collaboration and working with community stakeholder groups to create a continuum of care for justice involved children. He has a passion for maximizing community safety through seeking alternatives to the overuse of incarceration for non-violent youthful offenders. Adolphus attained his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College and has received a certification from the Georgetown University School of Public Policy's Multi-System Integration program. Additionally, he is a member of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Applied Leadership Network and the inaugural class of the American Probation and Parole Association's Juvenile Justice Reform Academy. Although he has received a number of management and organizational leadership awards, that of which he is most proud of is having the opportunity to provide juvenile justice information sessions to civic groups, faith-based and other community based organizations. He is a devoted husband and proud father of three wonderful children.

Roy Juncker

Director, Jefferson Parish Department of Juvenile Services

Roy L. Juncker Jr. is the Director of the Jefferson Parish Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) and has served in this position since 2001. As chief administrator, Mr. Juncker oversees all protection and public safety for juvenile justice including operating the Parish's 52 bed juvenile detention facility and probation department. Before becoming the DJS Director, Mr. Juncker served as the elected Chief of Police for the City of Westwego Police Department from 1997-2001. In 1999 while serving as Chief, Mr. Juncker graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Training Academy in Quantico, Virginia. During his tenure, crime was reduced in the City of Westwego by 57%. Prior to being elected Chief of Police, Mr. Juncker served as a Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Deputy for 9 1/2 years and earned the rank of Sergeant. He worked as a field training officer in the Second District and later was appointed Deputy Commander of the Missing Persons Unit in the Juvenile Division of the Criminal Investigations Bureau. Currently, Mr. Juncker is a board member and Vice-Chairman of the Jefferson Parish Children and Youth Planning Board, Board Member of the Truancy Assessment Center Advisory Board, site leader for Jefferson Parish's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative with the Annie E. Casey Foundation and former site lead representative for MacArthur's Models for Change in Jefferson Parish. Roy is also a fundamentals trainer for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. In 2008 and 2012, Roy was appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal to serve on the Louisiana State Advisory Board of Juvenile Justice and Delinguency Prevention.

Keith Snyder

Executive Director, Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

Keith Snyder is the Executive Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. He began his career in 1980 as a juvenile probation officer in Dauphin County. In 1987, he was hired by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) as a juvenile court consultant and was subsequently promoted to the positions of Director of Policy and Program Development, Deputy Director, and Executive Director. Mr. Snyder is responsible for directing all operations of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission including the agency's legislative program, statewide grant program, the development of juvenile court standards, and the provision of juvenile court consultant services to advise judges, legislators, chief juvenile probation officers, and others on matters pertaining to juvenile court law. The JCJC's Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R) at Shippensburg University houses the agency's training, graduate education, data collection and analysis, research, balanced and restorative justice, and detention monitoring programs. From 2005-2010, Mr. Snyder led the Commonwealth's Mental Health/Juvenile

Justice "Targeted area of Improvement" in conjunction with the John D. and MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change initiative. He received the MacArthur Foundation's national Champion for Change Award in 2009 in recognition of his efforts in this area. In 2010, he began coordinating the development of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy designed to sustain and enhance the initiatives begun under Models for Change and to implement evidence-based practices at every stage of the juvenile justice process. Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy has since become one of the most comprehensive juvenile justice reform efforts in the nation. Mr. Snyder is an exofficio member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee and is a gubernatorial-appointed member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime on Delinquency. He is a past President of the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections and holds both bachelors and masters degrees in administration of justice from Shippensburg University.

Friday, April 8 – Closing Luncheon

DeAngelo Cortijo

Youth Representative, National Center for Youth Law

Deangelo Cortijo is a youth representative at the National Center for Youth Law. Formerly he served as the representative of California State Assembly member Tony Thurmond, District 15. He was appointed to represent the cities of Berkeley and Albany. As one of the youngest representatives in the state assembly Deangelo realized that although work was great school comes first. He needed to finish his education and resigned to find part time-work and complete his undergraduate degree. Prior Mr. Cortijo worked at NCYL as a juvenile justice advocate engaged in research on juvenile justice best practices and advocating for alternatives to incarcerating children. Deangelo earned his Diploma in Paralegal studies from Black Stone Career Institute in 2014. DeAngelo is originally from San Francisco's Mission District. At age two, he entered the dependency system. By age 21, DeAngelo had served seven years in the juvenile justice system, including three years in California's Department of Juvenile Justice. DeAngelo obtained his GED and held leadership and advocacy positions while in the juvenile justice system. Since his release, DeAngelo has used his experiences not only turn to his life around, but also to become an advocate for vulnerable youth. In 2014 he served as a Board Member for San Francisco's City-Wide Transitional-aged Advisory Board where he advised on budget expenditures, local policy, and programs. DeAngelo plans to transfer to U.C. Berkeley in the fall of 2017. Ultimately, he wants to attend law school and become a champion for vulnerable youth and advocate for reforms that treat children in trouble with the law fairly and appropriately for their age and level of culpability.

Margaret Samuel

Youth Speaker & Advocate

Margaret Kiden Samuel, Youth Advocate, Poet and Visual Artist. Born and raised in Beirut, Lebanon, she was the only girl of her parent's seven children. At a young age, Margaret and her family migrated to United States to escape political unrest in the region. Upon settling in America, they struggled adjusting to their new home and environment. With growing troubles such as abuse and reoccurring instability, Margaret inevitably gravitated to a life of deviance and crime. Margaret's resilience, resistance and determination in overcoming trauma and the limitations of poverty, planted within her a seed of activism. Her past involvement and knowledge of the court system has now led her to a path of Youth Advocacy. In recent and previous years Margaret has engaged in public speaking in efforts to promote a positive life path to young adults. In 2011 she was elected valedictorian for her high school graduation and was later invited to give an address for a Women's Day Celebration at Foundations Probation House. Margaret periodically visits the facility to sit with young women and their families and speak about her experience and provide insight to the communication and relationship challenges they face. Currently, she is focused on pursuing higher education in the field of psychology. As a poet she's had poems published in school literary magazines and bookmarks. As a visual artist she aspires to connect at risk youth with art and literature so they construct a different reality that allows healing and self-expression.

RFK National Resource Center Staff

Edward Kelley

CEO, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

Edward Kelley began his human services career in 1968 as an outreach youth worker for the city of Cambridge's Division of Community and Youth Services, a community-based agency that worked with atrisk and delinquent children. He later served as its director. In 1981, he joined Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps as deputy executive director, and in 1985, he was appointed executive director. He was subsequently named President & CEO in 2004. Mr. Kelley is a member of the Child Welfare League of America's board and holds a Master of Arts in education from Boston University. In the summer of 2001, Mr. Kelley received a Fellowship to the national Executive Program for Nonprofit Leaders (EPNL) at Stanford University.

John Tuell, BSW, MA

Executive Director, Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

John A. Tuell currently serves as the Executive Director for the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice at Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Tuell served as the Director of the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change: Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice Initiative at the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps. Mr. Tuell has also served as the President of Tuell & Associates Consultation, LLC which provided expert consultation and technical assistance in juvenile justice, child welfare and multi-system reform and quality improvement. He has also served as an instructor for the Juvenile Probation Reform Academy, through the partnership with the American Probation and Parole Association and the Council of State Governments. Mr. Tuell has been an author and contributing author to numerous publications that support the work of the Dual Status Youth Initiative and Probation System Review, and related issues impacting the juvenile justice system. Prior to the initiation of the MacArthur Foundation work in 2001, Mr. Tuell served in the U.S. Department of Justice from 1997-2001, during which time he was the Deputy Director of the State Relations and Assistance Division in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinguency Prevention (OJJDP). Mr. Tuell also worked in the Fairfax County, Virginia Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court in probation, intake and residential group care for delinguent offenders over a 17 year period from 1979-1996. Mr. Tuell earned his Bachelor of Social Work degree from James Madison University and his Master of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from George Washington University. He is the proud father of two sons, Austin (age 26) and Zachary (age 21).

Jessica Heldman, JD

Associate Executive Director, Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

Jessica K. Heldman is the Associate Executive Director at the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice at Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps. Ms. Heldman has experience in representation of dependents and delinquents in juvenile court, policy research and development in child welfare and juvenile justice, and impact litigation on behalf of foster children. Ms. Heldman has been at the forefront of the development of frameworks, tools, and resources for the integration and coordination of youth-serving systems and has served as a consultant in this work for Children's Rights in New York City, the Child Welfare League of America, RFK Children's Action Corps, and Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform since 2004. In this capacity, Ms. Heldman has assisted numerous state and local jurisdictions in reform efforts, guiding work that includes legal analysis, practice development, and organizational change. Ms. Heldman has authored or co-authored several publications in the area of system reform in child welfare and juvenile justice, including the *Guidebook for Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare System Coordination and Integration (3rd ed.), Dual Status Youth – Technical Assistance Workbook, A Guide to Legal and Policy Analysis in Systems Integration, Models for Change Information Sharing Toolkit (2nd ed.),* and <u>Navigating the Dual Status Terrain: Tips for Juvenile Defenders</u>. Ms. Heldman graduated magna cum laude from the University of San Diego School of Law and its Children's Advocacy Institute, where she was a member of the San Diego Law Review and author of the comment Court Delay and the Waiting Child. Ms. Heldman is the recipient of the James A. D'Angelo Outstanding Child Advocate Award, the 2014 Children's Advocacy Institute Trailblazer Award, and winner of the Paul A. McLennon Honors Moot Court Competition, judged by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. She is a member of the California State Bar. Prior to working in the fields of law and policy, Ms. Heldman worked as a theater educator developing and teaching educational arts programming for dependent and delinquent youth in a variety of settings including emergency shelters, group homes, and court schools.

Sorrel Dilanian, MA

Director of Administration, Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

Sorrel Dilanian joined Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps in 2013 as the Director of Program Administration for the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice. Ms. Dilanian supports all activities of the RFK National Resource Center, including its dual status youth, probation system reform, and information sharing initiatives. Since 2007, Ms. Dilanian's work has focused on improving outcomes for dual-status youth, advancing child welfare and juvenile justice system reform, and supporting the MacArthur Foundation Models for Change: Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice Initiative. Prior to joining RFK Children's Action Corps, she served as a Program Manager to Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform and as Program Coordinator of the Child Welfare League of America's Juvenile Justice Division. In these roles, Ms. Dilanian contributed to the authorship and development of numerous publications, planned and supported various events and conferences, and served as staff lead to several networks and advisory groups, including CJJR's Juvenile Prosecutor Leadership Network and CWLA's National Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice. Ms. Dilanian earned her bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Central Florida and received her Master's degree in Forensic Psychology from Marymount University. She served as a Graduate Intern to CWLA's Mental Health Division and assisted in the revision of assessment guidelines used by mental health and substance abuse practitioners working with children in the foster care system. As an undergraduate student, Ms. Dilanian volunteered at women's domestic violence shelters by tutoring and mentoring children, and taught health and wellness classes.

Kari Harp, MS

Project Director, Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

Kari Harp, MS, is the Probation System Reform Project Director for the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice. Ms. Harp comes to the RFK NRC with experience in multi-system collaboration and community mobilization, most recently as Director of the San Luis Valley Joint Interagency Oversight Group (Joint IOG). As Director of this multi-system collaboration, Ms. Harp provided leadership and direction to regional youth-serving agencies involved in Colorado's Collaborative Management Program. Ms. Harp worked with the Joint IOG to implement cross system improvements in the areas of data collection, screening, family involvement, blended and braided funding, systems of care, and institutionalizing mechanisms to support and protect dual status youth. During her time with the RFK NRC, Ms. Harp has provided support to jurisdictions on their efforts to integrate services for dual status youth and has worked with communities to conduct comprehensive probation system reviews. In addition to her consultation support, Ms. Harp has partnered with the RFK NRC team in the authoring of written resources, the development of an innovative trauma-focused graphic for cross system partners and other projects supporting the mission of the NRC. Ms. Harp earned her B.S. degree in Psychology from Union College and her M.S. degree in Public Policy Analysis and Leadership from DePaul University. She comes to this work with a passion to improve the trajectories of youth in the systems by connecting research and best practices to meaningful implementation at the personal, organizational and system levels.

Lisa Jacobs (Moderator)

Loyola University Chicago, School of Law; Independent Consultant, Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

Lisa Jacobs, Independent Consultant with the RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, is an attorney with an extensive background in court and judicial administration as well as criminal justice, juvenile justice and human services policy and practice issues. She also currently directs the Illinois Models for Change Initiative, which is funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and managed by Loyola University School of Law. In this capacity, Ms. Jacobs works with state and local justice system practitioners, advocates and policy-makers to implement positive policy and practice changes in the Illinois justice system. Prior to joining the Models for Change Initiative, Ms. Jacobs was Director of Judicial Education for the Illinois Supreme Court with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. There, she worked closely with the Supreme Court's Committee on Judicial Education and judges from across the state to implement judicial education policy and programs on a wide variety of legal topics ranging from death penalty matters to complex civil litigation. During her tenure with the AOIC, she assisted in implementing the Supreme Court's Evidence-Based Practice initiatives in criminal and juvenile cases. Ms. Jacobs has also served as the state's Juvenile Justice Specialist, with the Illinois Department of Human Services, and in executive positions with the Circuit Court of Cook County, Office of the Chief Judge. Ms. Jacobs is Vice Chair of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission which oversees the state's federal juvenile justice funding and prepares analysis and policy recommendations for the Governor, General Assembly and other state and local policy makers. Ms. Jacobs also served as a gubernatorial appointee to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Board and chaired the ICJIA Planning and Research Committee.

Leigh G. Mahoney

Director of National Education & Program Development, Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps

Leigh Gallivan Mahoney has over 25 years' experience in educating students marginalized by disability and disadvantage, guided by the passionate belief that access to quality education is the pivotal solution to the majority of societal issues. Leigh has served students both as a teacher and administrator in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems, and in high need urban communities. She currently works with the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps as its Director of National Education and Program Development, a role which allows her to advocate for policy and programming that supports all students. She brings with her extensive experience working with, and designing programs for, students in the public system, those served out-of-district, and those in institutional settings. Leigh holds a Bachelor of Arts from Westfield State University, and has a Master's Degree in Education Administration from American International College.