Remembering Judge Willie Lovett, Jr.
A Message from John A. Tuell, Executive Director

On January 30, 2017 we unexpectedly and tragically lost a tremendous friend and colleague, the Honorable Willie Lovett, Jr., a revered and respected Judge in the Fulton County, GA Juvenile Court. I met Willie Lovett nearly three years ago in the course of launching our Dual Status Youth partnership initiative with the terrific youth-serving professionals in Fulton County. It was one of his many successful leadership efforts that demonstrated his tireless commitment and devotion to improving the lives of youth and families in Fulton County and throughout Georgia.

He was intellectually brilliant, but completely unpretentious. He was a fierce champion and all of his colleagues respected him personally and professionally. He became a part of the RFK National Resource Center's Dual Status Youth Practice Network and instantly gained admiration for his contribution, collegiality, leadership and dedication to youth. He was so much more that cannot be captured by my words. The difficult truth is that his grace, leadership, passion, impact and friendship will be missed every day going forward. For those who had the privilege of knowing him our comfort must come from another truth - we will be touched by his extraordinary spirit within us forever.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends and colleagues.

John A. Tuell and the RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice Staff

Upcoming Events
Executive Director to Present at the 2017 National Conference on Juvenile Justice
John A. Tuell will present on a panel at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' (NCJFCJ) 2017 National Conference on Juvenile Justice, taking place February 12-15 in New York City. The conference will feature cutting-edge information, state-of-the-art programs, and current research related to the juvenile justice system. Some of the featured topics will include: alternatives to detention, trauma-informed justice, dual status youth, deep-end youth, dating violence, ending solitary confinement, recidivism, indiscriminate shackling issues, disproportionate minority contact, LGBTQ issues in the juvenile justice system, sex trafficking of minors, juvenile drug courts, and runaways and the Interstate Compact for Juveniles.

To learn more about the event, please click here.

From the Field

New Resources Help Translate Juvenile Justice Research into Practice
The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center recently published the Juvenile Justice Research-to-Practice Implementation Resources, with support from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. These online resources provide juvenile justice agency managers, staff, and other practitioners with concrete strategies, tools, examples, and best-practice models to help them implement research-based policies and practices and improve outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system.

The resources, organized by common challenges for juvenile justice programs and agencies, draw from the expertise of researchers and the promising practices identified by practitioners around the country. Each resource offers methods to address those common challenges, specifically in the areas of Family Engagement and Involvement and Evidence-Based Programs and Services.

Click here to access the Juvenile Justice Research-to-Practice Implementation Resources.

Visit our Newsroom!
The RFK National Resource Center's Newsroom features news, media, and other announcements from the field. Be sure to check back often to learn about current activities and resources - such as Requests for Applications, Op-Eds and articles authored by members of Dual Status Youth and Probation System Review Practice Networks, and new research and tools!

Click Here to check out the RFK National Resource Center Newsroom!

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.

Models for Change Resource Center Partnership
Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice is part of the Models for Change Resource Center Partnership, established by the MacArthur Foundation to advance juvenile justice reform efforts throughout the country. To learn more, visit modelsforchange.net/resourcecenters.