



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

RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice E-Newsletter

New & Recommended Resources

New Issue Brief on Family Engagement and Involving Parents & Caretakers in Juvenile Justice Decision-Making Processes

The RFK National Resource Center is pleased to announce the availability of [Family Engagement and Juvenile Justice: The Evolution of Parens Patriae](#), authored by the Honorable Mark A. Ingram and Dr. John S. Ryals, Jr.

Throughout the history of the juvenile justice system, consideration has been given to how parents and caretakers should - or should not - be involved in addressing the short- and long-term needs of children in the system. **Family Engagement and Juvenile Justice: The Evolution of Parens Patriae** takes a reflective look at systems' engagement with families and the shifting perception of parent and caretaker involvement, which continues to recognize that parents and caretakers play an integral role in effectively serving youth and the community.

This brief describes the continuum of "family voice" and "system voice" decision-making approaches and the inherent impact on youth outcomes, including recidivism. The authors also highlight practices and approaches that improve interactions and effectively engage families, such as Motivational Interviewing and Family Group Decision-Making case planning. The brief articulates the substantial need not to view family engagement as simply one "part" of a case plan, but rather to integrate policies and practices that place families at the center of the service-delivery spectrum.

To access this Issue Brief, please visit:
<https://rfknrcj.org/resources/family-engagement/>.



Upcoming Events

Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium and Training Institutes

March 24 - 26, 2021
 Nashville,
 Tennessee

Both events will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in the heart of Downtown Nashville during its stunning spring season:

March 24-25, 2021
Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium: Expanding Knowledge, Changing Practice, Achieving Outcomes
 *Learn more about the event's workshops and breakout sessions in the **"Spotlight On..."** section!

March 26, 2021
Transformation of Youth Justice Training Institutes

To learn more about the Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium and Training Institutes, please [visit our website](#).

Recommended Resource - Highlights from the the Project ONE Program

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) began work on the Multi-Court Collaboration (MCC) Initiative, now known as [Project ONE](#), named to signify a holistic approach to families through One Family/One Judge, No Wrong Door, and Equal and Coordinated Access to Justice principles. NCJFCJ's newly released report, *An Initial Study of the Second Judicial District Court's (Washoe County, NV) Project ONE Program*, coauthored by Gene Siegel and Hunter Hurst, highlights the sufficient progress and initial assessment of the impacts of the Project ONE program in Washoe County, Nevada.

To access this report, please visit [NCJFCJ's website](#).

On the Ground

Summer 2020 - Highlights and Activities

We are honored to work with states and jurisdictions throughout the country that - while addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic - have not wavered in their commitment to serving children and families. Many communities are modifying how they operate and provide services, which has created unique opportunities for the RFK National Resource Center to expand its reach and deliver tailored support, both virtually and on the ground in numerous state and local jurisdictions. The following highlights are a snapshot of some of our recent activities and new projects:

- Alternative Response Initiative (ARI) Training delivered by Executive Director John Tuell to a statewide working group in the **State of Idaho** on July 23, 2020
- New Probation System Review (PSR) Implementation project in Hennepin County, Minnesota was initiated in July 2020
- Probation System Reform (PSR) training provided virtually to **Bartholomew County, Indiana** on August 4-5, 2020
- New Dual Status Youth Initiative, with a focus on Commercial and Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC), will be launched in **Bonneville County, Idaho** in September 2020. Initial planning for the launch of this important work is set for August 24, 2020
- New Probation System Review (PSR) Implementation project in **Cobb County, Georgia** will be launched in late August 2020

Please contact John A. Tuell, Executive Director (jtuell@rfkchildren.org) or Kari L. Harp, Associate Executive Director (kharp@rfkchildren.org) to learn how the RFK National Resource Center can serve your community.

Spotlight On...

Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium

Safety is Our Priority!

In collaboration with the Doubletree Hotel in Downtown Nashville, we are committed to creating a safe and conducive learning environment. We will incorporate practices to promote safety for all attendees and the support staff who make these events possible, while still providing a dynamic networking and learning experience. Please continue to look for updates on what we are doing, both in front of and behind the scenes, to maintain wellness - together.

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!](#)

Quick Links

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Workshops and Breakout Sessions

We are excited announce several workshop and breakout session topics that will be featured during the [Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium](#), being held in March 2021. These topics include:

- Adolescent Development - Advancing Best Practices in Juvenile Justice
- Racial Disparities: Awareness and Action
- Dual Status Youth Reform, focus on Commercial and Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)
- Implementation Science
- Incorporating Education Needs into Case Planning & Case Management
- The Role of Judicial Leadership in the Transformation of Youth Justice
- Emerging Adults: How the Juvenile Justice System Can Support this Vulnerable Population
- Transformation of Prosecutorial Practice
- Growth-Focused Case Management
- Trauma-Informed Decision Making
- Data Capacity - Assessment & Measures
- Introduction to Status Youth (aka Status Offender) Reform

To learn more about our Transformation of Youth Justice Symposium and Training Institutes, please visit:

<https://rfknrcjj.org/events/transformation-of-youth-justice-learning-events-2021/>

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.

