

DRAFT



2022 CJJ National R/ED Conference

Removing the Blindfold: Investing in Young People, Communities, and Healing

Tuesday, November 1

Conference Opening, Plenaries, Workshops

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration Open

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 am – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast

8:00 am – 9:00 am Racial and Ethnic Disparities Coordinators Pre-Conference Breakfast Meeting

9:00 am – 11:00 am Conference Welcome & General Session

Introduction and Conference Welcome: Michelle Diaz, National Chairwoman, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

CJJ Welcome: Naomi Smoot Evans, Executive Director, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

Reimagining Youth Justice: The Kentucky Approach – Join us to learn about how Kentucky's courts are rethinking youth justice, with a focus on addressing equity.

Speakers:

Rep. Keturah Herron

Sen. Whitney Westerfield

Hon. Lindsey Adams

Duncan Cavanah, Juvenile Prosecutor

Moderator, Pastor Edward Palmer

Practical Strategies to Minimize Racial Bias and Improve Outcomes in the Youth Legal System - As a country still steeped in the cumulative effects of more than 400 years of racism, oppression, and subjugation against Black people and people of color, America continues to search for a genuine path towards reconciliation, equity, and justice. Central to achieving this vision is recognizing racial bias and understanding practical strategies to minimize the impact of bias, particularly in the context of the youth legal system. Rooted in historical understanding, this plenary will provide a framework that youth legal system practitioners and partners can use to engage in progressive conversations about race and racism, with a specific focus on implicit racial bias and present strategies for de-biasing our brains and making more informed decisions. By the end of this session, participants will deepen their understanding of racial bias, critically think about their racial positioning, and examine ways to enhance decision-making that lead to more fair and equitable outcomes.

Keynote: christian h. bijoux, Deputy Director, Equity and Racial Justice, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University

11:00 am- 11:10 am Break

11:10 am – 12:10 pm Concurrent Workshop Session #1

Equity and Engaging Black Girls Impacted by Human Trafficking - This session will address the complexity of sex trafficking of minors and the approaches required to properly address prevention and intervention needs through an equitable lens when serving Black girls at the center. We will examine; methods of countering deficit-based relationships in service delivery, building solidarity with Black girls, and considerations for integrating racial equity within programming. Participants will receive tangible culturally responsive tools to strengthen and build capacity of program staff and volunteers seeking to serve Black girls.

Presenters:

Kaneshia Lenore Jean-Baptiste, Training and Capacity Building Manager, Youth Collaboratory

Joy Thompson, Director of Programs, Building Community & Liberation, Youth Collaboratory

Disrupting Stigma and Racial and Ethnic Disparities for Families Affected by Substance Use Disorders - Stigma associated with substance use and mental health disorders, as well as involvement in juvenile justice systems reduces the likelihood that youth and families will successfully access services and supports they need to thrive. This session invites

practitioners to consider how their thoughts and language influences their behavior and exacerbates disparities in treatment services and outcomes for youth. Attendees will learn strategies to ensure equitable connections to community support and enhance service delivery.

Presenters:

Kelly Jones, Senior Program Associate, Center for Children and Family Futures

Chelsey Herring, Program Associate, Center for Children and Family Futures

Radical Imagination: Redesigning the Juvenile Justice System - In 2019, San Francisco launched efforts focused on juvenile justice reform. The Mayor announced the composition of her Juvenile Justice Reform Blue Ribbon Panel and the board of Supervisors created a committee focused on closing Juvenile hall. Both committees were supported and launched in partnership with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. This workshop will share the reports and the recommendations from the two committees as well practices and strategies used throughout the process.

Presenters:

Sheryl Evans Davis, Executive Director, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Utilizing Implementation Science to Structure R/ED Efforts - This session will provide participants with an overview of Implementation Science and the equitable implementation of strategies to address racial, ethnic, and equity youth disparities. In addition, Kentucky's performance measures will be shared to set the stage for the need to address outcomes by race and mobilize a culture change. In closing, Kentucky's Court of Justice's 4-prong approach, [*A Guide for Identifying, Addressing and Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities*](#), will highlight utilization of Implementation Science, data outcomes, and equitable implementation in order to actively impact and reduce negative consequences for youth of color.

Presenters:

Vestena Robbins, PhD, Senior Executive Advisor, Innovation & Implementation Support, Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities

Pastor Edward L. Palmer Sr., Immediate Past Chair, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

Rachel Bingham, Director, Office of Statewide Programs, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts; National Organizational Representative, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

12:10 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch On Your Own

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Concurrent Workshop Session #2

Racial Healing Circles - It's an invitation to speak your truth; to be seen, heard, and felt. It's an opportunity to dip into our empathy well and to expand our capacity for compassion. Racism and discrimination affect us all as individuals and within our systems and institutions. We, as facilitators Racial Healing Circle facilitators (also called racial healing practitioners) have been trained to initiate and guide circle participants in truth-telling, reflection and honest dialogue.

Presenters:

Tamerdis Hollywood, Senior Associate, National Community Action Partnership

James E. Hollywood III, Program Associate Director, Annie E. Casey Foundation

Congregate Care, Collective Trauma - This panel is composed of survivors, lawyers and policy experts who are working to eliminate institutional child abuse within congregate care facilities. Drawing on their diverse skills and experiences, these advocates are fighting for meaningful policy changes at both the state and federal level. Through a moderated discussion, this panel of experts will present a robust framework of the current regulatory and legal challenges within the industry as well as proposed solutions. The group will also focus on the disparate trauma the industry has upon marginalized families and communities.

Presenters:

Amanda Simmons, CEO and attorney, Ambika Law, PC

Caroline Cole, Co-CEO, UnSilenced

Annette Smith, Public Defender, Lane County PD

Power to the People: Holistic Revolution to End Mass Incarceration Through Participatory Defense - The U.S. has the dubious distinction of having the highest incarceration rates in the nation, with an estimated 2.3 million individuals, on any given day, incarcerated. Participatory defense serves as a way for directly affected communities to challenge the effects of mass incarceration.

Participatory defense is a community-organizing model that aims to empower people facing charges, their families and their communities in impacting the outcome of their cases and transforming the landscape of power in the court system. Our role is to help families navigate the criminal justice system, understand the course of legal proceedings, what to expect, prepare them for the next court dates, and strategize how to make an impact by becoming an active participant in their loved one's defense. The biggest tool used in the effort to empower families is creating a social biography packet – a comprehensive packet to show the

character of and support for the person facing charges and are used at any stage of the court case and identifies past hardships, accomplishments, future prospects, family and community support, and most importantly, rather than identifying the person as someone who

committed a crime, it humanizes and creates a fuller picture of the person's life story. The impact of family and community participation on cases is undeniable and tangible. Through participatory defense we have seen acquittals, charges dismissed and reduced, prison terms changed to rehabilitation programs, and even life sentences taken off the table. In just the past year of becoming a participatory defense hub, San Diego has saved over 300 years, while participatory defense hubs across the nation have saved over 5,000 years off of people's sentences. Most importantly, we bear witness to the incredible transformations of families as they become actively engaged in shifting power into their own hands.

Presenters:

Mitchelle Woodson, Executive Director, Managing Attorney, Think Dignity

Utilizing Data to Address Racial and Ethnic Disparities - Description:

Data is an essential component in recognizing the existence of disparities as well as the causes – this presentation is focused on using data to develop the solution as well. After a brief review of core concepts like contact points and performance measures, the presenters will share information on how to perform a root cause analysis in order to identify the significant contributing factors to racial disparities. Finally, the participants will learn to action plan around a specific goal identified during the root cause analysis, including the formation of SMART goals and objectives.

Presenters:

Robert Ian Shepard, Program & Data Analyst, Office of Statewide Programs, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts

Todd Stetler, Data Program Coordinator, Department of Family and Juvenile Services, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Break

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm

Concurrent Workshop Session #3

Creating a Restorative Safe Place for Youth with Language and Learning Disabilities -

This workshop will guide participants through the understanding of how to design and implement restorative safe spaces for youth that may have difficulty comprehending and appreciating the typical restorative justice approach. The workshop will include an initial introduction section on language and learning disabilities, discuss the disconnects that are at-risk with the typical approach, and then walk through a hands-on activity of participating and

simulating a restorative safe space that supports and compensates for the language and learning needs of involved youth with disabilities.

Presenter:

Dr. Shameka Stewart, Associate Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders, The Juvenile Forensic Speech-Language Pathologist

Bridging the Gap Between Youth and Law Enforcement- Recent events have torn at the fragile relationships between youth and law enforcement. Where do you start in building trust? Positive relationships among youth and police can reduce the influx of youth into the system, reduce unnecessary arrest and disproportionate minority contact, and minimize juvenile justice involvement. This session will explore a successful community-based program that fosters positive relations between youth and law enforcement.

Presenters:

Sara Hoyle, Director, Lancaster County Human Services

Stanford Bradley Jr., Associate Director of Teen Programs, The Malone Center

Jason Stille, Assistant Chief, Lincoln Police Department

A Case Study: How Educating and Building Relationships Between System Decision Makers Reduced Racial and Ethnic Disparities- This workshop session is designed to provide participants with the opportunity to learn about and explore solutions to the racial and ethnic disparities crisis in the juvenile justice system that have been shown to work in the State of Oklahoma. Presenters will spotlight a SAG sponsored project that sought to educate all system decision makers and child-serving agency professionals within the state and tribal nations on implicit bias and eliminating racial and ethnic disparities within their system. The project encompassed many best practices, including creating and sustaining diversion programs, restorative and procedural justice principles, trauma-informed practices and how each impact racial and ethnic disparity.

Presenters:

Jill Ruggiero, President & Founder, We Are The Gatekeepers, Inc.

Laura Broyles, Director, State of Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs

Call to Action: An Organizational Case Study on Reducing Racial & Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice-

Presenters:

Dr. Cherie Dawson-Edwards, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs - University of Louisville

3:45 pm – 4:45 pm

Concurrent Workshop Session #4

Restorative Justice Diversion: Centering BIPOC Communities- Despite youth arrests sustaining 30-year lows, racial and ethnic disparities stubbornly persist and communities across the country are engaging in ways to support youth who have engaged in serious harms, without relying on ineffective tools of incarceration and punitive supervision. Drawing from the experiences of supporting 10 Restorative Justice Diversion (RJD) sites, participants will learn about engaging community in a relational accountability process that uplifts truth telling, promotes public safety, and prioritizes the needs of those most impacted by harm as a means to reduce R/ED and avoid youth contact with the traditional system.

Presenters:

Cymone Fuller, Director, RJD, Impact Justice

Amore Alvarenga, Impact Justice

Local Site Partner (Justice impacted), Restorative Justice CBO

Historical Perspectives of Race and Institutional Racism in Juvenile Justice- According to *The Groundwater Approach, Building a Practical Understanding for Structural Racism*, “racial inequities look the same across systems. Based on national data for African Americans and whites, we see consistent inequity in health care, education, law enforcement, [and] child welfare.” Racial inequities are embedded within the social fabric of our systems and institutions that results in whites having the best outcome. BIPOC have the worst outcome across systems and institutions.

Presenters:

Derrik Anderson, Executive Director, Race Matters for Juvenile Justice

Using Data as Your Flashlight: Guiding the Way to Disrupt Racial and Ethnic Disparities and Improve Outcomes- Data is a powerful tool to ensure historically marginalized and underserved populations are provided equitable access and outcomes. Building robust data capacity can be challenging. Data raises questions about the effectiveness of services and can generate improved results for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and affected by substance use disorders. This session will provide concrete strategies to improve performance monitoring that tracks service engagement and retention and promotes equitable outcomes for all youth and their families.

Presenters:

Kelly Jones, Senior Program Associate, Center for Children and Family Futures

Chelsey Herring, Program Associate, Center for Children and Family Futures

Listen to the Voices of Kentucky's Youth - This panel will focus on exploring the role of the youth voice in our quest for equitable justice. From the perspective of minority youth currently or formerly in the foster care or juvenile justice system, the youth will share opportunities for positive system responses and approaches in order to provide better outcomes.

Wednesday, November 2

Plenaries, Regional Meetings, Keynote Luncheon, Workshops

7:45 am – 5:00 pm **Registration Open**

7:45 am – 5:00 pm **Exhibit Hall Open**

7:45 am – 10:00 am **Continental Breakfast**

8:00 am – 9:00 am **Regional Breakfast Meetings**

Conference attendees are invited to attend and participate in a regional networking breakfast. This meeting time is dedicated to information sharing, problem-solving, and networking for those looking to share concerns, recent innovations, and successes with juvenile justice professionals confronting similar issues. All are invited to attend.

- **Midwest**

Facilitated by: Hon. Michael Mayer, Midwest Region Chair

- **Northeast**

Facilitated by: Janelle Ridley, Northeast Region Chair

- **Southern**

Facilitated by: Chief Tony Jones, Southern Region Chair

- **Western**

Facilitated by: Jack Martin, Western Region Chair

Information about the states that included in each region is contained in the registration folder.

9:00 am – 10:30 am **General Session**

Introduction: *Pastor Edward Palmer*, Immediate Past Chair, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

Federal Update: *Elizabeth Ryan*, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Detainment of Status Offenses: Not in Louisville, Kentucky! - This session will provide participants with a historical overview of the institutionalization of not detaining Jefferson County youth charged with a status offense. Perspective from a retired judge and a presiding judge will shared why the practice has sustained and how it supports the research on the detainment of status offenders.

10:30 am – 10:40 am Break

10:40 pm – 11:40 pm Concurrent Workshop Session #5

Making Strides for South Dakota Tribal Youth with Transformational Partnerships- Because of historical trauma and the mistreatment of Indigenous people, South Dakota has long seen a disparate amount of Native American youth entering the juvenile justice system. The state is starting to see results with decreased youth on probation and an increased amount of youth being diverted from the formal court process. Through this panel's relationship, we have been able to create these opportunities for the state's tribal jurisdictions.

Presenters:

Annie Brokenleg, State Juvenile Diversion Coordinator, SD Unified Judicial System

Erik Bringswhite, Founder, I.am.Legacy

Chuck Frieberg, Director of Court Services- state of South Dakota, South Dakota Unified Judicial System

Exploring Use of Therapeutic Interventions to Address Racial Trauma Healing Among Black Justice Involved Youth-

Despite the decline in juvenile detention rates, substantial racial and ethnic disparities persist for youth detained within the 625 US juvenile detention facilities.

According to the 2021 Juvenile Court Statistics report, in 2019 out of 722,6000 delinquency cases, Black/ African American youth accounted for the highest percentage (46%) of youth detained. Black/ African American youth are at higher risk for racial trauma exposure and face unique contextual factors (e.g., structural racism, increased contact with law enforcement) which may cause racial trauma. In fact, studies show over 80% of detained youth reported at least one traumatic experience. Racial and ethnic justice requires effective interventions to address racial trauma and increase eligibility for judicial diversion.

Presenters:

Ashura Hughley, PhD Student, College of Social Work, The Ohio State

University

Brianna Smith, PhD Student, College of Social Work, The Ohio State University

Antwan Woods, PhD Student, College of Social Work, The Ohio State University

The Future is Yours: London 2022- This interactive presentation looks at what happened when Alternative Restorative Communities (ARC) took five young men and their mentors from California to London. All of the young people had previously served time in detention and had lived experience with racial and ethnic disparity, gangs, and gun violence. Join us to find out what happened when we exposed our mentees to a world of opportunity and learn how the program can be replicated at different levels.

Presenters:

Julie Hilt, Founder & CEO, Alternative Restorative Communities, LLC

Ethan Bernard, Managing Director, Aspiring Heads

OJJDP (TBA)

11:40 am – 11:50 am Break

11:50 am – 1:15 pm CJJ Awards Luncheon

Introduction: *Tracey Wells Huggins*, Vice Chair, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

Keynote: Kristin Henning, Author,

THE RAGE OF INNOCENCE: How America Criminalizes Black Youth

Drawing upon twenty-five years of experience representing young people in Washington, D.C.'s juvenile courts, Kristin Henning confronts America's irrational and manufactured fears of Black youth and makes a compelling case that the nation's obsession with policing and incarcerating Black America begins with Black children. Unlike White youth, who are afforded the freedom to test boundaries, experiment with sex and drugs, and figure out who they are and who they want to be, Black youth are seen as a threat to White America and denied the privilege of healthy adolescent development. Weaving together powerful narratives and persuasive data, Henning examines the criminalization of Black adolescent play and sexuality, the demonization of Black fashion, hair, and music, and the discriminatory impact of police in schools. The Rage of Innocence lays bare the long-term consequences of racism and trauma that Black children experience at the hands of police and their vigilante surrogates and explains how discriminatory and aggressive policing has socialized a generation of Black teenagers to fear and resent the police.

1:15 pm – 1:20 pm Break

1:20 pm – 2:20 pm Concurrent Workshop Session #6

Risk Assessments or Risky Assessments? Exploring Accuracy and Fairness of Risk Assessments Within the Juvenile Justice System- Risk assessment tools offer both promises and perils for reducing racial bias and increasing equity in the juvenile justice system. This session will cover the research evidence on how racial bias can enter actuarial risk assessments and how these biases can be assessed and mitigated. We will conclude with introducing the latest research on increasing transparency and understanding of how the algorithms used in risk assessments are used and evaluated in real-world systems.

Presenters:

Kelly Murphy, Program Area Director, Child Trends

Trent Buskirk, Novak Family Distinguished Professor of Data Science and the Chair of the Applied Statistics and Operations Research Department, Bowling Green State University

Diversion: A Hidden Key for Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Youth Justice- Drawing on a new report from The Sentencing Project, this workshop will highlight diversion from formal court processing as a pivotal decision point in perpetuating disparities in juvenile justice systems nationwide. The workshop will include leaders from one state and one local jurisdiction who have achieved noteworthy success in expanding diversion opportunities, and it will offer practical ideas for how attendees can expand and improve diversion for youth of color in their states and communities.

Presentations:

Richard Mendel, Sr. Fellow, Youth Justice, The Sentencing Project

Pastor Edward L. Palmer, Pastor, The Sign of The Dove Church International

Rachel Bingham, Director, Office of Statewide Programs, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts

More2Me: Building Power With Youth in the Juvenile Justice System-

More2Me is an innovative, computer-based experience that addresses goal setting, social networking, and sexual and mental health for rural, minority youth. Through the power of motivational interviewing, role playing, and colorful imagery, we teach both youth and the adults in their lives how to have open conversations that leverage key networks and community partners, 2) support youth in culturally appropriate, trauma-informed ways, and 3) provide information to youth that can decrease unplanned pregnancy, STIs, and recidivism.

Presenters:

Hope Crenshaw, PhD, Executive Director/Project Director for More2Me,
Teen Health Mississippi

Whitney French, BSW, Director of Clinical Services and Community
Engagement/Program Coordinator for More2Me, Teen Health
Mississippi

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