

# Celebrating National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day

In accord with numerous communities and advocates throughout the country, the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice is delighted to recognize today as **National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day**. This significant day raises awareness about the importance of children's mental health and its impact on their healthy development.

This year's Awareness Day theme is "Partnering for Health and Hope Following Trauma." The theme emphasizes the importance of an integrated approach to caring for the mental health needs of children and families who have experienced trauma. Multisystem collaboration and trauma-informed care are two foundational pillars in the work of the RFK National Resource Center. We applaud the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for spearheading today's national events to bring awareness to these key focus areas. To learn more about SAMHSA's activities and events for Awareness Day 2018, please click here.

The RFK National Resource Center also provides numerous publications and tools focused on trauma informed care, all of which are available <u>on our website</u>. These resources include:



## The Trajectory of a Traumatized Youth: A Three System Perspective

These infographics are designed to inform, educate and prompt discussions about the specific youth behaviors the child welfare, education and juvenile justice systems may see as a result of trauma. They are also intended to highlight the individual and cross-system policies and practices that can empower systems to improve outcomes for these youth.



#### Two-Part Series: Dual Status Youth and Trauma-Informed Care

These briefs focus on trauma-related procedures for use with dual status youth. Part one, *Trauma in Dual Status Youth: Putting Things In Perspective*, describes generally the state of our understanding of the prevalence of trauma-based behavior problems and considerations in designing agreed-upon best practices to identify them. Part two, *Identifying Dual Status Youth with Trauma-Related Problems*, examines how to go about setting up a system for identifying trauma-related problems.

To further support our efforts to spread trauma-informed care and enhance multisystem efforts throughout the country, we encourage you to consider making a donation to 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 <u>click here</u> and type in "RFK National Resource Center" in the "My donation is for a specific program" box. **Thank you!** 



Please type in "RFK National Resource Center" in the "My donation is for a specific program" box.

Thank you!

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

website: www.rfknrcjj.org | email: rfknrcjj@rfkchildren.org

### **Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps**

11 Beacon Street, Suite 820 | Boston, Massachusetts 02108 | 617-227-4183 www.rfkchildren.org





