



Robert F. Kennedy
Children's Action Corps
 RFK National Resource Center
 for Juvenile Justice

RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice E-Newsletter

Special Announcement - **NEW** Training!

Alternative Response Initiative Training *Delivered On-Site to State and Local Jurisdictions*

We are pleased to announce that we have expanded our on-site training opportunities, offered to local and state jurisdictions by the RFK National Resource Center's [Training Institute](#). Using the research, evidence and guidance presented in the recently released [Alternative Response Initiative Workbook](#) (Tuell and Harp, November 2019), this 1 - 1.5 day training presents a detailed set of tasks, activities, and timelines that support state and/or local efforts to establish or enhance a comprehensive set of effective alternative responses and diversionary practices.

The [Alternative Response Initiative Training](#) is facilitated by experienced consultants with significant subject matter expertise and adheres to the principles of effective adult learning training. The [Alternative Response Initiative's](#) "Five Steps to Success" are featured in detail to help jurisdictions navigate through the preparation and formation of a collaborative leadership team, completion of an assessment and analytic process, formation of a detailed action strategy, implementation of planned action steps, and additional activities that lead to positive opportunities for enhanced practice within their youth-serving systems. This Training will also feature an emphasis on the key tenets of Implementation Science to support sustainable and measurable progress of enhanced or new approaches and diversionary practices.

To learn more about the *Alternative Response Initiative Training*, please [visit our website](#).

On the Ground

Highlights from February 2020

The RFK National Resource Center is privileged to work on-the-ground in state and local jurisdictions and partner with committed leaders and passionate stakeholders around the country. The following highlights are a snapshot of our site-based work that took place in February:

- **February 5:** Facilitated the annual Dually Involved Youth (DIY) Retreat in **Santa Clara County, California** to

Did you save the date?

Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium & Training Institutes

The RFK National Resource Center is excited to announce that it will host a two-day Symposium and supplemental half-day Training Institute in the vibrant heart of Downtown Nashville at the Doubletree Hotel. We encourage you to save the dates for these two events:

December 9-10, 2020:
2020 Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium: Expanding Knowledge, Changing Practice, Achieving Outcomes

December 11, 2020:
Transformation of Youth Justice Training Institutes

**Participants who attend the two-day symposium may also register to attend the half-day Training Institute for a small additional cost.*

Registration is opening SOON!

accelerate their progress adding an early intervention approach to their successful existing DIY Unit, addressing their post-adjudicated population of dual system involved youth. *RFK National Resource Center Consultant Team (Consultant Team): Executive Director John A. Tuell and Associate Executive Director Kari Harp.*

- **February 4-5:** Conducted the initial Probation System Review site visit in **Dutchess County, New York** as part of the *Dennis M. Mondoro Probation and Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Project* (Mondoro Project), funded by OJJDP. *Consultant Team: Independent Consultants Peg Robertson and Keith Snyder.*
- **February 13-14:** Conducted the initial Probation System Review site visit in **Greene County, Missouri** as part of the Mondoro Project, funded by OJJDP. *Consultant Team: John Tuell and Peg Robertson.*
- **February 20:** Worked in partnership with judicial and agency leadership and the experience and expertise of social workers and probation officers to complete our 2nd site visit for the Dual Status Youth Initiative in **Lancaster County, Pennsylvania**. *Consultant Team: John Tuell and Independent Consultant Ivy Tillman.*
- **February 25-26:** Launched the Dual Status Youth Initiative, with a special focus on commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC), in **Wilmington, Delaware**. The kick-off meeting for the statewide effort featured an impressive variety of statewide leaders from the judiciary, state attorney general's office, public defense, and child welfare, probation and juvenile justice agency leaders and personnel. *Consultant Team: John Tuell and Independent Consultant Lisa Jacobs.*

Upcoming Projects and Activities

As indicated in our last e-Newsletter, we are excited to launch new Technical Assistance (TA) projects, conduct trainings, and continue collaborating with important and experienced organizational partners. The RFK National Resource Center is looking forward its upcoming activities and site-based work, which include:

- **March 3-4:** Conducting a TA site visit in **Milwaukee County, Wisconsin**, in support of the county's Probation System Reform Implementation project. *Consultant Team: John Tuell and Peg Robertson.*
- **March 5-6:** Conducting a TA site-visit in **Knox County, Ohio**, as part of the county's Dual Status Youth Initiative supported by the Ohio Supreme Court. *Consultant Team: John Tuell and Bob Bermingham.*
- **March 23:** Delivering a workshop session at the NCJFCJ's [2020 National Conference on Juvenile Justice](#) in **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**. The workshop, *Planning and Sustaining Comprehensive Juvenile Probation Reform: Lessons from a National Demonstration Project*, will be co-presented by Executive Director John A. Tuell, Hunter Hurst (National Center for Juvenile Justice), and Judge Thomas Sotelo (Fairfax County, Virginia Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court).
- **April 17:** Launching a Probation System Review Implementation project in **Cobb County, Georgia**. Technical assistance will be conducted in partnership with the Council of State Governments. *TA and Consultation Led by: John Tuell and Joshua Weber (CSG).*
- **April 21-22:** Conducting a Probation System Review/Advancing Best Practices [training](#) in **Bartholomew County, Indiana**. *Training Co-Facilitators: John Tuell and*

To learn more about these events, please [visit our website!](#)



Support 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 [click here](#) and type in "RFK National Resource Center" in the "My donation is for a specific program" box. Thank you!

[Donate Now!](#)

Visit Our Online Resource Library!

All of our publications and tools are made available on our website to support jurisdictions undertaking reform, with or without technical assistance. Our Online Resource Library is designed to provide a user friendly experience for accessing our practical and informative resources, as well as presentations and materials from our events.

To access all of our Resources, please visit:

rfknrcjj.org/resources

Kari Harp.

- **April 24:** Presenting an educational session on Transformation of Youth Justice at the American Judges Association / America Judges Foundation mid-year meeting in **Napa, California**. *Presenter: John Tuell.*

These ongoing partnerships with state and local jurisdictions and experienced partner organizations will permit the RFK National Resource Center to highlight successful and replicable actions, approaches, policies and procedures that continue to advance improved outcomes for our nation's youth and families at our dynamic [Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium](#) in Nashville, Tennessee on December 9-11, 2020!

Quick Links

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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.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.